

The research and training programme

## European Foreign and Security Policy Studies

### What is it about?

Citizens expect the European Union (EU) to defend the common interests and values of its member states and to contribute to worldwide peace. Although the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) and the European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP) have been gaining some momentum, the decision-making procedures still provide the EU with only limited options for exploiting its full potential. This problem matters more than ever before, since the EU and its states are facing new challenges, such as terrorist attacks, which do not halt at national borders.

In order to enhance the qualification of the next generation of intellectual leaders in this field, a special funding offer has been jointly initiated by three European foundations. With their research and training programme "European Foreign and Security Policy Studies" they want to support research projects which go beyond the national views currently dominating academic and practical approaches towards European foreign and security policy.

### Who can apply?

Eligible for funding are post doctoral researchers and advanced PhD candidates. Young professionals (e. g., civil servants, diplomats, journalists, administrators, and employees of non-governmental organisations) with equivalent background are also invited to apply. Applicants should be based in Europe and not be older than 32 years. Specific disciplines, nationality, or EU citizenship will not matter in the selection process. In the first two rounds of applications in 2004 and 2005, 49 research projects have been accepted for the programme. In total, 80 to 100 researchers and young professionals will have the opportunity to participate in this programme.



### What kind of support is provided?

The research and training programme was jointly developed by the Compagnia di San Paolo, Turin/Italy, the Riksbankens Jubileumsfond, Stockholm/Sweden, and the Volkswagen-Stiftung, Hanover/Germany; it combines the following main elements:

#### Research grants

Successful applicants can receive funding from one of the foundations for post doctoral or post graduate research at two or more European research institutions and organisations engaged in the field of CFSP and ESDP for up to two years (minimum: six months). Remunerations depend on individual circumstances. The foundations will apply their own rules for giving grants. In Germany, e. g., a post doctoral researcher would receive a basic grant of 20,400 Euro p. a. The basic grant for a PhD candidate in Germany would be 12,000 Euro p. a. By accepting the grant, applicants are obliged to concentrate their efforts on the project as described in their proposal.

#### Conferences, seminars and publications

The three foundations will organise conferences and seminars, where the participants will be encouraged to exchange experiences, and can build up networks also with senior researchers and professionals. Each participant has to attend at least three events: a "Young Faces Conference" at the beginning of the programme, a midterm seminar, and the final conference, where the participants will present their research results. Aside of that, the participants should engage in publicly visible intellectual and political debates. Support for publications, preferably in renowned international journals, can be considered.

### How to apply

Applications in English are invited from individuals belonging to the specified target groups (post doctoral researchers, PhD candidates, and young professionals). Since the foundations will only allocate funds to research institutions, applicants must arrange the cooperation with an appropriate grant recipient in Europe and nominate it as their "base institution". Other institutions which are visited by applicants during sojourns are the so-called "host institutions". Shortlisted applicants will be asked to provide written confirmations from the base and host institutions.

A leaflet with detailed information on how to apply can be downloaded from the websites or requested from the foundations. Should further questions arise, please address the respective contact partners in the foundations.

### Processing of applications

All applications will be dealt with jointly by the three foundations. There will be two selection stages. Initially, an international panel of academics and practitioners will review the applications. Main criteria will be the academic potential and originality of the project as well as the qualifications of the applicant. They will also assess the relevance of the project both for policy making and public debate. Next, the panel may invite applicants to make a presentation of their ideas at a "Young Faces Conference". Following this conference, funding decisions will be announced.

The next deadline for applications is 30 September 2006 (date of arrival).

### Your contact partners...

... in the foundations are  
**Mario Gioannini** for the Compagnia di San Paolo (☎ +39 0115596973, mario.gioannini@compagnia.torino.it),  
**Dr. Fredrik Lundmark** for the Riksbankens Jubileumsfond (☎ +46 8 50626421, fredrik.lundmark@rj.se) and  
**Dr. Alfred Schmidt** for the VolkswagenStiftung (☎ +49 511 8381237, schmidt@volkswagenstiftung.de).

**Mario Gioannini** graduated in economics at the University of Turin in 1986. At the Compagnia he is in charge of the operating unit for research and higher education in the fields of economics, public policies and European and international affairs. Furthermore, he is head of research and documentation. Previously, he worked for the San Paolo Bank at the Research Department and for the San Paolo Bank Holding.

