

EU DYNAMICUS NEWSLETTER

Dear readers,

Welcome to the newsletter of the Jean Monnet Chair at the Faculty of Political Science and Journalism at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań.

JM Chair started to operate in October 2016. Teaching and research activity conducted within the chair focuses on the crucial social and economic processes which currently take place in the European Union.

Our team consists of: prof. Maciej Walkowski (head), Tomasz Brańka (PhD), prof. Jarosław Jańczak, Joanna Skrzypczyńska (PhD) (see the photo).

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We are supported by PhD students: Kinga Jasiak and Rafał Szymanowski. Our newsletter will be published twice during the semester.



JM CHAIR ACTIONS

Social policy in the twenty-first century

On 16-17 April 2018 at the Faculty of Political Science and Journalism of the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, the first National Scientific Conference “Social policy in the twenty-first century. Social policy in three dimensions” took place. The main goal of the conference was to identify the determinants of changes in the field of social policy, both the ones which are desirable as well as those that spark anxiety.

During the conference, the academic community and practitioners in the field of

social policy had the opportunity to confront their research findings, past experiences, activities and most important conclusions. They also indicated future dilemmas and desirable directions in social policy. The conference was attended by, among others, practitioners representing Barka, Caritas and WOŚP.

During the conference, 8 panel sessions took place. One of them was moderated by the Head of the Jean Monnet Chair prof. Maciej Walkowski.

JM CHAIR COURSES

As part of the JM Chair, courses are available to students of the Faculty of Political Science and Journalism at AMU.

Courses (in Polish and English) are conducted both in the form of a traditional lecture as well as through e- learning.

The following courses were available on the master and bachelor level in the summer semester of 2017/2018:



Innowacje i myślenie kreatywne na rynkach Unii Europejskiej

Procesy globalizacji i regionalizacji w gospodarce światowej

Multiculturalism in business practice

Cities in Europe as a Source of Economic Growth and Social Policy

COMMENTARY

The EU -China trade relations

Joanna Skrzypczyńska

China is currently the second largest trade partner of the European Union (after the United States), and the EU is China's most important trade partner. The EU trade with China accounts for almost 14% of all EU trade. China is the largest source of EU imports and its second largest export market. The value of the trade between the EU and China accounts on average for over EUR 1 billion a day. The European Union is facing a growing imbalance in trade with China.

In 2016 the trade deficit with China surpassed USD 260 billion (UN Comtrade). Imports from China amounted to over USD 450 billion and the EU exports to China totaled less than USD 190 billion (UN Comtrade).

The European Union is facing a growing imbalance in trade with China



Dr Joanna Skrzypczyńska

The fact that China can still be treated as a non-market economy in anti-dumping investigations means that the European Union compares the prices of Chinese goods sold on the European market with the prices of the same or similar goods on the markets of third countries with market economy status. This way of calculating whether or not dumping takes place makes it easier for the European Union to prove China's use of dumping prices. The European Commission is responsible for granting market economy status to China once it has consulted with the European Parliament. Consequently, the European Commission is responsible for working out a compromise between frequently mutually exclusive positions, on one hand – the European manufacturers' lobby protesting against granting market economy status to China, on the other hand – varied interests of the EU member states, and China's position. The debate on granting market economy status to China is another issue that has divided EU member states. This division is roughly the same as in the financial crisis where the "North" supports granting this status in 2016 and the "South" is clearly against. Germany stands in the middle. The opinion of new member states, such as Poland and other Central and Eastern European countries, is not clear. Great Britain, the Netherlands and Scandinavian countries support China's efforts to be granted market economy status, and in 2014 they successfully blocked the EC proposal on the reform of market protection instruments. Their position, however, was weakened by the outcome of the United Kingdom European Union membership referendum in June 2016. Germany, in turn, allows China to be granted this status but, at the same time, it is interested in providing additional security to sensitive industries. Italy, Spain and France strongly opposed granting market economy status to China automatically in December 2016 (Wnukowski, 2016).

On the other hand, by removing the possibility of proving dumping without much trouble and thereby protecting the EU market, the European Union is exposed to the threat of job losses and deeper recession in the sectors that are unable to compete with low-cost Chinese imports. These are traditional sectors, such as steel and textiles industries, whose representatives are active in campaigning against granting market economy status to China. They argue that cheap imports of steel from China are destroying the European economy, and without the possibility of imposing anti-dumping duties, the future of this industry in the EU is threatened.

Thirdly, the EU member states are polarized when it comes to granting market economy status to China. Great Britain and the Netherlands are willing to accept Chinese demands, while other countries such as Italy and France are strongly opposed. In addition, in May 2016 the European Parliament voted against granting market economy status to China and adopted a non-binding resolution calling on the European Commission to take into account the concerns of the EU industries, trade unions and stakeholders with respect to the possible consequences of granting this status to China for the labor market, environmental protection and economic growth in the EU.

The interests of China and the European Union with regard to trade policy are contradictory. However, the European Commission is aware that any aggravation of the trade relations with China in terms of trade protection measures can have a negative impact on all economic relations between the European Union and the PRC.

Events

As a part of events organized by the Jean Monnet Chair EU DYNAMICUS, on June 15, 2018, Prof. Jarosław Jańczak visited the High School in Środa Wielkopolska, giving a lecture on “What should citizens know about social dimension of the economic development in the European Union?”. It became an inspiration to debate with young people and teachers about the social dimension of integration processes in the context of development policies.



Professor Maciej Walkowski visited two high schools where he gave guest lectures for students. The first of them took place on May 25 at the High School in Tarnowo Podgórne. Prof. Walkowski talked about “Digital exclusion as a barrier to socio-economic development of Poland.” The second one took place on June 8 in the High School in Swarzędz. The topic of the lecture was the problem of people educated on the EU labor market.



Upcoming Events

Conferences

On February ... 2019, members of the JM Chair will take part in the International Conference Europe of the 21st Century. As every year, it takes place at the Collegium Polonicum in Słubice.

Lectures spring 2017/2018

Przedsiębiorczość i zatrudnienie w gospodarce międzynarodowej

Międzynarodowe determinanty rozwoju społeczno-gospodarczego Polski

