



Konrad
Adenauer
Stiftung



UNIVERSITY of TARTU
EUROPEAN COLLEGE

PLATFORM UKRAINE SEMINAR

**PLATFORM
UKRAINE**

“Critical Perspectives and critical Dimensions on the ongoing Ukrainian Crisis: Which systemic Challenges to the EU-Russia dialogue?”

April 3-4, 2015

CALL FOR PAPERS:

The two-day seminar *“Critical Perspectives and critical Dimensions on the ongoing Ukrainian Crisis: Which systemic Challenges to the EU-Russia dialogue?”* is organized by the European College of the University of Tartu in cooperation with "Platform Ukraine", a multidisciplinary project based at the [School of Slavonic and Eastern European Studies](#) (SSEES), University College London. The event is generously supported by the [Konrad Adenauer Stiftung](#).

[Platform Ukraine](#) is a multidisciplinary attempt to analyse and better understand the Ukrainian crisis of 2014 by creating a unified resource and network of academics studying the post-socialist space.

Academic conveners of the event are Dr. Stefano Braghiroli (University of Tartu) and Licia Cianetti (University College London). For further details about the event visit <http://www.ec.ut.ee/en/PlatformUkraineSeminar>.

The seminar's aim is to frame the critical dimensions that have determined the current developments in Ukraine within a multi-disciplinary perspective and to shed light on how the ongoing crisis has affected the nature of the EU-Russia relations and its long-term systemic implications. The new trend seems to have altered but not nullified EU member states' highly diversified perceptions of Russia, while not seriously challenging Russia's traditional divisive strategy towards the EU.

Contributions are welcome on the developments in the relations between EU, Russia, and the post-Soviet space and the respective interactions, from different disciplinary and methodological perspectives ranging from politics, history, economics, anthropology, sociology, geography, semiotics, and media studies. While the focus will be on the Ukrainian crisis, contributions that propose a comparative perspective with other events and/or areas will be also welcome. Contributions are expected to address the multidimensionality of the current developments and the future patterns and relevant cleavages in the Eurasian political and cultural space.

The overarching objective of the seminar is not only to map the challenges to the instable development of the EU-Russia dialogue but also to understand the destructive potential of these challenges. The seminar welcomes papers employing both qualitative and quantitative methods of research and without geographic limitations and including a wide multi-disciplinary perspective addressing (but not limited to) the following issues:

1. *Multi-disciplinary critical perspectives to frame the Ukrainian crisis;*
2. *Interactions between domestic and external developments, and actors;*
3. *What's after the crisis? Systemic challenges to the EU-Russia dialogue.*

IMPORTANT DATES:

Paper proposals can be submitted by February 28, 2015 via the submission system at <http://www.ec.ut.ee/en/PlatformUkraineSeminar>. Selected paper proposals will be notified by March 5. Should you need more information please do not hesitate to contact section chairs: Dr. Stefano Braghiroli (stefano.braghiroli@ut.ee) and Licia Cianetti (l.cianetti@ucl.ac.uk, licia@platformukraine.com).

STRUCTURE OF THE EVENT:

The seminar will consist of three intensive panels (on April 3), addressing different conceptual and functional dimensions of the Ukrainian crisis and its short- and long-term implications focussed around the three suggested issue clusters (1. *Multi-disciplinary critical perspectives to frame the Ukrainian crisis;* 2. *Interactions between domestic and external developments and actors;* 3. *What's after the crisis? Systemic challenges to the EU-Russia dialogue*). The panels will not overlap in order to maximize the attendance and active participation of the contributors to all the sections.

An expert round table will be held on April 4 discussing the main perspectives identified in the panels. The round table bringing together four key-note speakers (*tba*) will constitute the conceptual and factual peak of the event in which the different dimensions debated in the individual panels will be brought together and combined.

The conference will be concluded with a common lunch (hosted by the organizers) on April 4. On the afternoon of April 3, the European College will host a reception open to all the participants.

VENUE:

The seminar will take place at the European College, University of Tartu (Lossi 36) [<http://goo.gl/maps/h5DAT>]. The College is hosted in a large yellow building atop the Dome Hill (Toomemägi) in Tartu's city centre. An easy way to find it: from the Town Hall Square, follow the cobble-stoned Lossi street up the hill. Evening reception will take place in University of Tartu Art Museum, Ülikooli 18. Panels will take place in room 105, while the final round table in room 215.

FOLLOW-UP PUBLICATION:

Based on the contribution of the experts' roundtables and on selected papers from the panel, follow-up proceedings will be released in digital format, published by [University of Tartu Press](#) and with the financial support of the *Konrad Adenauer Stiftung*. The contributions will be selected following a rigorous process of peer-review. This publication has the ambition to represent an important contribution to the debate on the current Ukrainian crisis and its long-term consequences for the development of the EU-Russia relations and aims to address both experts/practitioners and researchers/academics.

A FEW WORDS ABOUT THE EUROPEAN COLLEGE:

The European College was established as a special research and teaching unit of the University of Tartu in 1998. It developed out of the international "EuroFaculty Programme" founded by the Council of the Baltic Sea States. Today, academic research fields include European Integration, Europeanisation and Decision-making in the EU as well as the Democratic Transition of Eastern Europe. The international projects involve networking and academic capacity building focused on issues of EU-Integration and EU-Neighbourhood policies. The College promotes quality higher education in the fields of European studies and area studies and adopts a multi-disciplinary approach. The College's Master Programmes in "EU–Russia studies" and "European Studies" have been created to develop students' personal growth and critical thinking. The College embodies encourages, supports, and actively favours self-initiative and the emergence of new perspectives and new ways of thinking. It represents therefore the perfect venue for free and open academic debate and for promoting dialogue and diversity.

Website: <http://www.ec.ut.ee/en/PlatformUkraineSeminar>