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Θέμα: Newsletter: Policy Network - summer update

u. Θέμερι

Τσούκαρης: ΟΚ (βγήνε και συμπέινο fit for purpose.)
Δύο συνέδρια προγραμματίζονται στο τέλος του project.

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N.D. 28/8/08

Αρχείο Απ.

Policy Network - summer update

Following the Progressive Governance conference in April and the launch in June of the new Foresight initiative with a major conference in Moscow, Policy Network has been working on its existing flagship programmes of research, with a number of exciting new initiatives planned for the autumn.

September will see the launch of a new project on the politics of climate change, jointly led by the Labour peer Anthony Giddens and Policy Network's vice chair Roger Liddle. Stay tuned to the Policy Network website for further details of this important initiative.

Following the success of our joint event in February, Policy Network will continue to work with the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung in developing our the future of social democracy project. Meanwhile, our new 12 month initiative on an EU fit for purpose in a global age will begin in October with a number of European events planned for 2008 and 2009.

Full details of our new and existing programmes are available on the newly updated Policy Network website. If you have any comments, suggestions or ideas for ways in which you feel you could contribute to our work we would be delighted to hear from you. Please email info@policy-network.net.

Labour conference

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Νικό
το πρόβλημα η
συμμετοχή σε ασφάλεια
από ασφάλεια
(πρώτη συνάντηση)
28/7/08

With the UK party conference season around the corner, Policy Network has been busy with preparations for its events at this year's Labour party conference in Manchester.

Our packed programme of fringe meetings include seminars on Britain's foreign policy, achieving a global deal on climate change, Europe's immigration anxiety, the challenge of Europe's ageing society, and the EU as a response to global capitalism.

The high profile line up of speakers include UK government ministers, politicians and policy experts from across the EU. We are working with a range of partner organisations on the events, including Business for New Europe, the Centre for European Reform, the IPPR, and the European Parliamentary Labour party. Further details will be made available on the Policy Network [website](#) soon.

*We would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our subscribers a very pleasant summer break!*

our multilateral institutions, says Andrew Legon  
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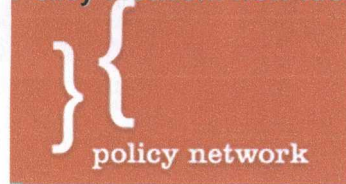
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## The future of European social democracy

Date: 08 February 2008

Venue: London

[Agenda - the future of European social democracy](#)

[Electoral prospects and political challenges for the European centre-left - Roger Liddle](#)

[Are new political cleavages opening up between globalisation's \(perceived\) "winners" and "losers"? - Edgar Grande](#)

[Are European societies witnessing the emergence of new class structures and social milieus? The German case - Gero Neugebauer](#)

[Europe's new inequalities and divisions: how should social democrats respond? - Patrick Diamond](#)

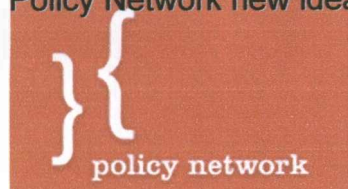
The centre-left must adapt to meet the challenges of the global age, said the British prime minister Gordon Brown at a major London symposium organised by Policy Network and the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, with the support of Progress and the Fabian Society.

"You can never count on the status quo," he remarked responding to questions from an audience of senior European social democrats, in a session chaired by the British academic David Marquand. Read the coverage of the prime minister's comments in [the Guardian](#), [the Observer](#) and [the Times](#).

Entitled The future of European social democracy, the aim of the two day event was to outline a new progressive 21st century vision of social democracy capable of meeting the policy and political challenges of the new millennium. Following on from a series of recent national defeats for the centre-left in Europe, the event provided an invaluable opportunity for senior social democrats from across the EU to come together and learn the lessons from the recent electoral successes and failures of the centre-left. Sessions addressed Europe's changes political attitudes and perceptions and the social trends underlying the EU's shifting electoral landscape.

The speakers at the conference included: Patrick Diamond, director of strategy at the UK Equality and Human Rights Commission; Carlos Mulas Granados, director of the committee writing the PSOE's electoral manifesto for 2008, former deputy head of the prime minister's economic office and professor of economics at the Complutense University, Madrid; Edgar Grande, professor and chair in comparative politics at the University of Munich; Roger Liddle, vice chair, Policy Network; Matthias Machnig, minister of state at the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety; David Marquand, visiting fellow at the Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford.

