



CENTER FOR EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS  
University of Nicosia

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**The Department of European Studies and International Relations of the University of Nicosia**

and

**The Center for European and International Affairs**

organize the

**1<sup>st</sup> CYPRUS SUMMER SCHOOL FOR PhD AND ADVANCED MASTER'S STUDENTS**

on

***Europe and the Middle East: Challenges and Prospects***

*Eurozone Crisis, Arab Spring, Energy and Security Issues in the Eastern Mediterranean*

June 16-19, 2013

University of Nicosia, Cyprus

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**UNIVERSITY OF NICOSIA**

Recent developments in Europe and the neighboring Middle East present a new set of challenges as well as opportunities. The ongoing Eurozone crisis, the political reconfiguration resulting from the Arab Spring and the new geopolitical environment in the Eastern Mediterranean that emerged from the findings of natural gas create new conditions that can have far-reaching and uncertain consequences for stability in Europe and the Middle East. Cyprus lies at the center of these developments both in terms of geography and substantive involvement. As a result, Cyprus has the potential to act as a regional focal point for the generation and exchange of knowledge that is relevant to academic advancement and policy formation.

The Center for European and International Affairs of the University of Nicosia organizes this Summer School towards the realization of that potential. It aims to address substantive questions such as: what are the implications of these developments for the broader region? Will they contribute to reconciliation and peace or will they ignite more tension and conflict? Is there room for a win-win mentality or is there room only for winners and losers? Do you envisage a better future in the region or do you foresee more difficult times?

The 2012 Summer School will consist of 10 sessions that will focus on three broad themes: (1) the Eurozone Crisis, (2) the Arab Spring, and (3) Security and Energy Challenges in the Eastern Mediterranean. Each theme will begin with a keynote speech by an expert on that theme. 18 PhD and/or advanced Masters Students are invited to submit abstracts on these themes. The best 18 abstracts will be selected and the authors will be invited to submit papers that will be presented at the 2012 Summer School. Each presentation will be accompanied by a discussion from a designated discussant with expertise on the research field.

### **Call for Abstracts and Deadlines**

The deadlines for the Summer School are outlined below:

Call for participation:	December 05, 2012
Applications and Abstracts due:	February 01, 2013
Response to selected participants:	February 28, 2013
Acceptance and fee payment:	March 15, 2013
Paper submission:	May 31, 2013

### **Objectives**

- Student participants will have the opportunity to present their research and receive feedback from their assigned discussants as well as their peers.
- The Summer School will provide the opportunity for networking with academics and other research students who work in similar fields.
- Papers may be selected for publication in an edited volume.

### **The Political Economy of the Eurozone Crisis: Challenges and Prospects**

The current deep and persistent Eurozone crisis threatens one of the main pillars of the Union's own foundations. Even before the crisis several economists had put forward the view that the Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) also required a fiscal union and a minimum level of political integration for its smooth functioning.

The economic policies pursued so far to address the excessive fiscal deficits and high public debts in several countries of the Eurozone have, not surprisingly, been procyclical. This has generated very painful and socially unacceptable outcomes. It is widely accepted that the recipes offered so far have not led to the constructive resolution of issues; on the contrary there seems to be a deterioration of conditions. It would not be an exaggeration to say that many cities and broader regions of the European South are already facing serious symptoms of social disintegration.

The economic policies pursued in order to address the Euro crisis and the severe recessions in several countries of the European South need major restructuring. Such is also the perspective from the US. It remains to be seen how this crisis and the associated challenges will be addressed and resolved.

### **The Regional and International Implications of the Arab Spring**

The regional wave of civil unrest that swept through the Arab world and came to be known as the Arab Spring encompasses discrete events of varying intensity ranging from demonstrations and protests to uprisings and civil wars. These events can be characterized as challenges both to the internal and external legitimacy of long-standing regimes.

Through this process new coordinating mechanisms of social movements were introduced such as the usage of social media and networking tools in generating collective action. Many of these movements were able to bring about the reconfiguration of elite structures at local and regional levels, as well as the reconfiguration of the fundamental structure of political systems in the region with the transition from authoritarianism to democracy.

Yet the ultimate outcome of the process remains irresolute with a number of lingering issues. Primary among them is the uncertainty resulting from the reconfiguration and re-prioritization of identities once the lid of authoritarianism is lifted; will this development lead to consensus-building or towards further fragmentation and possibly escalation of tensions in the region? This is further compounded by a broader concern regarding the viability of emerging regimes. The potential of the rise of political Islam through democratic mechanisms to fill the power void left by the elimination of authoritarian structures may test the compatibility of the Arab Spring discourse with potential outcomes.

