

First Annual ValEUs Conference:

# The Contestation of European Values from Afar

September 13-15, 2024  
Nazarbayev University  
Astana, Kazakhstan

Location:  
Blue Hall, Block C2 (Fri)  
Right Ballroom, Block C2 (Sat, Sun)

## Schedule

### Friday, September 13

4:00 - 6:00 pm	<b>OPENING CEREMONY</b>
4:00 - 4:20 pm	<b>Welcoming Remarks:</b> Dr. Waqar Ahmad (President, Nazarbayev University) Prof. Dr. Eduard Mühle (President, European University Viadrina) Prof. Dr. Timm Beichelt (Principal Investigator, European University Viadrina)
4:20 - 5:20 pm	<b>Keynote Speeches:</b> Her Excellency Aleska Simkic (Ambassador of the European Union to the Republic of Kazakhstan) His Excellency Salman Bal (Ambassador of Switzerland to the Republics of Kazakhstan and Tajikistan) M. Miras Zhiyenbayev (Head of the Foreign Policy and International Studies program at the Maqsut Narikbayev Institute for Networking and Development)
5:20 - 6:00	<b>Q&amp;A</b>

### Saturday, September 14

9:00 - 10:00 am	<b>PANEL 1: THE PERCEPTION OF EUROPEAN VALUES FROM THE CONTEXT OF CENTRAL ASIA AND BEYOND</b> <b>Chair: Petar Popović (University of Zagreb)</b> Borna Zgurić, Đana Luša, Lidija Kos-Stanišić (University of Zagreb): Digital Diplomacy: EU's Soft Power and the Promotion of EU's Values in the Countries of Central Asia Alexei Trochev (Nazarbayev University): European Values, Spin Dictatorships, and Prison Downsizing in Russia, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan Karina Goncsarenko, Madina Altenova, Safdar Hussain (Nazarbayev University): Evaluation of the EU-Funded Project on the Empowerment of Women from Afghanistan
10:15 - 11:15 am	<b>PANEL 2: RELIGION IN DIALOGUE WITH EURASIAN STATES</b> <b>Chair: Daniel Scarborough (Nazarbayev University)</b> Yevgeniy Davydov (Nazarbayev University): Russian Marxist Critique of Late Tolstoy's Ideas Aidana Alken (Nazarbayev University): Women's Islamic Education in Post-Soviet Secular Context Zachary Marsh (Nazarbayev University): Kyrgyz Christians as a Case Study for EU's External Policy Action on Freedom of Religion, Thought, and Speech in Central Asia
11:15 - 11:45 am	Coffee Break
11:45 am - 12:45 pm	<b>PANEL 3: THE CONTESTATION OF EUROPEAN VALUES FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF RUSSIA</b> <b>Chair: Alexei Trochev (Nazarbayev University)</b> Stipe Buzar (Libertas University): "Empire of Lies": Putin's Contestation of Western Values and International Order Damir Mladić (Libertas University): Is Rationality an Exclusive European Value? Maria Rybakova (Nazarbayev University): Russia as New Atlantis: A Rejection of the European Identity
12:45 - 2:30 pm	Lunch Break
2:30 - 3:30 pm	<b>PANEL 4: UKRAINE AND EUROPEAN VALUES</b> <b>Chair: Zhanibek Arynov (Nazarbayev University)</b> Ruslan Zaporozhchenko (V.N. Karazin Kharkiv National University): Ukraine on the Way to the European Union: Dynamics of Values Orientations of Ukrainians Citizens

**Dmytro Boiko (V.N. Karazin Kharkiv National University):** Transformations of the European Values and/or the European Identity of the Ukrainian Population: More Questions Than Answers

**Petar Popović (University of Zagreb):** Values and Interests in EU Foreign Policy: Imperial or Not?

3:45 - 5:15 pm

### **PANEL 5: EUROPEAN VALUES IN THE PERIPHERIES**

**Chair: Stipe Buzar (Libertas University)**

**Özge Onursal-Beşgül (İstanbul Bilgi University):** Turkey-EU Relations: From De-Europeanisation to Contestation

**Vladimir Filipovic (Libertas University):** The Role of the Council of Europe in the Promotion of European Values: The Cases of the Accession of New Member States in the 1990s

**Jarosław Jańczak (Adam Mickiewicz University):** Construction and Perception of EUropean Values on the EUropean Peripheries. Between Mythmaking and (Conflictive) Legacies

**Amelie Kutter (European University Viadrina):** (De-)Peripheralization: Negotiating Socio-Spatial Asymmetries through EU Values

**Courtney Blackington (University of Pittsburg):** Perceptions of the EU and Russia in Sub-Saharan Africa

## **Sunday, September 15**

9:00 - 10:00 am

### **PANEL 6: EUROPE AFTER GAZA**

**Chair: Andrea Apollonio (University of Florence)**

**Mohammed Bamyeh (University of Pittsburgh):** Europe After Gaza

**Sadia Abbas (Rutgers University):** Gaza and the Contradictions of Europe

**Driss Meghraoui (Al-Akhawayn University):** The Genocide in Gaza and US/ European Attitudes Towards Israel

10:15 - 10:50 am

### **PANEL 7: IS ECOLOGY A EUROPEAN VALUE?**

**Chair: Angela Bourne (Roskilde University)**

**Randall Halle (University of Pittsburg):** A Critical Review of European-African Developmental Cooperation: Energy and Climate

**Estela Schindel (European University Viadrina):** Is the Deal Greener on the EU Side? Environmental Damage, Climate Change and Decolonial Critique: Contesting EU Double Standards from Latin America

10:50 - 11:20 am Coffee Break

11:20 am - 12:20 pm **PANEL 8: EDGES OF EUROPE: INEQUALITY, BORDERS, AND EUROPEAN VALUES**

**Chair: Timm Beichelt (European University Viadrina)**

**Višeslav Raos (University of Zagreb):** Voters, Values, and Partisanship: Evidence from a Border Member State

**Marta Zorko (University of Zagreb):** Embracing the Margins: European Borderlands as Catalysts for Unity and Identity Formation

**Ivan Barić (University of Zagreb):** Middle Corridor – New Geopolitical Rivalry Between Russia, China and the EU

12:20 - 1:50 pm Lunch Break

1:50 - 2:50 pm **PANEL 9: THE INTERNAL CONTESTATIONS OF EUROPEAN VALUES (1)**

**Chair: Maria Rybakova (Nazarbayev University)**

**Angela Bourne (Roskilde University):** Opposing the Radical Right Anti-Immigrant and Xenophobic Agenda in Europe

**Mathias Holst Nicolaisen (Roskilde University):** Facing the Intolerable: How Integration of Pariah Parties (Does Not) Foster Moderation on Populism and Olliberalism

**Francesco Campo (Roskilde University):** Radicalization and Moderation of Populist Parties in Italy and Spain: Discourse, Performance and Style

3:50 - 3:20 pm Coffee Break

3:20 - 4:20 pm **PANEL 10: THE INTERNAL CONTESTATIONS OF EUROPEAN VALUES (2)**

**Chair: Nina Sajic (University of Banja Luka)**

**Timm Beichelt (European University Viadrina):** EU Studies Between Affirmation and Critique

**David Orlov (Nazarbayev University):** Antifascism in Bosnia & Herzegovina and Kazakhstan: Postcolonial Perspective

**Ayhan Kaya (İstanbul Bilgi University):** Populist Politics in Europe and Their Impact on EU Relations with the Middle East: EU-Turkey Relations as a Case Study