



Interdisciplinary
Centre for
European Studies

ICES Annual Report

2020

Goals

Reports

Outlook



Europa-Universität
Flensburg

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Summary

In 2020, the focus of the ICES Board of Directors was on further developing a joint research programme on "centre-periphery conflicts". Working in interdisciplinary tandems, the members of the board developed papers as a basis for a framework concept.

As was true everywhere and in all areas of life, the developments of the Covid-19 pandemic profoundly shaped and influenced our plans, experiences and activities this past year. Many aspects of the ICES program as central service and networking facility for EUF had to be reconsidered and further developed to meet the needs of this very special situation. In particular, numerous of our normal program offerings could not take place, or could only be carried out to a limited extent. But the pandemic situation also opened up some exciting opportunities for growth. Thanks to the increasingly online format of academic events, personal advisory services and networking activities, ICES members and guests from abroad were able to participate in our program. New formats (such as informal corona chats) have emerged, and established formats (such as the ICES Research Colloquium) are now taking place online.

With this annual report, we would like to like to present ICES' goals and achievements in 2020, our plans for the coming years, and our current projects and challenges. In particular, the pages below seek to illustrate our efforts to serve as a comprehensive internal service institution for all EUF researchers in the field of European studies and, at the same time, as an internationally visible location for excellent interdisciplinary European studies at EUF.

The 2020 ICES Annual Report outlines ICES' 1) profile and goals, 2) research and research-related activities, 3) activities to promote research, early-stage researchers and networking, and 4) current opportunities and challenges.

1. ICES profile and objectives

ICES, the hub of interdisciplinary research on Europe at Europa-Universität Flensburg (EUF), was founded to extend and deepen the university's academic focus on European topics and issues with respect to research. To this end, we focus on promoting research, fostering networking and offering support to early-stage researchers. ICES brings together academics across disciplines, EUF departments, institutes and universities. Due to its interdisciplinary orientation and the wide range of European Studies experts at EUF (?), ICES is able to initiate, promote and carry out excellent, relevant and innovative research in the social sciences and the humanities.

ICES has set itself three main objectives in this context:

- (1) To strengthen European Studies research at EUF*
- (2) To sharpen the profile of ICES by developing a joint research programme*
- (3) To increase the number and visibility of third-party funded research projects*

This is illustrated by the centre's two central axes:



Abb. 1: ICES mandate and objectives

Internally, ICES is a central service facility of EUF, which provides the best possible support to EUF staff in all matters and in the aim of strengthening European studies at the university. For this, the centre represents a wide range of European Studies topics (Goal 1+3; see Chapter 2+3).

To the broader community, ICES is increasingly perceived as an innovative European research centre of international standing. In view of its external impact, the centre's Board of Directors has set itself the goal of developing a unique research profile in order to increase the centre's visibility and further establish its place within the national and international research landscapes (Objective 2+3, see Chapter 2). Harmonising ICES' outward representation as a high-profile hub of outstanding scholarship on Europe with our commitment to

offering the best possible support, services and resources to all European studies researchers at EUF is especially important to us (see Chapter 4).

These objectives are pursued by the ICES [Board of Directors](#), the [Academic Coordinator](#) and through the commitment of its [members](#). The Board of Directors advises and decides on all ICES matters. It consists of at least three and up to five full-time professors, at least one, and a maximum of two academic staff members. The ICES members elect the Board of Directors for a period of two years. According to the statutes of the center, the spokespersons responsible for ICES on the day of its foundation will serve as members of its Board of Directors until December 31, 2020. At this year's general meeting, the ICES Executive Board was elected for the first time by the ICES members themselves.

The following full-time professors were confirmed in office:

- *Prof. Dr. Monika Eigmüller (Chair of Sociology and Social Science Research on Europe)*
- *Prof. Dr. Ulrich Glassmann (Chair of Comparative Institutional Analysis)*
- *Prof. Dr. Christof Roos (Assistant Professor for European and Global Governance)*
- *Prof. Dr. David Schweikard (Assistant Professor for European Political Philosophy)*
- *Prof. Dr. Hedwig Wagner (Chair of European Media Studies)*

Newly elected to the Board of Directors as representatives of the academic staff:

- *Dr. Ivo Theele (research assistant at the Seminar for German Studies).*



Figure 2: ICES Board of Directors: M. Eigmüller, U. Glassmann, C. Roos, D. Schweikard, I. Theele, H. Wagner

Following the general meeting, *Monika Eigmüller* was unanimously elected by the members of the Executive Board as Managing Director.

