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# February 2014

## Newsletter no. 2

### Coimbra Group Office



## CG Annual Conference 2014



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Handled by  
Prof. dr. E. Sterken

Date  
28 February 2014

Subject  
Registration open for the annual Coimbra Group Conference *Universities in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: For Infinity*

Dear Coimbra-group colleagues,

Registration for our annual conference, which will be held in Groningen from 10-13 June 2014, is open now: [www.rug.nl/coimbra](http://www.rug.nl/coimbra) (your registration code is: COIMBRA).

In order to be sure of a hotel room, we strongly advise you to register before 30 April 2014 (after this date, it may be more difficult to make a hotel reservation).

We have made pre-reservations for Coimbra Group rectors, presidents, vice-chancellors or provosts at the NH Hotel de Ville (at our cost). For seven members of the Coimbra Group Executive Board, pre-reservations have been made at Hotel Corps de Garde (at our cost).

We have not made pre-reservations for other guests. They are expected to cover their own hotel expenses. A list of suitable hotels can be found on the website.

Please check the website for further details on the programme.

We look forward to seeing you in Groningen!

Yours very sincerely / hartelijke groet,



Prof. Elmer Sterken  
Rector Magnificus

The registration web site will be ready next week at [www.rug.nl/coimbra](http://www.rug.nl/coimbra)



## Mobility Scoreboard

The European Commission has published a press release and a “Mobility Scoreboard” (available from the Eurydice unit) to inform about the need to put more effort into promoting studies and training abroad: [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-14-9\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-14-9_en.htm)

*The Mobility Scoreboard covers all 28 EU Member States, as well as Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein and Turkey. It is a first overview of the factors covered in the 2011 Council Recommendation on learning mobility and will be a basis for future joint monitoring at EU level, with the next update planned for 2015.*

*The Mobility Scoreboard was developed by the Eurydice Network, working in close cooperation with the European Commission and an advisory group of experts from the Member States. Eurydice is a network of national units, coordinated by the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA), which provides information on and analyses of European education systems and policies.*

The key findings of the study are:

- *Information and guidance about mobility opportunities:* Germany, Belgium, Spain, France and Italy provide the most comprehensive support. Information and guidance structures are least developed in Bulgaria, Greece, Slovenia and Cyprus.
- *Portability of student aid,* enabling students to receive public grants and loans in another country on the same terms as when they study at home. Student grants and loans are portable in the Dutch and German-speaking parts of Belgium, Cyprus, Luxembourg, Slovenia, Finland and Sweden. In contrast, student financial support systems are most restrictive in the French-speaking part of Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Greece, Croatia, Lithuania, Romania and Slovakia.
- *Knowledge of foreign languages:* This is often an important factor for deciding to study abroad. Cyprus, Luxembourg and the German-speaking part of Belgium place greatest emphasis on language learning in schools. Ireland and, within the United Kingdom, Scotland, have no compulsory foreign language learning in schools.
- *Recognition of studies abroad (use of ECTS and Diploma Supplement):* Germany, Belgium and Spain make considerable efforts to monitor the use of European tools which help students gain recognition for their studies abroad through the [European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System](#) (ECTS) and Diploma Supplement, but most countries pay comparatively little attention to this issue.
- *Support for students from disadvantaged backgrounds:* The Dutch-speaking part of Belgium, Germany, Italy and Austria stand out for having both well-developed financial support for students from disadvantaged backgrounds who wish to study or train abroad and systems to monitor mobility in terms of social background.