**Fredrik Lundmark** has a PhD in sociology from Uppsala University, 2000. At the Riksbankens Jubileumsfond he is responsible for political science as well as peace and conflict research. Prior to this current function, he was responsible for social sciences at the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency and a member of the national interdisciplinary committee "Human Dimensions".

**Alfred Schmidt** works as programme manager within the funding division for the humanities and social sciences of the VolkswagenStiftung. He studied history, political science, and economics, and received a diploma and a doctorate (PhD) in economics. Before joining the VolkswagenStiftung he was involved in research and teaching at various universities.

### The foundations in brief

#### The Compagnia di San Paolo

Founded as a charitable brotherhood in the 16th century the Compagnia di San Paolo today focuses its activities on the sectors of scientific, economic and juridical research, education, health, art, culture, and welfare. The Compagnia operates both by giving grants to organisations for projects in line with its multi-annual and annual guidelines, and by means of its own "permanent organisations" which work directly in various sectors of the foundations activities.

#### The Riksbankens Jubileumsfond

The Riksbankens Jubileumsfond, consisting of several donations, supports research primarily in the fields of the humanities and social sciences by awarding project grants to individual researchers and research groups. The Bank of Sweden Donation was established in 1962 through an endowment from the Bank of Sweden to mark its three-hundredth anniversary in 1968; the Humanities and Social Sciences Donation was given to the Foundation by the Swedish Parliament in 1994.

#### The VolkswagenStiftung

The VolkswagenStiftung in Hanover is an independent non-profit foundation established under private law. It is not affiliated to the car manufacturer of the same name. Its purpose is to support the humanities and social sciences as well as science and technology in higher education and research. Main objectives are the furtherance of interdisciplinary research and communication, support for young academics, and the reinforcement of international cooperation.



#### Diletta Latini

*Dr. Diletta Latini (born 1972) has a Masters' in European Studies from the University of Florence. She received her PhD in Comparative and European Politics at the University of Siena, where she is working now as a post-doctoral researcher at the Centre for the Study of Political Change.*



#### Claudia Major

*Claudia Major (born 1976) is PhD candidate at the European Research Institute of the University of Birmingham. She studied history, political and social sciences and graduated with a German and a Franco-German Diploma (MA) from the Free University Berlin and the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris.*



#### Jan Joel Andersson

*Dr. Jan Joel Andersson (born 1971) is a research fellow at the Swedish Institute of International Affairs. He is a graduate of Uppsala University in Sweden and received his MA and PhD in political science from the University of California, Berkeley.*



#### Alessandra Nervi

*Alessandra Nervi (born 1970) was head of the Berlin Office of the German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF). She studied political science and completed a postgraduate diploma in International Relations. Currently, she is pursuing her PhD thesis at the University of Trier.*

#### How did your subject arise?

The nature and the impact of the news media debates across the United States and the European countries on the strategic preferences of public opinion has been an issue of my special interest for some time. Facing the Iraq crisis, this question became increasingly relevant. Therefore, I want to focus on the role that national news media may play in the promotion of a "European security identity", considering this international crisis as an example. The project is a direct follow-on of my PhD dissertation on the democracies' alignment behaviour in the face of a threat or the use of force, which is dependent on differing strategic cultures. In addition, I am interested in investigating the challenge for the European political leaders of constructing an appropriate communicative discourse about the role of the EU as a security actor. This is a demanding task because they have to reach a range of publics with beliefs rooted in different national security cultures.

#### What is your approach?

My project will combine quantitative and qualitative analysis of news media (i.e. press and TV). The sources will include also official documents, speeches, press conferences, and opinion polls, which will be integrated with interviews with key decision-makers. Among the methods adopted, content analysis will be used.

#### How did you choose the host institutions?

I tried to find research centres with an established research programme on the media coverage of international conflicts or on the EU defence and security issues. This will help me to meet and work with other scholars with related interests, thus adding insights and enriching the results of my study.

#### What kind of surplus value do you expect?

The programme is a great opportunity to widen and deepen my knowledge on subjects that I find highly interesting. Besides creating a 'professional' network for stimulating debates among young European researchers in the field of foreign and security policies, I expect that the programme will provide also the environment for the establishment of new friendly relations. Concerning my career, I have many dreams... I hope for the best and, however that may be, I wish to have the possibility to pursue my work on defence and security issues.

#### How do you feel about the path to the grant?

The "Young Faces Conference", which is part of the selection process, created a context for challenging discussions on current and future defence and security issues. However, apart from being an interesting 'academic experience', the conference was organised in such a way as to create several occasions for reducing the stress caused by the grant competition and keeping a good memory of it, irrespective of the result of the final funding decisions.