The academic coordinator is Dr. Maria Schwab. During her parental leave (July 2019 - September 2020) she was represented by Marcel Sebastian. Sarah Gueye and Nina Schiller work in the secretariat.

ICES has also had a Scientific Advisory Board since November 2018, which advises the ICES Management Board and meets annually to discuss developments over the past year, objectives, prospects and plans. This year's meeting took place on November 31, 2020. The [Scientific Advisory Board](#) consists of:

- *[Prof. Dr. Marius Busemeyer](#), University of Konstanz, Department of Political and Administrative Science*

- [Prof. Dr. Lorenz Engell](#), *Internationale Kolleg für Kulturtechnikforschung und Medienphilosophie (IKKM)*, *Expert in Media and Cultural Technology Research*
- [Prof. Dr. Peter Starke](#), *Syddansk Universitet*, *Expert in Political Science and Public Management*



Fig.. 3: ICES Scientific Advisory Board: M. Busemeyer, L. Engell, P. Starke

2. Research-related activities, projects and events

2.1 ICES research programme

The further development of a common ICES research profile played a particularly important role for the ICES Board of Directors in 2020. To meet this goal, the board formed interdisciplinary teams and, for the past several months, have been working in author tandems on research projects on the topic of centre-periphery conflicts (see table 1).

Table 1: Research projects of the author tandems

| Authors | Chair for | Topic |
|--------------------|---|---|
| Monika Eigmüller | Sociology, focus on European Studies | <i>The Significance of National Borders for Political Attitudes in Border Regions: New Centre-Periphery Structures Due to European Integration?</i> |
| & Ulrich Glassmann | Comparative Institutional Analysis | |
| Hedwig Wagner | European Media Studies | |

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| & Iulia-Karin Patrut ¹ | German Literature Studies in the European Context | <i>Spatial Representations, Medial Negotiations, and Aesthetical Re-Configurations of Centers and Peripheries</i> |
| Christof Roos | European and Global Governance | <i>Coping with Peripheralization in the EU</i> |
| & David Schweikard | European political philosophy | |

The aim is twofold: to generate a first set of academic publications in each of the above research fields and to develop a common "umbrella concept" based on these (also conceptual) considerations developed in the author tandems. In a next step, further ICES members will be involved in the research programme on the topic of centre-periphery conflicts. Here, the integration of EUF's newly created European professorships opens up promising new collaborative possibilities, due to this faculty group's thematic proximity to the Centre-Periphery thematic area (e.g. sociological conflict research, empirical European Studies research, minority research).

In order to continue to be accessible to those who cannot identify with the research programme and to adequately represent all of the research projects affiliated to ICES, we want to retain the original research axes Evidence & Communication, Culture & Identity, Justice & Democracy and Welfare & Work.

2.2 Currently affiliated projects

There are currently ten projects affiliated with ICES, of which three started during the reporting period and two will start in spring next year. Two projects were completed during the reporting period (Book Fairs, DIREPA). The projects contribute to the further development and achievement of ICES' overall objectives in a variety of ways. Although none of the projects explicitly focus on the centre-periphery thematic field, some of them offer excellent opportunities for integration and cooperation.

Within the ValCon project, two new research assistants (a PhD student and a post-doc, both of whom were assigned to the Chair of Sociology) started at ICES in the fall of 2020. For the DFG/ANR project, two additional staff members will be hired in March 2021 (sociology). In addition, ICES has hired a post-doc assistant to prepare a DFG proposal (Chapter 3.1).