[http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/education/eurydice/documents/thematic\\_reports/162EN\\_Learner\\_Mobility.pdf](http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/education/eurydice/documents/thematic_reports/162EN_Learner_Mobility.pdf)



## Innovation Scoreboard

When *Horizon 2020* was finally launched at the end of 2013 the European Commission underlined the cohesion policy issues included in the new framework programme (for more on the cohesion policy: [http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/what/future/index\\_en.cfm](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/what/future/index_en.cfm)). To underpin the necessity to invest in research and innovation the Innovation Scoreboard was quoted for showing “significant internal disparities in terms of research and innovation performance”. As the trends will be further exacerbated by the continuing crisis specific measures have been included to widen participation and encourage excellence. The two main measures introduced are “Teaming” and “Twinning” actions – for more information: <http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en/h2020-section/spreading-excellence-and-widening-participation>

The scoreboard provides for interesting reading and some interesting figures, two of which are copied below. For more information: [http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/innovation/files/ius-2013\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/innovation/files/ius-2013_en.pdf)  
For the full report with annexes: [http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/innovation/facts-figures-analysis/innovation-scoreboard/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/innovation/facts-figures-analysis/innovation-scoreboard/index_en.htm)

In the introduction to the 2013 scoreboard the European Commission wrote:

*This year's edition offers a unique opportunity to measure the first effects of the economic crisis on the research and innovation landscape in Europe. It uses the most recent available data from Eurostat and*

other internationally recognised sources with data referring to 2011 for 12 indicators and 2010 for 9 indicators and to less recent years for only 3 indicators. Six indicators are derived from the recently published Community Innovation Survey 2010, which investigated the innovation activity of the European enterprises during the crisis years 2008-2010.

The Innovation Union Scoreboard 2013 gives a comparative assessment of the innovation performance of the EU27 Member States and the relative strengths and weaknesses of their research and innovation systems. It monitors innovation trends across the EU27 Member States, as well as Croatia, Iceland, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Switzerland and Turkey. It also includes comparisons between the EU27 and 10 global competitors. The overall ambition of the Innovation Union Scoreboard is to inform policy discussions at national and EU level, by tracking progress in innovation performance within and outside the EU over time. The Innovation Union Scoreboard is accompanied by the Regional Innovation Scoreboard 2012, the pilot European Public Sector Innovation Scoreboard and analytical reports on among others regional research cooperation patterns of European SMEs and the link between regional innovation and socio-economic performance.

Figure 2. EU Member States' innovation performance:

