

ESEE FANEL NETWORK INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

The Other Europe? Resilience and Assertiveness in Our Region

January 14th-15th, 2022 [online]

Call for Papers

About the organizer

The [Eastern and South Eastern Europe \(ESEE\) FANEL Network](#) was founded in 2020 by Professor Liliana Popescu, Vice-Rector for International Relations at the [National University of Political Studies and Public Administration](#) (SNSPA) in Bucharest, Romania, and is currently developed with the support of SNSPA and of the Black Sea Trust for Regional Cooperation of the German Marshall Fund of the United States.

We envision a world where women and male experts in international relations are equally visible in the public sphere and work together, as equals, to build a better future for all. Our mission is to connect women experts in international relations and in the related fields, coming from the Eastern, South-Eastern, and Central Europe, as well as the extended Black Sea region, and to increase the visibility of their work internationally, by promoting their work and publications, by helping them connect with each other based on their professional interests, and by organizing [events \(conferences, webinars, round tables\)](#) consisting exclusively of FANELS (all-Female pANELS), mirroring the frequently occurring MANELS (all-Male pANELS).

About the conference

This conference aims at offering an opportunity to female professionals in the broader field of international relations to showcase their expertise regarding vital aspects of societal and political issues specific to Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the extended Black Sea Region, and Central Europe. Attendees will explore common regional, sub-regional, and state issues, and exchange knowledge, with the purpose to find innovative solutions. The discussions will cover new perceptions, understandings, and expressions of power at the regional, sub-regional and national levels, and their relation with the societies' resilience, and adaptation mechanisms. The conference comprises three FANELS: (I) *Regional inequalities and their socio-economic consequences*, (II) *Established and new regional cooperation formats and initiatives inside and outside the EU*, (III) *International games in the region. Competing interests in ESEE and their consequences*. Participants are invited to submit their own research regarding the topics presented below, in order to contribute to one or more FANELS.

FANEL 1: 'Rich and poor'. Regional inequalities and their socio-economic consequences

- Socio-economic inequalities within states, within sub-regions and within the region.
- The Westward brain-drain phenomenon and the immigration in Western Europe from our region. Intraregional walls, intraregional openings.
- Cultural and identity clashes at the regional and sub-regional levels: between the East and West, Europe and Asia, European core and periphery.
- Paradigm shifts in economic development and their impact at regional level: beyond capitalism towards what else?
- The interplay of market economy and democracy: addressing inequality, corruption and implications of FDI, debt-trap diplomacy
- Systemic background for societal resilience: addressing the multi-sectorial impact of the Covid-19 pandemic in the region
- Socio-economic impact of the green and digital transitions: are we all equally prepared?

FANEL 2: Established and new regional cooperation formats and initiatives inside and outside the European Union

- How are the regional cooperation frameworks interacting with each other and with more powerful actors?
- Addressing the elephant in the room: EU enlargement vs. Russia's and China's offensive(s).
- From democracy promotion to resilience and connectivity. What are the real drivers of regional cooperation?
- Common challenges, innovative solutions: green transition and digital transformation;
- Peace and security in the European Union and beyond: challenges and opportunities;
- The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on regional multilateralism: transparency, assistance and solidarity.

FANEL 3: International games in the region. Competing interests in ESEE and their consequences

- Hard, soft and smart power games in Eastern and South Eastern Europe: threats and vulnerabilities in economic, technologic and energy spheres;
- Crossroads between important players – European Union, Russia and China: navigating between values, interests and money;
- The future of democracy within the EU and beyond: multilateralism as a way to enforce national sovereignty;
- Illiberalism, disinformation, infodemia, and fake news: the transformation of power instruments – from mask diplomacy to vaccine diplomacy. Who are the winners?

Submission of abstracts

Please submit your abstracts (300 words max. + paper title + 5 keywords) electronically to esee-fanel@esee-fanel.net. Please mention in the subject of your email: CONFERENCE ABSTRACT & [YOUR NAME].

Important deadlines

Abstract submission: December 1st, 2021

Acceptance notice: December 10th, 2021

Full paper submission: January 10th, 2022

Certificates

Certificates of attendance will be issued to participants presenting their research.

Conference fees

This conference is free of charge.

Publishing opportunities

A selection of the best papers will be published in a special issue of the [Romanian Journal of Society and Politics](#). Selected papers addressing topics related to the European Union will be considered for publishing in the [Romanian Journal of European Affairs](#), edited by the [European Institute of Romania](#). The deadline for the submission of the final version of the papers for each journal will be announced during the conference.

Contact

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