### **The New Geopolitical Environment in the Eastern Mediterranean: Security and Energy Challenges**

The Eastern Mediterranean region has been characterized by instability, conflict and strong external geopolitical interests. The discovery of significant quantities of natural gas reserves coupled with the existing contestation of borders among the states involved in the exploitation of these natural resources presents new challenges to the region. Adding to the geopolitical complexity of the Eastern Mediterranean is the ongoing and as-of-yet unclear impact of the Arab Spring, which is still shaping the "new" Middle East and its regimes.

The potential economic benefits from the exploitation of the gas reserves for the states in the region and the involved international companies and their respective 'home states' are unquestionably significant. As is the case with almost all gas and oil producing regions, the potential economic benefits are accompanied by political implications and the Eastern Mediterranean is no exception. The energy-related agreements through the formation of new alliances and the intensification of rivalries have already generated new security challenges in the region questioning at the same time the geopolitical status quo. It is not yet clear whether these energy resources will improve the economic environment for the states of the region and contribute towards the normalization of political and military relations, or whether they will lead to a more 'intense' environment and subsequently make the Eastern Mediterranean region even more unstable.

**Sunday 16/06**

20:00 Welcome dinner

(Venue: Altius Hotel, MD Theo Charalambous, 1 Acheon Street, Nicosia 1101, P.O. Box 24330, Cyprus 1703 ,  
Tel: 00357 22255540, Fax: 00357 22 255541; E-mail: info@altiushotel.com ; Website: www.altiushotel.com)

**Monday 17/06**

**09:15 – 10:30      SESSION 1: The Political Economy of the Eurozone Crisis: Challenges and Prospects**

**Keynote Speaker:** Professor Andreas Theophanous, Professor of Economics, Head, Department of European Studies and International Relations, University of Nicosia and President, Cyprus Center for European and International Affairs.

10:30 – 11:00      Coffee Break

11:00 – 13:00      **SESSION 2: 3 Student Presentations** (20 Minutes Presentation and 20 Minutes Discussion)

13:00 – 14:30      Lunch Break

16:00 – 18:00      **SESSION 3: 3 Student Presentations** (20 Minutes Presentation and 20 Minutes Discussion)

**Tuesday 18/06**

**09:15 – 10:30      SESSION 4: The Regional and International Implications of the Arab Spring**

**Keynote Speaker:** (TBC)

10:30 – 11:00      Coffee Break

11:00 – 13:00      **SESSION 5: 3 Student Presentations** (20 Minutes Presentation and 20 Minutes Discussion)

13:00 – 14:30      Lunch Break

16:00 – 18:00      **SESSION 6: 3 Student Presentations** (20 Minutes Presentation and 20 Minutes Discussion)

**Wednesday 19/06**

09:15 – 10:30      **SESSION 7: The New Geopolitical Environment in the Eastern Mediterranean: Security and Energy Challenges**

**Keynote Speaker:** (TBC)

10:30 – 11:00      Coffee Break

11:00 – 13:00      **SESSION 8 3 Student Presentations** (20 Minutes Presentation and 20 Minutes Discussion)

13:00 – 14:30      Lunch Break

16:00 – 18:00      **SESSION 9: 3 Student Presentations** (20 Minutes Presentation and 20 Minutes Discussion)

**Thursday 20/06      Departure**

**Location**

Nicosia is connected through two international airports, Larnaca and Paphos, and there are direct daily flights from a number of European cities including London, Frankfurt, Paris, Rome and Athens. It takes about 45'-60' to reach Nicosia by car.

Participants are expected to arrive on Sunday the 16th and depart on Thursday the 20th of June.

**Participation Fees**

Students presenting their work :	75 Euros
Students participating as observers:	25 Euros

**Accommodation**

Accommodation is reserved at Altius Hotel, MD Theo Charalambous, 1 Acheon Street, Nicosia 1101, P.O. Box 24330, Cyprus 1703, Tel: 00357 22255540, Fax: 00357 22 255541; E-mail: [info@altiushotel.com](mailto:info@altiushotel.com); Website: [www.altiushotel.com](http://www.altiushotel.com).

Twin room with bed and breakfast:	€80.00 per day (two persons)
Twin room for single use bed and breakfast:	€60.00 per day (one person)

**Catering**

The organizers will provide the welcome dinner and coffee breaks. The participants are responsible for their meals. The catering facilities of the University will be available.

**Organizational Committees**

**Academic Committee:** Professor Andreas Theophanous  
Dr. George Kentas  
Dr. Odysseas Christou

**Administrative Committee:** Mr. Kyriakos Georgiou  
Dr. Craig Webster  
Dr. Constantinos Adamides

**1<sup>st</sup> CYPRUS SUMMER SCHOOL**

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Eurozone Crisis, Arab Spring, Energy Security

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