



Center for European
Neighborhood Studies

CENTRAL
EUROPEAN
UNIVERSITY



Büro Budapest

The CEU Center for European Neighborhood Studies (CENS)
and the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) cordially invite you to the conference

“US VS. THEM”: POPULISM, THE REFUGEE OTHER AND THE RE- CONSIDERATION OF NATIONAL IDENTITY IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

**29 MAY, 2017 / 9.00 AM /
CEU, NADOR 15 Building, ROOM 103**

Conference overview:

Incoming refugees have created strong negative reactions across Europe, in both destination and transit countries. Such reactions were instrumentalized by some political actors in order to instill fear, and a rhetoric of “us” versus “them” is increasingly popular. One consequence of such political processes was the emphasis placed on the political community, and its re-conceptualization along mostly ethnic and/or religious lines. In this conference, we aim to find out how communities are being re-imagined in countries receiving refugees or being on the transit path. This conference takes on this difficult issue through a selection of research papers that offer a critical insight into identity politics along the Balkan route, and in the V4 region.

PROGRAM

9:00 Registration

9:30 Opening remarks

- Péter Balázs, Director, CEU Center for EU Enlargement Studies
- Timo Rinke, Project Manager, "Flight, Migration, Integration in Europe" project, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung

9:40 Panel I: Identity Politics along the “Balkan Route”

- Populist, Radical and Extreme Right Parties in Visegrad Countries: In the Name of the People and the Nation in Central Europe
Vera Stojarova, Masaryk University
- Defending European Values during the Refugee Crisis: Reconceptualization of a National Identity or the New and Improved Nationalism in a Transit Country?
Tamara Petrovic Trifunović & Dunja Poletić Čosić, University of Belgrade
- Constructing National and Supranational Identities in Times of Crisis: A Comparison between the Greek “Bailout” Referendum and the Hungarian “Migrant Quota” Referendum
Anna Kyriazi, European University Institute
- Negotiating East/West & North/South: Borders and boundaries in Austrian asylum politics 2015-16
Anna Wodička, Central European University

Discussant: Bogdan Mihail Radu, Center for European Neighborhood Studies

11:10 Coffee break

- **11:30 Panel II: From State Discourse to Local Communities: Refugees and the Everyday**

- Refugees Like Us: Solidarity in Transition along the Western Balkans Route
Chiara Milan, Scuola Normale Superiore
- Understanding the Host Populations at Europe's "New" Frontiers: The Case of the Greek Island of Lesbos in the Framework of the European Refugee Crisis
Effrosyni Charitopoulou, Oxford University
- Political Discourse on Refugees Compared to Refugees' Individual Stories: The Case of Croatia
Rahela Jurkovic, University of Zagreb
- Media Representations of Migration in Illiberal Times: The Case of Hungary and Austria
Jenna Althoff, Central European University

Discussant: Andras Szalai, Center for European Neighborhood Studies

13:00 Closing remarks

RSVP to Gabi Göbl at goblg@ceu.edu

For more information, see:

<https://cens.ceu.edu/events/2017-05-29/us-vs-them-populism-refugee-other-and-re-consideration-national-identity-central>