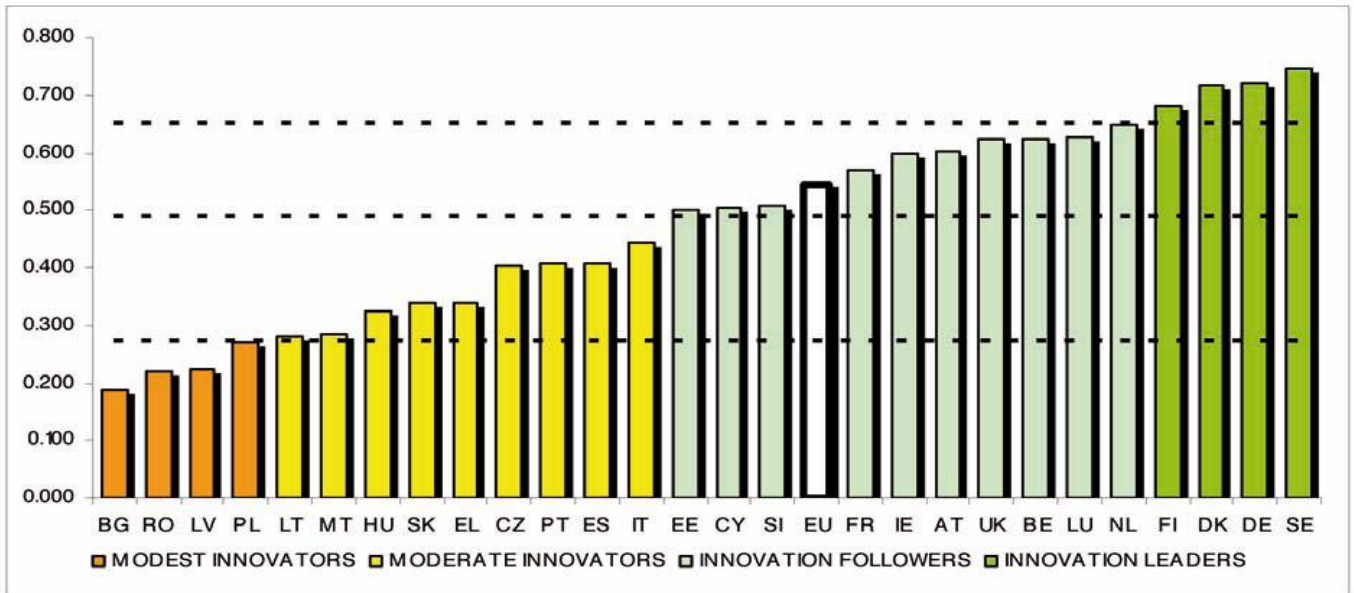
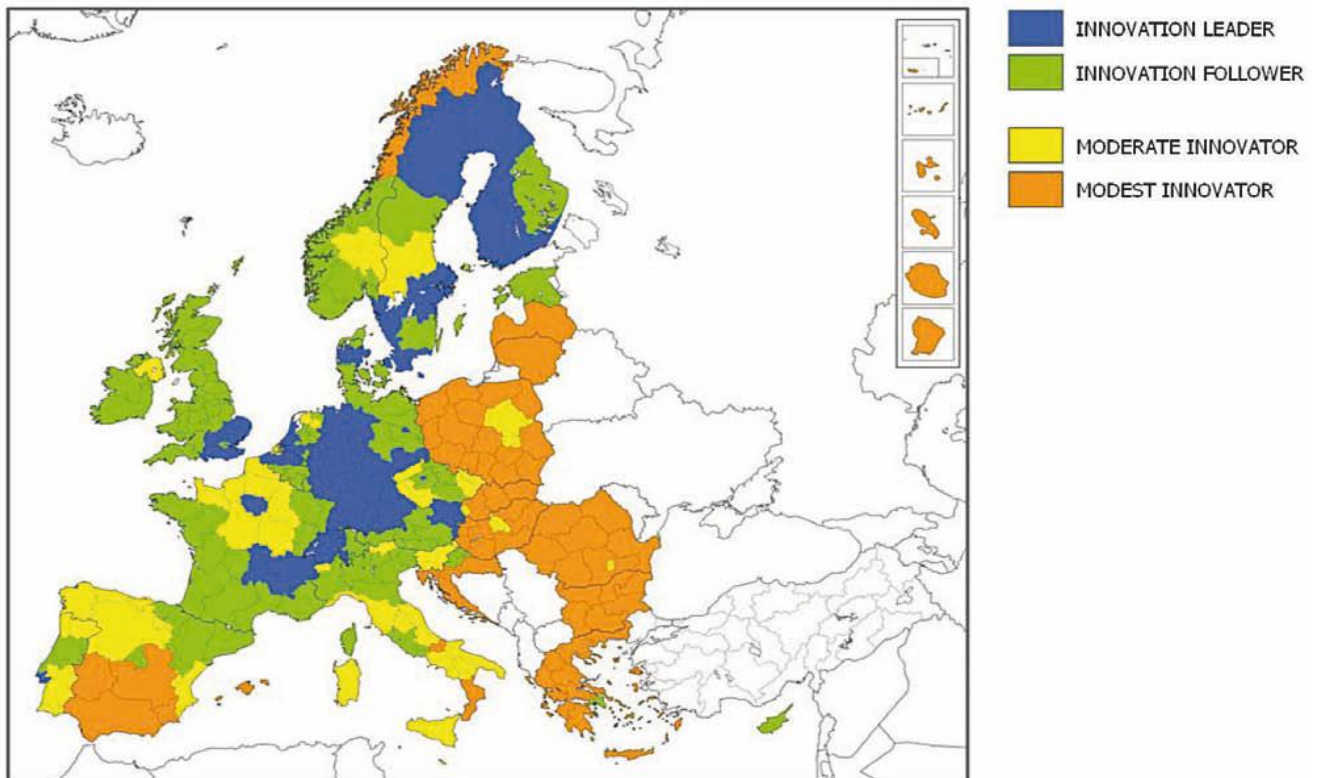


