

CENTRE FOR BRITAIN AND EUROPE | PSA GERMAN POLITICS SPECIALIST GROUP  
PSA GREEK POLITICS SPECIALIST GROUP | PSA ITALIAN POLITICS SPECIALIST GROUP

# '25 CONFERENCE

28-29 MAY 2025 UNIVERSITY OF SURREY UK

## CHALLENGES TO EUROPE EUROPEAN CHALLENGES

CONFERENCE PACK



**CENTRE** *for*  
**BRITAIN** &  
**EUROPE**

UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

1st Surrey CBE Conference | 28-29 May 2025 | Guildford, United Kingdom

©Centre for Britain and Europe (CBE), 28th February 2025 - V.2.2

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## OVERVIEW

### **Challenges to Europe - European Challenges Conference**

**Date & Time** | **Day 1:** 28 May 2025, 11:00am-5:30pm | **Day 2:** 29 May 2025, 9:30am-5:30pm

**Location** | LTE, **Lecture Theatre Block**

**Theme** | 'Europe' has been severely challenged in multiple ways in recent years. Economically, by the protectionist policies of successive US Presidents and a difficult relationship with China; militarily, mainly by the spreading of a devastating armed conflict in Ukraine, and because of Russia's stance towards its European neighbours; and politically, due to lacking the ability to respond effectively to unprecedented developments, such as climate change, while the internal opposition to the liberal consensus grows in the shape of radical right movements. These and other challenges have shaken Europe's (self-)perception as a key actor of 'the West' and an advocate of human rights, democracy, and liberty.

The conference will encourage discussion across disciplinary and (sub)field boundaries, including, but not limited to, political science, international relations, public policy and political theory perspectives. It will be hosted by the University of Surrey's foremost policy research institution, the Centre for Britain and Europe. The conference is co-organised by the PSA German Politics Specialist Group, PSA Greek Politics Specialist Group, and PSA Italian Politics Specialist Group.

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Political Studies Association.

### **Organising Committee at the Centre for Britain and Europe**

#### **Programme organiser**

Maya Chew, CBE manager: [m.r.chew@surrey.ac.uk](mailto:m.r.chew@surrey.ac.uk)

#### **Academic organiser**

Daniele Albertazzi, CBE Co-Director, [d.albertazzi@surrey.ac.uk](mailto:d.albertazzi@surrey.ac.uk)

# VENUE & ACCESSIBILITY

## Date & Time

- Day 1: 28 May 2025, 11:00am-5:30pm
- Day 2: 29 May 2025, 9:30am-5:30pm

**Location** | LTE, [Lecture Theatre \(LT\) Block](#), University of Surrey, Stag Hill Campus, GU27XH

**Campus Map** | [Link to Campus Map](#)

**Parking Facilities** | There are 4 [Pay and Display](#) car parks operated by Ringo. To use, download Ringo onto your phone, submit your details and then start your session. All of the car parks have the same Ringo location code 53650 for ease. From £1.20/hr to £7.20 for day parking.

## Public Transport

- **Bus** runs frequently from Manor Park to the campus with bus No.1 and 4. £2 per ticket
- **E-bike** rental - Beryl runs the e-bike services in Guildford. You will need to download the Beryl app to use the bike. Starts from 16p/min.
- **Train** - Southwest runs frequent direct trains from the Waterloo London Rail Station to Guildford Rail Station in 35 minutes

**Accessibility** | Wheelchair access, accessible bathrooms, ramps, lifts are available throughout the university campus.





# Stag Hill Campus









# ACCOMMODATION & TRAVEL

## Recommended Accommodations:

- **Holiday Inn Guildford**, located at Manor Park is a 22-minute walk to the campus
- **Travelodge Guildford**, located by the town centre is 21-minute walk to the campus
- **University of Surrey Guest Rooms**, available at Stag Hill and Manor Park, located within a 5-minute walk from the venue. Contact: [accommodation@surrey.ac.uk](mailto:accommodation@surrey.ac.uk) for booking.

**International Travel:** The nearest airport to Guildford is the **Gatwick London Airport** (IATA: LGW). Guildford Railway Station is 47 minutes away via train from the Gatwick Railways Station (by the South Terminal of Gatwick Airport). The **South Western Railway** runs frequently and tickets can be purchased with a credit/debit card at the automated ticket kiosks at the airport.

The Guildford Railway Station is located within the town centre, and a 15-minute walk to the university campus.





## CATERING & REFRESHMENTS

- **Coffee Breaks:** Coffee and tea will be available for all attendees, Foyer of Lecture Theatre E
- **Lunch:** Lunch is provided only to conference presenters and organising staff at the foyer of Lecture Theatre E. Other conference participants may access food options such as the [Hillside Cafe](#), [Lakeside Coffee Shop](#), [Hideout Cafe](#), [Young's Kitchen](#), [Falafel King](#), and [Co-op](#) within the university campus.
- **Dinner** is provided solely to presenters and staff, and held at the Lakeside Restaurant located within the University of Surrey. For other participants, there are various dinner options available on the [Guildford high street](#).

## HEALTH AND SAFETY

**Emergency Contacts:** Campus security at [campus-safety@surrey.ac.uk](mailto:campus-safety@surrey.ac.uk) /+44 (0)1483 683333 (emergencies only) or +44 (0)1483 682002 (non-emergencies).