Being German by origin, she studied in Lyon, Paris and Berlin and is now working on her PhD in Birmingham. Temporarily, she is living in Paris; at other times she is conducting interviews in Brussels. Claudia Major is often on her way – for investigating European foreign, security and defence policy.

She wants to find out why France, Germany and the UK committed to the development of the "European Security and Defence Policy" and to what extent these three countries influenced the making of this unique policy area. For Claudia, taking part in the programme has various advantages – apart from the 44,000 Euro support for her project by means of which she can finance the field work. She has experienced that her participation in the programme convinces many potential interview partners to get engaged in an open discussion. "This is a very sensitive policy area", she states. "But the scholarship opens doors and sometimes even documents."

Claudia Major appreciates that the initiative lends the young participants a significant voice in the official debate. "If a publication is signed by scholars from several countries and is published all over Europe, this not only bundles individual ideas, but also broadens the range of coverage", she says. The programme provides many opportunities for such joint actions. With colleagues from the initiative she has already organised a thematic module for an international conference. "I benefit a lot from the exchange with other scholars", she says. Thus, the grantees envisage establishing a long-term network of contacts and knowledge. "We all realize that the programme is a visiting card", Claudia Major summarizes.

#### What is your overall impression of the programme?

For me, the conferences have been an important source of theoretical insight as well as real world advice from researchers and policy makers in the security and defence field. Moreover, meeting other research and training fellows has not only been inspiring, but also a great deal of fun. In general, for those aiming at a university career, the programme aids to 'bridge the gap' between theory and practice as it focuses on the operative aspects of policy-making in the EU. Those interested in civil service careers, policy think-tanks, or journalism benefit from the possibility to explore the theoretical foundations.

#### What requirements should an applicant meet?

Project applications should address a contemporary and substantial foreign and security policy issue facing Europe and the EU, but also contain a well thought-out research design. I would also recommend any applicant to be as inventive as possible in finding the 'puzzle' to be explained and to take the opportunity to choose host and visiting institutions in different places.

#### What have you found out so far and by what means?

I want to examine the emerging European defence industry and its transatlantic relationships with a focus on the forces driving these developments. One question is: Do the current transatlantic links represent more than an interlude? After developing alternative theoretical models, I will conduct a series of interviews with policy-makers and industrialists in various European capitals. My planned sojourn in Brussels will provide me with a solid research base close to the major EU institutions.

"After seven years of work experience in the international field, I now have the unique opportunity to go back to academia for two years to specialize in the "European Union Neighborhood Policy", focusing on the development of EU policy vis-à-vis its new eastern neighbours. This research will be the fundament of my doctoral thesis. Having Italian origins, I was brought up in Germany and studied political science in Berlin and Bologna. So, a European or international perspective has been quite natural for me. I have been working for the EU Delegation to the United Nations in New York and as a democratization officer for the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina before I started the GMF job in Berlin. European Foreign Policy has been an integral part of my job, however in the daily work I could not devote the necessary time to gain in-depth knowledge of the subjects I was working on. So, I was very happy when I came across the advertisement for the programme in the German newspaper "Die Zeit".

For the application to the initiative, I developed a two year research project on the "European Union Neighbourhood Policy" (ENP). The focus will be on the internal EU mechanisms and changing dynamics due to the new eastern European Union neighbours after the latest enlargement round. I have started my research at an institute in Oslo specialized on European integration theories, which is located at the Center for European Studies of the University of Oslo, to catch up on theory and methodology. Furthermore, I will be a guest scholar at the Institute for International Affairs

in Rome and join their ENP team. A stay in Brussels – where I will talk to the policy makers directly – shall round off my research.

The programme has much to offer for me, because I can follow my individual research project and at the same time be part of a European network of scholars and research institutions. It also facilitates gaining access to important resources for my research like the protocols of the EU Council of Ministers. This programme is one of a very few directed towards academics as well as young professionals from the governmental and non-governmental sector. Whereas in the United States the practice of taking 'a break' from the job in order to research and specialize is quite common, in Europe this is something relatively new.

At the end of my project I hope to have gained extensive knowledge of the EU Foreign Policy, knowing scholars throughout Europe dealing with the same issue and having the chance to make important contacts in the EU are supplementary advantages. Upon completion of the programme I would like to go back to practical work in an international institution. I am convinced that my extensive work experience coupled with a detailed knowledge of the EU will make me an attractive candidate for institutions in the sector of European policy."