Figure 23: Regional performance groups



The EU Member States Cyprus, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg and Malta are not included in the RIS (Regional Innovation Scoreboard) analysis. Group membership shown is that of the IUS (Innovation Union Scoreboard). Map created with Region Map Generator. (RIS: [http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/innovation/policy/regional-innovation/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/innovation/policy/regional-innovation/index_en.htm) - 2012)





## A European Area of Skills and Qualifications?

The European Commission launched a consultation last year on 17 December – probably the reason it has drowned in other and more interesting activities - on the comparability and recognition of skills and qualifications across Europe. The Deadline for responding to the consultation is 15 April this year: [http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/education\\_culture/more\\_info/consultations/skills\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/education_culture/more_info/consultations/skills_en.htm)

The background for the consultation is linked to the continuously high unemployment figures especially amongst young people - is it mainly linked to a skills mismatch across Europe (and economic crisis, for course). Furthermore, the European Commission projects that in a few years almost half of the jobs available will require higher-level skills and there will be a steady decrease in unskilled jobs requiring low skills (based on research done by Cedefop). Added to this the Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC\*) has documented a low level of literacy, numeracy and digital skills among adults.

It is very much an open consultation, mainly aimed at coordinating and harmonising existing recognition tools to encompass all of the third level, including the VET institutions (vocational education and training), e.g. efforts to make skills and qualifications recognised and to make comparability of qualifications possible (a.o. Bologna, EQF). Moreover, VET systems vary from one country to the next and mobility and transparency of skills and qualifications are still unresolved issues. The European Credit System for VET (ECVET) tries to meet these needs.

Individuals as well as organisations are welcome to contribute to the consultations. For further information there is also a background document available:

[http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/education\\_culture/more\\_info/consultations/documents/skills-back\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/education_culture/more_info/consultations/documents/skills-back_en.pdf)

\*PIAAC is an OECD survey of adult skills: <http://www.oecd.org/site/piaac/publications.htm>



## Seminar in Minsk: Catalysts for Internationalisation

The universities of Bologna, Iași and Turku organised, with support from the European Neighbourhood (EN) Task Force and the Belarus State University, the two-day event *Erasmus Mundus as a catalyst for internationalisation: sharing best practices and exploring future perspectives*, which was held in Minsk on 10 and 11 February 2014.

The event, which consisted of three separate seminars addressing issues ranging from doctoral training to integration of mobility and recognition, gathered several Erasmus Mundus action 2 consortia coordinated by the afore-mentioned universities (WEBB, BMU-MID, MID, EMERGE, IANUS and IANUS II) as well as EN Task Force members and local higher education administrators, for a total of 80 participants.

All the presentations are now available on <http://www.bsu.by/en/main.aspx?guid=215311>



## Swiss referendum

**From ACA, the Academic Cooperation Association:**

The referendum on the Swiss federal popular initiative *Against mass immigration* on 9 February showed a voting result of 50.3 % in favour of the initiative; as a result, Swiss participation in the EU framework programmes *Horizon 2020* and *Erasmus+* is not only at stake but has been for the moment shelved, with far reaching consequences for cooperation in higher education and EU-Swiss relations. The current situation has left many open questions which ACA will try to address.

**What are the legal consequences of the referendum outcome?**

The proposal for the federal popular initiative was launched by the conservative Swiss People's Party, aiming for a modification of the Swiss constitution in order to allow for the country to regulate immigration independently by setting up annual immigration contingents. This, however, represents a breach of

contract of the agreement on freedom of movement between the Swiss Confederation and the European Union, signed in 1999. The European Union and Switzerland have signed a body of bilateral agreements, which are all equally linked to each other through a so called guillotine clause. This implies that if any of the treaties are terminated, all other treaties will be also automatically terminated. Consequently, the voting result of the referendum on 9 February threatens the fundamentals of EU-Swiss relations, as the Swiss government is now obliged to implement the outcome of the referendum within a timeframe of three years.