Table 2: List of research projects currently hosted by ICES

| | Titel | Förderer | Projekttyp | EU-Verantwortliche*r | Institut/ Lehrstuhl |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | Lockdown of the public sphere | Volkswagen Stiftung | Collaborative Research | Monika Eigmüller | Sociology |

1. Iulia Patrut (Chair of German Literature in the European Context) is not part of the board of directors, but was involved in the development of the concept papers due to her research interests and expertise.

| | | | | | |
|----|---------------------|------------------------------|---|---|--|
| 2 | ACCESS+ | DFG-ANR | Collaborative Research | Monika Eigmüller | Sociology |
| 3 | ValCon | Volkswagen Foundation | Collaborative Research | Monika Eigmüller | Sociology |
| 4 | EuKiD | Erasmus+, Jean Monnet | Collaborative research/ teaching | Ivo Theele | German Studies |
| 5 | DIREPA DICOME | Federal Foreign Office | Networking | Hedwig Wagner | European Media Studies |
| 6 | Humboldt Preis | AvH - Foundation | Research Prize | Monika Eigmüller | Sociology |
| 7 | MEWEB | BMBF - Bridge to ERA | Networking (Objective: EU Training Network) | Hedwig Wagner | European Media Studies |
| 8 | Border Complexities | German-French University | Conference Organization | Monika Eigmüller, Hedwig Wagner, Iulia Patrut | Sociology, European Media Studies, German Literature |
| 9 | CODES | Erasmus+ | Networking | Hedwig Wagner | European Media Studies |
| 10 | LEMEL | Université de Cergy-Pontoise | Networking | Hedwig Wagner | European Media Studies |

1. *Lockdown of the Public Sphere? Value Contestation and Digital Mobilization during the COVID-19 Pandemic*

Project description: Focusing on the emergent social and political conflicts surrounding COVID-19 and the role of social media in creating, disseminating and shaping conflict, this project analyses the dynamics of value contestation and political mobilization in European social media during the COVID-19 pandemic. Further information can be found [here](#).

- **Project partner:** Scuola Normale Superior (SNS) Florence (Koordination: EUF)
- **Duration:** 01.04.2021 - 31.03.2022

2. *AccessPlus: Access to social rights in Germany and France: inequalities and discrimination, gender and migration in the jeux d'échelles of the European area*

Project description: This project examines Europeanisation processes that influence the conditions of access to social rights and benefits in Germany and France, thereby changing the combination of political repertoires of action in terms of compensating for social inequalities and combating discrimination. Further information can be found [here](#).

- **Duration:** 01.04.2021 - 31.03.2024

3. *Value conflicts in a differentiated Europe: The impact of digital media on value Polarisation in Europe*

Project description: Funded by the Volkswagen Stiftung, this project will examine the role of digital social and news media in creating political value polarization among citizens and promoting the rise of populism in Europe. It includes a comparative survey in six countries and qualitative analysis of debates conducted through social media. Further information can be found [here](#).

- Project partner: Universidad Carlos III Madrid & Scuola Normale Superior (SNS) Florence (Koordination: EUF)
- Duration: 01.09.2020 - 31.08.2023

4. *EuKiD – Europe-related competences in German lessons*

Project description: The German-Luxembourg Jean Monnet Project develops Europe-related competences and teaching materials for the school subject of German, and tests these in pilot projects carried out in regular schools. It departs from the question: to what extent can literature contribute to reflecting on 'Europe' with pupils. Further information can be found [here](#).

- Duration: 01.09.2020 - 31.08.2022

5. *DIREPA DICOME discourses of commemoration in media*

Project description: The German-French-Russian networking project is dedicated to commemorating Europe's conflict-laden past in (social) online media. Through the participation of lecturers, students, journalists and representatives of civil society, media competence and critical analytical thinking will be promoted. Further information can be found [here](#).

- Duration: 15.09.2020-31.12.2021

6. *Border Complexities*

Project description: This workshop series consists of five thematically linked workshops, in which early-stage and established researchers from Germany, France and Luxembourg participate. Each workshop focuses on a specific aspect of analysis and is intended to further develop little-received trends in border research. Further information can be found [here](#).

- Duration: 01.12.2019 - 31.12.2021

7. *Humboldt-Forschungspreis für Christopher Thornhill*

Project description: Christopher Thornhill (University of Manchester/Law) received this prestigious price in cooperation with the EUF sociology department. He will spend several research stays at the EUF to develop a new constitutional model or new forms of democratic institution building. Further information can be found [here](#).

- Duration: 01.01.2019 - 31.12.2021

8. *MEWEB (Media of East/West European Border Traffic during the Cold War)*

Project description: The networking activity aims at preparing a proposal for an EU-funded International PhD Training Network. It investigates the relationship of the countries and satellite states of the former Soviet Union in the Cold War to European integration and the values of the EU. The consortium will consist of thirteen researchers from three Western and four Eastern European countries from cultural and social sciences. Further information can be found [hier](#).

