LISBOAN Workshop

EU Enlargement Policy after Lisbon

Date: 29-30 May 2012 Venue: Middle East Technical University (METU), Ankara, Turkey Organizer: Prof. Dr. Atila Eralp, Centre for European Studies, METU

The European Union (EU) and the process of European integration have gone under a profound transformation with the entry into force of Lisbon Treaty on 1st of December 2009. As a result, we witnessed an all-encompassing wave of changes in various realms of the EU polity such as foreign policy, security, policy-making and economics. Not surprisingly, this transformation has a direct impact on the EU enlargement policy. In particular, the Lisbon Treaty creates a novel legal and institutional setting in the area of the EU foreign policy with new actors and adapted functions of existing players. Besides the introduction of an elected semi-permanent President of the European Council, there is one key novelty which is particularly significant with respect to the EU enlargement: the establishment of a European External Action Service (EEAS) under the authority of the Higher Representative for Foreign and Security Policy, Catherine Ashton. This has a direct impact on the EU enlargement as the responsibility in terms of the EU conditionality for acceding countries such as Turkey is now shared between the EU Commissioner for Enlargement, the President of the European Council and the High Representative. Moreover, the EU Treaty for the first time entails a direct reference to the Union developing a 'special relationship' with neighbouring countries within the Article 8. On top of that, the past events in the region showed how volatile the EU neighbourhood can be. The developments following the elections in Belarus, the revolutions in Tunisia, and the changes now in Egypt, are clear examples that Europe needs to be more pro-active. All in all, the changes and challenges in terms of the EU enlargement policy present an interesting academic and political puzzle to think about.

You are cordially invited to a LISBOAN Workshop, 'EU Enlargement Policy after Lisbon', organized by the Centre for European Studies, Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey between 29 and 30 May 2012. The workshop will primarily focus on the following questions: what kind of changes and challenges has been posed by the Lisbon Treaty regarding the EU enlargement process? What are the possible implications on future enlargement waves? How is ENP affected from these changes? Are there possible alternatives to enlargement? To what extent the changes brought about with the Lisbon treaty have an impact on the Turkish-EU relations? What are the possible future scenarios for Turkey's role within the European integration process and within the neighborhood?

Please send your proposal (max 2 pages) by 20 April to Assist. Prof. Dr. Ozgehan Senyuva (senyuva@metu.edu.tr) and Assist. Prof. Dr. Basak Alpan (balpan@metu.edu.tr). The participants will be informed by 30 April, 2012. Limited resources are available for travel and subsistence or participants, particularly for those coming from LISBOAN partner institutes (cf. http://www.lisboan.net).