### **Why does the voting outcome seem to have immediate effect on Switzerland's participation in Erasmus+ and Horizon2020?**

In light of Croatia's accession to the European Union this year, the Swiss government planned and was supposed to sign a protocol which would extend freedom of movement to Croatian citizens. The Swiss Federal Council, however, has informed Croatian and EU authorities that they have not yet concluded whether the protocol can be signed due to the results of the referendum on 9 February. A decision on this matter is likely to be taken by April 2014. As a reaction to the Swiss postponement of granting freedom of movement to Croatian citizens, EU authorities have suspended current negotiations on Swiss participation in the framework programmes *Erasmus+* and *Horizon 2020*, which were supposed to reach an agreement this year. This, in turn, has an immediate effect on Swiss participation.

### **How does the interruption of negotiations on Swiss participation in Erasmus+ and Horizon2020 affect Switzerland?**

There are no problems concerning Framework programme7 (FP7) projects and Erasmus students in the current academic year. However, problems for the next academic year 2014-2015 might arise as Switzerland will most likely not be part of the *Erasmus+* programme. As other third states it will, however, be able to participate in global actions under the *Erasmus+* programme which are likely to be launched in 2015. According to the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI) the Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research (EAER) is currently working with stakeholders on alternative scenarios in order to ensure staff and student mobility and preferably full-fledged Swiss participation in *Erasmus+*.

Switzerland will not receive a status as associated country for the *Horizon2020* framework programme. Consequently, Swiss entities are not excluded from participation of *Horizon2020* projects but will only be treated as third country entity. Their participation within a consortium for a call will not count towards the required minimum number of participants in a given project. Moreover, Swiss entities will not be able to take part in European Research Council calls. Individual researchers with Swiss citizenship, however, are eligible for European Research Council grants if employed by a legal entity located in an EU or associated state. The same is valid for Marie Skłodowska Curie actions (MSCA) – individual Swiss researchers are still eligible, although Swiss entities are ineligible for MSCA host-driven actions like Innovative Training Networks (ITN) or Research and Innovation Staff Exchanges (RISE).

### **What are the prospects for the near future?**

At this point any predictions on upcoming developments are difficult and of rather speculative nature. The European Commission has made clear in a number of statements that freedom of movement is a non-negotiable EU core principle. Should Switzerland follow up on the implementation the new regulations, the EU and Switzerland would have to start new negotiations on the previously concluded bilateral agreements. With 1.2 million EU citizens residing in Switzerland, i.e. 23.4 % of the Swiss population, and 250,000 cross-border commuters, the EU is keen to defend EU citizens' interests. Although 450,000 Swiss citizens live and work in the EU, equally benefiting from the agreement on freedom of movement, the Swiss right to a self-regulated immigration policy was perceived to outweigh the advantages of freedom of movement for the proponents of the initiative. Yet, the proponent's margin was relatively low with 0.34 % in favour, i.e. 19 526 votes with a voter turnout of only 55.8 %. Christian Levrat, President of the Social Democratic Party of Switzerland announced that he would like to call for a new popular vote on the future of bilateral treaties with the EU.

Swiss representatives have repeatedly underlined the fact that other countries do benefit from an association status in EU framework programmes or some parts of the internal market principles without having to sacrifice their freedom of movement. Turkey has been able to participate in the Erasmus programme, FP7 and has been part of the European Union Customs Union for the free movement of goods without ever being granted freedom of movement for its citizens. Liechtenstein, part of the European Economic Area (EEA), has been granted special conditions which allow for immigration quotas – clearly in breach of the EU's sacred cow, the freedom of movement for people.

In the end and in spite of repeated affirmations of appeasement, the EU and Switzerland are both flexing their muscles to have it their own way.



## Early spring – also in Bergen

Spring flowers are already blooming, even in Bergen where the mild winter has opened up the rhododendron, made the crocuses flower and the trees full of buds. The University of Bergen's newsletter *På Høyden* has provided a beautiful series of photos from the Milde Arboretum in early February: <http://pahoyden.no/2014/02/tidlig-var-pa-arboretet>

We are sure you will enjoy this rare northern treat, maybe even learn some Norwegian? The photos show: 1. The rhododendron, 2. Cornelian cherry, 3. Head of information at the Arboretum, Bjørn Moe with the rhododendron, 4. Hazel catkins, 5. Milde Arboretum, 6. Spring snowflake, 7. Rhododendron buds bathe in sunlight, 8. The first crocus, 9. Early flowering spurge-laurel, and 10. *Erica carnea*, in Norwegian 'spring heather', maybe to be called 'winter heather' in the future?