- Duration: 01.07.2019 – 30.06.2020 (corona-bedingte Verlängerung bis Januar 2021)

9. *CODES: Kommunikation, kulturelle Diversität und Solidarität*

Project description: The strategic partnership deals with intercultural discourses in different European countries. The key question is: How can students be trained for cultural diversity in accordance with current discourses and practices in the field. Further information can be found [here](#).

- Laufzeit: 01.09.2017 - 01.09.2021

10. *LEMEL: Studying the media coverage of European issues in/through online media*

Project description: LEMEL is a pan-European research network with 8 countries that aims to capture the representation of Europe and the discursive framing of European contestations in their negotiation in online media from the perspective of several countries. Further information on [LEMEL](#) can be found on our website

- Duration: since 01.01.2014

2.3 Journal Culture, Practice and Europeanization

The peer-reviewed journal "[Culture, Practice and Europeanization](#)" (CPE) is linked to ICES. CPE is a multidisciplinary, open-access journal. Editors are Monika Eigmüller (EUF) & Klarissa Lueg (Syddansk Universitet).



Abb. 4: Culture, Practice and Europeanization, Vol. 5/ No. 1

One issue was published in 2020:

- Vol. 5/ No. 1 (August 2020): [Special Issue: Narrative and Europeanization](#)

ICES provides administrative support and supports the development of a professional editorial design for the journal. Next year, the journal will be transferred to the Open Journal System.

2.4 Academic events

ICES Research Colloquium

The ICES Research Colloquium provides an opportunity for all ICES members and interested scholars to present research projects. Nine events were planned for the 2020 spring semester. As the event series started in mid-March, all lectures were cancelled except for one, which took place online. For the [Research Colloquium](#), seven events are planned. All of them will take place online.

Other events

In the course of the corona restrictions, *online corona discussion group* was created. Coming together almost weekly, the group discussed the corona crisis and current political developments (e.g. ruling on government bonds) from different disciplinary perspectives. A [reading group](#) has emerged from these chats (see chapter 3.3).

Two "Workshops on Database usage for text analysis (heurist)" took place in December 2020, which were organised within the transnational project DIREPA-DICOME. Both workshops impart skills for the analysis of the media landscape and were aimed at students and doctoral candidates, especially from the media sciences.

ICES lectures and conferences did not take place in 2020.

Planned events

Several **major conferences and project meetings** are already planned for 2021:

- MEWEB Project Conference (January 2021).
- International Conference "Conference: Multi-platform and Connecting Communities: Contemporary Challenges for Minority Language Media" (ICES in cooperation with the European Center for Minority Issues; October 2021)
- Summer school Summer school "[Border studies at intersections of subject boundaries](#)" (7.-9. July 2021 in Berlin)
- Border Complexities Workshop on the topic: "[Materialities and Physicalities of Border Complexities](#)" (December 2021)

The Research Colloquium, ICES Lectures, and the Reading Circle will also take place in the next semesters.

3. Internal impact: promotion of research, early stage researchers, and internal networking

3.1 Research funding

Research funding at ICES has a service-oriented character and is intended to help increase the research performance of ICES as well as boost its' acquisition of third-party funds.

Research funding advisory services

ICES offers advisory support to EUF researchers throughout the funding application process, from the initial project idea through to the completed application. [Research funding advisory services](#) been offered since October 2017 and are conducted by Dr. Maria Schwab. During her parental leave (July 2019 to Sept. 2020), Marcel Sebastian took over the personal advisory support.

Table 3: Number of funding and proposal consultations between Oct 2017 and Dec 2020

| | 01/2020 -12/2020 | | | 10/2018 -11/2019 | | 10/2017 -11/2018 | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| | Total applications | Submitted (in review) | Successful | Total applications | Successful | Total applications | Successful |
| Application consultations | 14 | 8 (4) | 3 | 18 | 5 | 23 | 3 |
| thereof joint projects | 7 | 5 | 3 | 10 | 3 | 10 | 2 |
| By funding body | | | | | | | |
| - Erasmus+ | 2 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | - |
| - Foundations | 5 | 3 (2) | 1 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 1 |
| - H2020 | 1 | - | - | 3 | - | 2 | - |
| - DAAD | 1 | 1 (1) | - | 2 | - | 2 | - |
| - DFG | 4 | 1 (1) | - | 2 | 1 | 4 | - |
| - Auswärtiges Amt | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | 1 |
| - BMBF | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | 2 | - |
| - other | - | - | - | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Funding advice | Total: 8 | Subjects: 5 | | Total: 28 | Subjects: 18 | Total: 32 | Subjects: 21 |

