

Public lecture and inter-departmental workshop

A Cornerstone of EU Enlargement Policy; The Energy Community Ten Years After

14th March 2016: 17:00 – 20:00
Conference Room, Haus der Europäischen Union
Wipplingerstraße 35, 1010 Wien

By joining the Athens process and signing a legally binding Treaty in 2005, the EU Member States and EU candidate countries from Western Balkans established the Energy Community. Ten years after its establishment, the Energy Community is a pan-European organisation which also includes Moldova and Ukraine, since 2010 and 2011 respectively, while Georgia is currently conducting accession negotiations. The Energy Community aims at liberalising the electricity and gas markets of its Contracting Parties in line with the EU *acquis* in the field. Similarly to the European Coal and Steel Community, the Energy Community Treaty represents a milestone in the process of political reconciliation among the countries of Western Balkans after the wars that affected this region in 1990s. In addition, compliance with the Energy Community *acquis* represents a key accession criterion that EU candidate countries have to comply. Therefore, the Energy Community could be considered a cornerstone of the EU enlargement policy.

On the occasion of the recent tenth year's anniversary of the Energy Community, the workshop aims at gathering academics and public enforcers to discuss the achievements of the Energy Community in the past decade and the challenges ahead in the coming years. In particular, the workshop aims at discussing from a political science and legal perspective the future role of the Energy Community in the context of EU enlargement and external energy policies.

Welcome: **Prof. Dr Gerda Falkner**, Head of the Institute for European Integration Research, University of Vienna

José Luis Martins, Counsellor, EU Delegation to the International Organisations in Vienna

Lecture: **Prof. Dr Roman Petrov**, Head of Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence, Jean Monnet Chair in European Union Law, National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy

Discussion: **Nicholas Cendrowicz**, Head of Sector 'Centre of Thematic Expertise for connectivity, agriculture, environment and regional development', DG NEAR - Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations, European Commission

Dr Dirk Buschle, Deputy Director and Head of Legal Department, Energy Community Secretariat

Prof. Dr Alina Lengauer, Head of European Law Department, Member of the Board, Jean Monnet Professor for European Law (ad personam), University of Vienna

Moderation: **Dr Marco Botta**, Researcher, Institute for European Integration Research, University of Vienna

The event will be followed by a small reception.

Working language: English

To register, please send an email with your name, job title and organisation to [EU Enlargement](#) before Monday, 14th March 2016.