*February Dawn* – aptly named.





## We have received



*From Aarhus University*



### Aarhus University Summer Schools 2014

In 2014 Aarhus University is offering over 60 Bachelor's, Master's and PhD summer courses taught in English. These courses are offered by all faculties, within Health, Arts, Science & Technology and Business & Social Sciences. An overview of all our summer courses can be found here:

<http://www.au.dk/en/summeruniversity/courses/>.

The deadline for applications is the **15th of March, 2014**.

The AU Summer University programme consists of short, yet intensive, courses that are deeply rooted in current research and a strong international perspective, which, in 2013, has been supported by 30 international guest lecturers. Whilst studies are important, a busy calendar of social and cultural activities is planned for the international students who are participating, providing them with a way to get acquainted with their fellow students and learn more about Denmark.



*From the University of Würzburg*

### Europe Scholarship WÜRZBURG

With the aim of fostering the European idea of student exchange, the University of Würzburg, together with the University of Applied Sciences Würzburg, and the University of Music Würzburg are offering Europe Scholarships to students of European Union countries.

In the 2014/2015 Winter Semester, 12 Europe Scholarships in the sum of **7,000 EUR each**, will be awarded to students who study abroad for two semesters - depending on the subject and scholarship - at either the University of Würzburg, the University of Applied Sciences Würzburg, or the University of Music Würzburg.

You will find all information about the new scholarship programme here: [http://www.international.uni-wuerzburg.de/en/studying\\_in\\_wuerzburg/services/scholarships/european\\_scholarship/](http://www.international.uni-wuerzburg.de/en/studying_in_wuerzburg/services/scholarships/european_scholarship/)



*From the University of Göttingen*

## International Summer School: “Multiple Modernities” 1-5 September 2014 in Göttingen

Explicitly or implicitly, the Euro-American path to modernity has long been taken as a standard model, indeed as a definition of modernity in general. Individualization, the rule of law, technologization, social differentiation, and secularization were seen as its inevitable manifestations. Regions of the world falling short of this “package” have been considered as in need of development by colonial rule or other forms of tutelage. Cultural difference was imagined in terms of temporal difference that could only be overcome, albeit gradually and perhaps never altogether, by embracing the Western model of modernity.

Sociologist Shmuel Eisenstadt was one of the first scholars to criticize these assumptions with his concept of “multiple modernities”, pointing out that there was more than one path to modernity, more than one isotropic condition of modernity. His assumptions were quickly taken up, in part because they allowed to emphasise the specific modernity of often syncretic cultural phenomena from outside of Europe and the U.S. which embraced and appropriated both global (and putatively modern) and local (supposedly traditional) conditions of production. Nevertheless, the notion of “multiple modernities” was beset by a range of theoretical and ethical problems and is increasingly confronted with harsh criticism, especially from postcolonial theory. Foremost among these are the allegations that it shares with older theories of modernity an essentialist definition of culture and that by “decomposing modernity” it retranslates development into hierarchy, and risks essentialising economic asymmetries into cultural difference, thereby depoliticising contemporary globalization.

This summer school, targeted at doctoral candidates and early postdocs, aims at a critical reflection of modernization theory up to its most recent guises and critiques and seeks an engagement with cultural and aesthetic practices that express the seeming contradictions of contemporary global modernity. These may include, but are not narrowed to: literature and the arts, media, fashion/clothing, food, urbanisation, religious practice. It hopes to foster exchange between young researchers from diverse cultural backgrounds and disciplines in the social sciences and humanities whose work is related to theoretical implications and cultural, social, and aesthetic phenomena of global modernity.