Rt Hon Ed Miliband MP, British minister for the Cabinet Office; Gero Neugebauer, author of Politische Milieus in Deutschland - Die Studie der Friedrich Ebert Stiftung; Rt Hon James Purnell MP, British secretary of state for work and pensions; Lord Giles Radice, chair, Policy Network; Bernard Spitz, secretary general, En Temps Réel, France; Loukas Tsoukalis, president of the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy; Kajo Wasserhövel, minister of state at the German Federal Ministry for Labour and Social Affairs; and Ricard Zapata-Barrero, associate professor of political science at the Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona.



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## Flagship programmes

Policy Network is working on six flagship research programmes, involving key experts, academics and decision-makers to develop progressive policies.

We welcome your contribution to these programmes, and encourage you to provide feedback on publications, articles and events on our website.

[An EU "fit for purpose" in a global age](#)

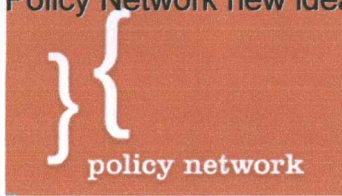
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[The myths and realities of labour migration](#)

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[Globalisation and social justice](#)

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You're in: [Flagship programmes](#) : The politics of climate change

## The politics of climate change

### Aims and objectives

Climate change is now a mainstream political issue. However, as yet there is no substantive framework for policy which offers coherence and consistency as to how national governments should cope with the long-term political challenges of climate change.

In conjunction with the [Centre for the Study of Global Governance](#) at the London School of Economics, this Policy Network project will examine how best to develop this policy framework through a comparative political analysis of key western democracies. The project will be led by Lord Anthony Giddens, former director of the LSE, and Roger Liddle, vice chair of Policy Network. It will provide a forum for the discussion of the complex politics of climate change between national and international policy-makers, academics and commentators. The project will conclude with major conferences in London and Brussels.

Our objective is distinctive: to think about the challenges of climate change in a specifically political context.

At present, public discussion of climate change tends to be partial and disparate. Loosely connected debates hinge on the evidence that climate change is occurring and estimates of its potential impact; the prospects for agreeing an international framework for an economic response to, for instance, carbon trading; futurology surrounding the potential for technological innovation that could solve the problem; and, scenario building that tends to emphasise the necessity for dramatic lifestyle changes.

But the debate is often limited in scope and is too compartmentalised. To truly come to terms with the increasingly urgent need for mitigation and adaptation requires a broad, policy perspective because the impact of climate change challenges every corner of the 21st century state. This project aims to offer an integrated platform from which to analyse and respond to the political challenges of climate change.

Our primary focus is on public policy at the national level. Although an international agreement is a vital aspect of an effective global response to climate change, we cannot rely exclusively on international consensus as an impetus for action. No amount of discussion at an international level will be of any consequence if the countries mainly responsible for causing climate change do not make effective and radical responses to it.

So, it is at the national level in the developed countries that real progress first has to be made. And it is through decisive national leadership at this level that a global solution can eventually be induced.

Our "best practice" comparisons will concentrate on key western democracies, such as: the United Kingdom; Germany; France; Sweden; Spain; Poland; the United States at the federal level; and, Japan. We will also look at what role the European Union can play in encouraging national action and offering a framework for regional leadership combating the challenges of climate change.

The aim of the project is to produce something of a complementary volume of study to that of the Stern Review in the form of three publications: an authoritative monograph written by Anthony Giddens; a comparative collection of essays from national policy-makers; and, a report from Policy Network synthesising the conclusions of the programme with a set of policy recommendations to governments.

### Framework

This volume of study will address the following political challenges posed and issues raised by climate change to western democracies:

- the management of risk – The prevailing scientific consensus on the effects of climate change is periodically questioned by those who want to scale-up and those who want to scale-down the present levels of urgency and severity in its assessment. How in these circumstances can democracies construct a prudent, long term and consistent policy agenda to manage these risks, whilst also building consensus around the agenda? To what extent is this agenda shared with the pursuit of energy security?
- a return to planning? – Effective national action on climate change requires a return in some form to long-term government planning. What new forms of interventionism would be most expedient, learning from the failures of the past? How can the climate change dimension be built into every relevant aspect of public policy? How can



adaptation, such as carbon pricing, the role of regulation, energy efficiency, transport and land use, the promotion of specific technological innovation by government, and lifestyle and behavioural changes?

