Vienna Lecture on the European Union
Centre for European Integration Research (EIF)

Market-Making and Political Authority in the EU
How a New Industrial Policy and Geopolitical Shift
Is Transforming the European Union
(Abstract overleaf)

9 May 2023, 5:00 pm
Hybrid event: Conference Room IPW (A 0222), NIG 2nd floor,
Universitätsstraße 7, 1010 Vienna and online via Zoom

Lecture: Kathleen R. McNamara, Professor of Government & Foreign Service
Co-Director, Global Political Economy Project, Georgetown University

Comments: Visnja Vukov, Post-doctoral Researcher, Department of Political Science, University of Vienna

Moderation: Anke Obendiek, Post-doctoral Researcher, Centre for European Integration Research (EIF), Department of Political Science, University of Vienna

Welcome: Gerda Falkner, Head, Centre for European Integration Research (EIF), Department of Political Science, University of Vienna

This lecture will be held in English, questions can also be asked in German.

Please register via eif@univie.ac.at
and let us know whether you wish to attend in person or virtually.
Abstract

Markets require rules, made and enforced by governments, and modern market-making has therefore unfolded as an intrinsic part of state-building. While the European Union is not a state, it has not been immune to these processes. Over the last three decades it has constructed a Single European Market and currency while building political authority and expanding its institutional capacities. The EU has done this through supranational market-making largely centered on neoliberal precepts of competition and openness. Today, however, the EU is breaking with that tradition by pursuing a visibly interventionist European industrial policy and geopolitical strategy. To grapple with this new and contentious shift, this lecture describes and maps the EU’s new version of market activism, and offers a research agenda to capture the ways in which the Europe’s changed market-making may be transforming the EU’s political authority. I look to neoliberalism’s crises as key sources of this change, and raise a series of questions about its political sources and consequences. I conclude by noting key policy challenges for the EU, the transatlantic relationship, and the international economic order.