Each day will commence with a keynote lecture delivered by renowned scholars and ample opportunities for discussion afterwards. Keynote speakers include Stefan Haas (Göttingen), Gurminder K. Bhabra (Warwick), Lars Eckstein (Potsdam), Gauri Viswanathan (New York), and Parama Roy (Davis). The afternoons will be dedicated to short presentations by participants based on papers circulated in advance and discussions of seminal texts on modernity. Select papers will be published. Anyone interested in participating is kindly requested to apply with a CV, list of publications (if available), and an abstract of 500 words at maximum until **15 March 2014**. Accommodation is free for all participants. Reimbursement for travel costs is predictably available for a limited number of applicants. In case of further questions, do not hesitate to contact the organizers, Jens Elze and Julia Hauser, via [jelze@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:jelze@uni-goettingen.de) and [jhauser1@gwdg.de](mailto:jhauser1@gwdg.de).

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Georg-August-Universität Göttingen  
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Friedländer Weg 2  
37083 Göttingen  
Germany



*From the University of Graz*

## Accounting Doctoral Program DART

We invite excellent students to apply for our **accounting doctoral program DART**, starting its next round on October 1, 2014. DART specializes in the area of accounting, reporting, and taxation with a



focus on economics-based research, applying quantitative research methods and modeling. It is a cooperation between three major Austrian Universities, located in Graz and in Vienna. The program is fully taught in English and covers all major fields of accounting: **financial accounting, management accounting, auditing, taxation, and corporate governance**. DART offers a stimulating learning and research environment and provides financial support to outstanding students from around the world who seek a career in leading academic institutions.

Admitted students receive **funding by scholarships** unless financed by other sources. During their studies, students have the opportunity to visit another university for a research visit, and there are many opportunities for visiting conferences and seminars due to cooperation with other universities and the faculty's network around the world.

Applications will be accepted until **March 31, 2014** for the academic year 2014/15. For details on the doctoral program and scholarships, the application process, the program requirements and pre-requisites, please visit the DART homepage: <http://www.dart.ac.at>

If you need any further information, please contact the program coordinator, Birgit Beinsen ([birgit.beinsen@uni-graz.at](mailto:birgit.beinsen@uni-graz.at)).



From the University of Tartu

## International Research Symposium on Service Management

The University of Tartu, Pärnu College has the pleasure of inviting you to participate in **IRSSM5** in Pärnu, Estonia **June 8-12, 2014**: <http://www.irssm5.pc.ut.ee/>

IRSSM (*International Research Symposium on Service Management*) is an academic conference that is led by Prof. Jay Kandampully in order to popularize service management research and education. It is going to be the 5th conference in June 2014, but the first held in Europe!

The most distinguishing (and probably the most memorable!) aspect of the event, compared to other similar ones, is its small size (we expect up to 100 participants) – Prof. Kandampully deliberately wants to keep it this way in order to promote socialization among delegates and to be able to communicate directly to each and every participant himself.

Guest speaker on June 9, 2014: **Christian Grönroos**

### Programme:

June 8: [Research Workshop](http://193.40.136.69/irssm5/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/IRSSM5-Workshop.pdf) for master and PhD students (see the flyer:

<http://193.40.136.69/irssm5/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/IRSSM5-Workshop.pdf>)

June 9-11: [Research Symposium](#) (see the flyer attached - Call for papers) and [PhD Consortium](#)

June 12: [Sightseeing tour](#) to Tallinn or Riga.

**WELCOME TO ESTONIA!**



From the University of Groningen

## University of Groningen launches new East Asian Studies Centre with East Asia-EU conference

The [Centre for East Asian Studies Groningen \(CEASG\)](#) aims to initiate and support inter-disciplinary teaching and research on China, Japan, Korea and Mongolia and to intensify cooperation with partner universities in East Asia. CEASG partners with the University's study centers in Beijing, Shanghai and Osaka. The University of Groningen already hosts a Confucius Institute and the Osaka University representative office for Europe.

In September 2014 CEASG starts a new [MA East Asian Studies](#), focusing on the political economies of East Asia, in cooperation with partner universities in China, Japan, Korea and Mongolia. Earlier this year the university also launched an endowed [Chair on East Asian studies](#), with a focus on modern day [Mongolia](#).