**COVID-19 Guidelines:** If you are feeling unwell, please refrain from attending the event and inform the organisers. The [Royal Surrey County Hospital](#) is located 20-minute walk away from the campus.

## CODE OF CONDUCT

We abide by the **University of Surrey's Code of Practice** which include respect, inclusivity, and practice of professional conduct. The full code of practice is available [here](#).





# SCHEDULE | DAY 1

28 May | Wednesday

11:00

Keynote by **Theofanis Exadaktylos** (CBE/REDEMOS)

12:00

Lunch break / Lunch for speakers and organising staff

13:00

## PANEL 1. POPULISM / Chair: **Maya Chew** (CBE)

- **Matthias Dilling** (Swansea) / **Félix Krawatzek** (Oxford) Responding to the far right: Discursive strategies in German state parliaments
- **Ugo Gaudino** (Kingston) / **Philippe Marlière** (UCL) "Mainstreaming" the far right: A comparison between the French National Rally and Brothers of Italy
- **Christopher Burden** (Aston) Populism as an Embodied Reactive Performance: Comparative Queer Insights into British and German Leftist Digital Populism
- **Carlo De Nuzzo** (Sciences Po) A challenge for Europe: the double European nationalism of the far right

14:30

Coffee Break

15:00

## PANEL 2. EUROPEAN SECURITY / Chair: **Donatella Bonansinga** (Southampton)

- **John Callahan** (New England College) What if we can't do five percent? Impact and mitigation of a potential U.S. withdrawal of support for European Security
- **Giovanni Parente** (Maynooth) From anti-piracy to naval warfare: A changing European Union against changing maritime security challenges?
- **Andrea Scalera** (Glasgow) Externalisation and Security: The Italia-Albania protocol and the evolution of the Italian migration policy

16:00

Break

16:30

## PANEL 3. SECURITISATION AND MIGRATION / Chair: **Donatella Bonansinga** (Southampton)

- **Dimitris Skleparis et al.** (Newcastle) Collective memories of historical victimisation and their role in contemporary securitisation of migration
- **Gizem Aksit Ergen** (Newcastle) Comparing far-right narratives on migration: A case study of Germany and France
- **Leah Owen** (Swansea) Investigating Frontex's border securitisation in a warming climate

17:30

End of Day 1 / Conference dinner for speakers

# SCHEDULE | DAY 2

29 May | Thursday

9:30

Keynote by **Nick Kitchen** (University of Surrey Department of Politics & Centre for the Study of Global Power Competition (CGPC))

10:30

Coffee Break

11:00

## PANEL 4. THREATS TO DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS AND LIBERTY FROM WITHIN AND WITHOUT EUROPE / Chair: **Dimitris Skleparis** (Newcastle)

- **Hartwig Pautz** (UWS) The theoretical threat
- **Margaryta Khvostova** (Surrey) The double-edged sword: Legitimising and de-legitimising the power of human rights in a hybrid conflict
- **Edo Filz** (Hebrew University) Exercises in selective solidarity: The toolbox of social exclusion in the European Welfare State
- **Anna Małyszko** (SGH Warsaw) Retreat from the fight for human rights? The securitization of the reversal of the progressive agenda on women's and LGBTQ+ rights in the narratives of Poland's ruling party coalition
- **Christos Papastylianos** (Nicosia) The majoritarian perception of democracy and the constitutional amendment culture in Greece

12:45

Lunch break / Lunch for speakers and organising staff

13:30

## PANEL 5. THE CONSEQUENCES OF BREXIT AND THE EUROZONE CRISIS / Chair: **Matthias Dilling** (Swansea)

- **Kira Gartzou-Katsouyanni** (Oxford) From statism to cooperation for export-oriented production? The case of agricultural finance in Greece
- **Vasiliki (Billy) Tsagkroni** (Leiden) / **Georgios Giannakopoulos** (London City) Future of European integration: Brexit and beyond
- **Emanuele Maggioli** (Urbino) The UK & the Russian Federation: Knocking on the EU's Door
- **Lothar Funk** (Düsseldorf) Challenges of the new systems competition for EU's trade policy
- **Adalgisa Martinelli** (Bruxelles Libre) Dissensus on the plate: Coldiretti's narrative of food sovereignty

15:15

Break

15:45

## ROUNDTABLE "WAR AND SECURITY OF EUROPE TODAY"

Chair: **Barbara Serra** (SkyNews)

Panellists: **Amelia Hadfield** (CBE), **Georgios Karyotis** (PSA Greek Politics), **John Callahan** (PSA German Politics)

17:00

Closing remarks by **Daniele Albertazzi** (CBE) and departure

17:30



# MEDIA

## Social Media:

- Bluesky @cbesurrey.bsky.social
- All our other media are available at Linktree: <https://linktr.ee/surreycbe>

**General Queries:** Maya Chew at [m.r.chew@surrey.ac.uk](mailto:m.r.chew@surrey.ac.uk)

For any further information, please visit [www.surrey.ac.uk/cbe](http://www.surrey.ac.uk/cbe).

We look forward to welcoming you to the University of Surrey and an exciting, insightful conference!

## Organised by:



Political Studies Association  
**German Politics**

Political Studies Association  
**Italian Politics**

Political Studies Association  
**Greek Politics**

