Notes on Contributors

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Aistė Deimantaitė is a final-year PhD student at Vytautas Magnus University in Kaunas, Lithuania. Her thesis focuses on the perception of the concept and idea of sovereignty, and its transformation in a modern democracy. Aistė participated in the research project of the Research Council of Lithuania “Creation and Recognition of the Lithuanian State in 1917–1918: Historical and Political Aspects”. Aistė has a Bachelor and a Master degree in political science from Vilnius University Institute of International Relations and Political Science.

Pauline Heinrichs is a strategic narrative and ontological security scholar. Her PhD thesis has looked at how different actors negotiate state identity narratives around moments of uncertainty, anxiety and crises. Pauline has worked for Jean Monnet funded projects, in particular in critical public diplomacy contexts. She was selected as an emerging scholar at the Milton Wolf Seminar on Public Diplomacy.

Vineta Kleinberga is a PhD student and a Researcher in the Faculty of European Studies at Rīga Stradiņš University. Her research interests focus on EU integration, and the dynamics between policy formation, strategic communication and societal perceptions. Vineta has ten years of experience at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Latvia, and holds a Master degree in Political Science from Central European University.

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Muriel Cathérine Pluschke studied political science and economics (BA) at Bielefeld University and completed her MA in “Intercultural Communication and European Studies” at Fulda University of Applied Sciences in 2019. She has been a doctoral fellow and scholarship holder at Fulda UAS since August 2020 and continues to work there as a research assistant. Her research interests lie in European integration, the European public sphere, (local) journalism and research on democracy.

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Maili Vilson is PhD research fellow at the University of Tartu, Estonia. Her dissertation focuses on the Europeanisation of national foreign policy of EU member states. She has
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