Notes on Contributors

Salvatore FP Barillà is a PhD candidate in Politics at the School of Social and Political Science of the University of Edinburgh. He holds a combined bachelor and master’s degree in Law from LUISS university, and a double master’s degree in European Studies and International Relations from LUISS university and China Foreign Affairs University. He is interested in International Political Economy, International Trade and Investment Law, and EU-China studies.

Dr Xuechen Chen is Assistant Professor in Politics and International Relations at New College of the Humanities at Northeastern University. She holds a PhD in European Studies from King’s College London and holds an MSc in European Studies: Ideas and Identities from the London School of Economics. She has held research positions at the London Pacific Centre of Social Science at King’s College London, the European Institute for Asian Studies, and at the EU Centre in Singapore. Her research interest includes EU-Asia relations, East Asian international politics, and Chinese foreign policy. Her academic articles appeared in Journal of Contemporary Southeast Asia, Journal of Chinese Political Science, Asia-Pacific Journal of EU Studies among others.

Paula Cisneros Cristóbal is currently Associate Professor of International Public Law and European Union Institutions at the University of Zaragoza and Lawyer. PhD candidate in International Law with her thesis on Japan-EU relations. Master’s Degree in Professional Practice of Law, in European Union and in Japanese Studies. Postgraduate degree in International Cooperation. Scholarship holder of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan in the framework of the MIRAI Program. She has done a research stay at the European University Center of the University of Lorraine (France) and a study stay at the University of Saitama (Japan). She has also been a researcher in the PPI4Waste project of the H2020 Program of the European Commission.

Adam Griffin holds a Master’s degree in European Union Studies from the National Centre for Research on Europe at the University of Canterbury. His area of research looks at the development of New Zealand’s relations with post-communist Central and Eastern European Countries since their accession to the EU, as well as researching the ongoing EU-NZ Free Trade Agreement.

Hajime Imamura, Professor at the Department of Global Innovation Studies (GINOS) of Toyo University, teaches courses such as Global Creativity for Sustainable Innovation and Global Entrepreneurship. He has been a start-up chair of the GINOS department for the past four years, which started as the flagship of the Top Global University project under MEXT subsidy and achieved the highest rating from high school students taking entrance exams at Toyo University. He has been leading global innovation studies in Japan.

Dr Ana Gascón Marcén is a senior lecturer of Public International Law and EU Law at the University of Zaragoza. She is also a civil servant of the Information Society Department of the Council of Europe, currently on personal leave. Her main research topics are Human Rights, IT Law (personal data protection and freedom of expression on the Internet) and the comparison of Japanese Law with EU Law. She is part of the interdisciplinary Research Group “Japan.”
Javier Martín Merchán is an Associate Lecturer in Comparative and Electoral Politics at the Department of International Relations of Comillas Pontifical University (Madrid). He is also a Policy Analyst at the Public Governance Directorate of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), as well as a predoctoral student at Sciences Po. He holds a BA in International Relations from Comillas Pontifical University, as well as a MSc in Political and Electoral Analysis from Universidad Carlos III de Madrid and a MA in European Affairs and Public Policy from Sciences Po (Paris). Javier’s research interests lie at the intersection between EU Affairs and Comparative Politics. He examines the implications of the upsurge of radical right-wing populist parties and illiberal trends in terms of the anti-establishment political identity developed by some parts of the European electorate, as well as the impact of mainstream parties’ strategies on RRP voting. In doing so, he addresses the stability of RRP partisanship and, more broadly, the question of whether politics stand on individual positions and identities, or rather are more ephemerally associated with preferences on salient issues.

Laura Paíno Peña is a researcher at the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Spain, where she primarily examines European and Spanish political and economic affairs. She holds a BA in International Relations, with a major in Foreign Policy and International Security, as well as a BA in Translation and Interpreting, from Comillas Pontifical University (Madrid). She is interested in Asian politics, specifically in what the Indo-Pacific concerns, and worked as an analyst of such a region at the Spanish Institute of Strategic Studies (IEEE).

Beatriz Pérez de las Heras is Professor of European Union Law and Jean Monnet Chair on European Integration at the University of Deusto (UD). She is also Editor-in-Chief of Cuadernos Europeos de Deusto (Deusto Journal of European Studies). She is the author of several books and numerous papers on European legal issues. Her current research interests are chiefly focused on the EU climate change and energy policy, democracy and citizenship in the EU, and the role of the EU as an international actor.

Dr Milenko Petrovic is Jean Monnet Chair and Senior Lecturer Above the Bar at the National Centre for Research on Europe and at the Department of Global, Cultural and Language Studies, University of Canterbury, New Zealand. He is the author of The Democratic Transition of Post-Communist Europe (Palgrave Macmillan, 2013) and co-editor of A Quarter Century of Post-Communism (Palgrave Macmillan, 2017) and A geopolitical turn to EU enlargement, or another postponement? (SI, Journal of Contemporary European Studies, 29 (2), 2021). He authored or (co-)edited several other volumes and a number of shorter contributions on comparative politics, post-communist transition and EU enlargement.

Dr Gao Xinchuchu is a research associate at the London-Asia Pacific Centre for Social Science. She received her PhD in European Studies from King’s College London. Her research interests lie at the intersection between international relations, international organizations and European studies. Within this broad framework, she is specifically interested in EU relations with Asian countries. Her latest publications appear in the European Yearbook of International Economic Law, Asia Pacific Journal of EU Studies and L’Europe en formation. She held research and teaching positions at SOAS, University of London, Universite Libre de Bruxelles, and Institute of Economic Affairs.