CEASG invites interested scholars and partners to its upcoming launch conference "[East Asia and the European Union: strong Economics, weak Politics?](#)" on 8-9 May 2014.



## NOVA DOMUS Barcelona

The University of Barcelona has launched the first call for their Erasmus Mundus Action 2 project, NOVA DOMUS: <https://emecw.gis.lu.se/apply/?lot=NOVADOMUS>

This programme concerns doctoral, post-doctoral and staff candidates wishing to go either from the EU to USA or Canada, or from USA or Canada to the EU. The candidates have to belong to one of these target groups. No inter-European or inter-American exchanges are possible. The disciplines offered are in the health, natural and engineering sciences. There are two target groups for each applicant category.

**Doctoral candidates:** To be considered in the Target Group 1 doctoral candidates must

- Be a national from one of the EU Member States or a national of one of the North American countries covered by the project (USA and Canada);
- Be registered in a doctoral programme in a university within the partnership at the time of submitting the application; and
- Have sufficient knowledge of one of the languages currently spoken in the hosting countries.

To be considered in the Target Group 2 they must

- Be a national from one of the EU Member States or a national of one of the North American countries covered by the project (USA and Canada);
- Be registered in a HEI (not included in the NOVA DOMUS partnership) of any European country or any North American countries covered by the project (USA and Canada) or be registered in an Associated member HEI of the NOVA DOMUS partnership; and
- Have sufficient knowledge of one of the languages currently spoken in the hosting countries.

**Post-doctorate candidates:** To be considered in the Target Group 1:

- Be a national from one of the EU Member States or a national of one of the North American countries covered by the project (USA and Canada);
- Have obtained their doctorate in the last two years, and have the support of one of the members of the Partnership for research, training and for attending highly specialised courses; and
- Have sufficient knowledge of one of the languages currently spoken in the hosting countries.

To be considered in the Target Group 2:

- Be a national from one of the EU Member States or a national of one of the North American countries covered by the project (USA and Canada);
- Have obtained their doctorate in the last two years in a HEI (not included in the partnership) of any European country or in an institution of USA or Canada, and have the support of one of the members of the Partnership for research, training and for attending highly specialised courses; and
- Have sufficient knowledge of one of the languages currently spoken in the hosting countries.

**Staff (administrative or academic) applicants:** To be considered in the Target Group 1:

- Be a national from one of the EU Member States or a national of one of North American countries covered by the project (USA and Canada);
- Work in or be associated to one of the universities within the partnership;
- Agree with the home and host universities on the programme of lectures to be delivered, on the research activities or on the type of training to be followed by staff; and
- Apply for a programme/research activity in line with the fields proposed by the project (academic staff) or can apply to the international relations department of the Host University or in any department offering a solid training (administrative staff).

To be considered in the Target Group 2:

- Be a national from one of the EU Member States or a national of one of North American countries covered by the project (USA and Canada);
- Work in or be associated to a HEI (not included in the partnership) of any European country or in an institution of USA or Canada, and have the support of one of the members of the Partnership for research, training and for attending highly specialised courses;
- Agree with the home and host universities on the programme of lectures to be delivered, on the research activities or on the type of training to be followed by staff; and
- Apply for a programme/research activity in line with the thematic fields proposed by the project (academic staff) or can apply to the international relations department of the Host University or in any department offering a solid training (administrative staff).

Application deadline is **6 April 2014** at 23.55 (Brussels time).

Information about the project can be found on <http://novadomus.ub.edu/>



*From the University of Groningen*

## **University of Groningen summer schools 2014: Registration is open!**

In the summer of 2014, the University of Groningen is hosting a series of (new) summer schools covering a wide range of fields. All summer schools intend to bring bright (PhD) students and excellent researchers from all over the world together to work on important topics.

Many of the summer schools have invited colleagues from international partner universities and other external stakeholders to take part in the programme, to enable participating students to access new (international) networks.

Coimbra partners and their students are most welcome to join us!

For more information: [www.rug.nl/summerschools](http://www.rug.nl/summerschools) (e-mail: [summerschools@rug.nl](mailto:summerschools@rug.nl))