- creating a political and public consensus for action – How can the democratic penchant for partisanship and short-termism, within differing democratic cultures, be replaced by long-termism and a consensus-based policy agenda? How can an ambivalent public opinion, especially at times of economic uncertainty, be convinced of the merits of long-term action on climate change? What can governments do to induce sustained support for combating climate change?
- the implications for social justice – The social and economic costs of climate change will be large. How can you ensure that the impact of policies to address climate change are perceived as equitable by key groups in society and do not penalise those who are less fortunate? What are the prospects of ensuring that western democracies can be persuaded to carry the economic and political burden of climate change instead of countries in the developing world?

Our goal is to consider the impact of these challenges and issues on western democracies in general and on specific nations in particular. In this process we will assess the national specificities of the politics of climate change: the successes, weaknesses and contradictions of existing policy; and, the links to national energy security agendas. This will allow for a wide-ranging “best practice” comparison.

These are crucial debates that Policy Network looks forward to playing a part in shaping over the coming months.



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You're in: [Flagship programmes](#) : An EU "fit for purpose" in a global age

## An EU "fit for purpose" in a global age

### Aims and objectives

Organised by Policy Network in association with the [European Institute](#) of the London School of Economics and the [ELIAMEP](#) thinktank in Athens, the focus of this project will be different from other contemporary studies. We intend to concentrate on areas where consensus is most difficult to establish, not where it is easiest to find.

European integration started as an inward-looking venture: the foundations for peace and reconciliation in Europe were laid while global order was taken as a given, shaped by external actors. Nowadays, it is increasingly accepted across the political spectrum that the EU's rationale in the 21st century is to enable its member states to address global issues more effectively than any member state can adequately address on its own: for example with regard to trade, climate change, energy, development, migration and security challenges.

There is of course debate about how far the necessary strengthening of the EU's external capabilities requires stronger intergovernmental cooperation or more integration in the classic sense. But the likely ratification of the Lisbon Treaty sets the institutional parameters for these debates for the foreseeable future.

There is less consensus, and a lot less current debate, about the policies that the EU should pursue internally and in its immediate geographic neighbourhood, though there is intense controversy surrounding future EU enlargement. Yet clearly an EU which is neither economically strong, nor carries much legitimacy with the electorates of its member states, is unlikely to be an "effective global actor" or an exemplar to the rest of the world.

For some, internal integration is near its limits. The main challenge is to deepen and sustain a properly functioning single market which both helps to make markets more flexible in their response to global economic change, and to provide the best conditions for dynamism and growth. Interventions may be required at the EU level to handle market failures such as energy and climate change, science and R&D, and regional disparities, but on the whole the emphasis should be against centralisation and over-regulation and in support of "subsidiarity". On this analysis, it is important to address where the EU may at present be attempting too much rather than too little.

Others see globalisation as less benign. Financial market turbulence, exchange rate volatility and the shifts in world economic power are seen to demand a more interventionist approach at EU level. A perceived threat to the "European Social Model" increases pressure for the EU somehow to "protect" its citizens against the harsh consequences of globalisation (possibly through social and tax harmonisation, and shielding citizens from "unfair" foreign competition). On the other hand, there is a view that if member states opt for appropriate national reforms, social justice and economic dynamism can continue to march in tandem in the global age. In both cases, the exact level and nature of any further EU integration have yet to be defined.

Ultimately, there is general acceptance that the EU faces a huge challenge in reducing carbon emissions in line with its declared climate change objectives: also that the pressures of demography, migration and further enlargement will lead to a much more ethnically and culturally diverse EU. But the social and economic consequences of these changes and what they might mean for EU policies have still to be thought through.

### Framework

The projects focus will be on four research and policy clusters:

- Enlargement, neighbourhood and identity
- Internal security and migration
- Economic governance in the single market and eurozone
- Competitiveness, sustainability (demographic as well as environmental) and social cohesion

In each of these clusters, the project will address the following questions:

- Is it a valid assumption that current economic, social and cultural trends demand a new, more coherent and consistent EU policy framework?
- What are the "pros" and "cons" of further EU integration in the respective areas?
- What are the critical policy choices to be made, reflecting a political judgement of where policy progress may be possible?
- What is the degree of convergence of interests and values within the EU in these areas and are differences the

The project will be conducted through a series of seminars over the next 12 months in different European capitals, and two bigger conferences in London and Brussels, leading to the production of a volume of collected papers on EU policy choices post-2009.