In 2020, fewer applications were advised in total. This is probably attributable on the one hand to the Corona-related changes, and on the other hand to the change in personnel (parental leave replacement). Compared to previous years, there were significantly more DFG proposals in percentage terms. In contrast to previous years, no funding was requested from the BMBF and fewer EU proposals were discussed.

Of the four proposals advised, submitted and reviewed so far, three were successful. This means that the success rate has increased in comparison to previous years.

Major applications under review: In mid-September 2020, ICES submitted an application for an Alexander von Humboldt Chair (total funding volume of 3.5 million euros for five years). The reputation that comes with such a professorship would contribute strongly to the greater visibility of ICES. At the same time, the thematic orientation of the proposed Chair would complement the research programme currently being developed by the centre. A promising DFG project proposal is also under review, which would fund two doctoral and one post-doctoral position.

Postdoctoral position for the purpose of preparing a DFG proposal

In order to further strengthen its research performance, EUF offers one postdoctoral position each year for the purpose of preparing a DFG proposal. The position is given alternately to the core EUF research centres ZeBUSS and ICES with focus on the research centre's thematic foci. Every three years it is advertised without a thematic focus via the research office. Creating this position supports EUF's efforts to obtain DFG membership. In 2020, the position went to ICES and was awarded to Dr. Gülbeyaz Kula. Dr. Kula will submit an application on the topic "Apodemic and Rihlatypical Travel Literature(s) - Literary Staging of Collective Cultural and Identity Discourses in the Early Modern Era Using the Example of 'the Own' and 'the Foreign'". If her application is successful, the project will be affiliated to ICES.

Professional Editing Service

As part of its internationalisation strategy and in cooperation with ICES and ZeBUSS, EUF offers a professional editing service for outstanding academic publications and research proposals in English. This valuable service, provided by EUF's in-house translator and editor Laura Cunniff, is available free of charge to all EUF professors, academic staff members and doctoral students.

ICES Calls

Due to the uncertainties brought on by Covid-19A restrictions, which makes planning difficult, a [Call for Conference Proposals](#) was not announced in 2020. In 2021, the centre will again publish the call. As a substitute for the 2020 call, ICES has published an [Open Call](#) to support research funding applications. Within the framework of this Call, ICES offers personal advice throughout the entire funding application process and finances up to 10,000 euros for measures such as person-months for academic staff, professional coaching, or other activities connected with the preparation of a competitive research proposal. The call produced only one

application, which was approved. Funding will be provided for two person-months to support the preparation of an international research training group on "The Formation of Europe within a Space of Communication" (extension of the MEWEB project). In addition, ICES has published a [Call for Field Research Proposals](#) (see chapter 3.2).

Further ICES activities and offers related to research support

ICES research projects receive *administrative and project implementation* support. This includes secretariat support, office workstations, academic coordination and research assistants. In addition, ICES offers an extensive list of [current calls related to research funding](#) in the field of European Studies on its homepage, which is updated bi-weekly. Once a month the newly published calls for proposals are announced in the ICES Newsletter, which has been sent to all EUF staff since November 20 (previously only to ICES members). ICES continues to work closely with the *EUF's research department and the Centre for Research on Education, Teaching, Schooling and Socialisation (ZeBUSS)* on research funding and policy at EUF.

3.2 Promotion of early stage researchers

The [ICES Research School](#) was established in January 2019. Currently, twelve PhD students and eight post-docs from nine different departments are affiliated. In this reporting period, five doctoral students and four post-docs have joined the school. The members of the research school started a Peer Working/Writing Group in summer 19, in which they regularly discuss their work. This was initially well received, but came to a standstill in the course of the Covid-19 developments. In September 20, the members of the research school discussed which priorities should be set in the future. It was agreed that the school should particularly focus on 1) improving the training and qualification opportunities for early-stage researchers at the EUF/ICES and 2) creating opportunities for networking and exchange between early-stage researchers.

In the context of Objective 1, ICES has established the EUF [Qualification Programme for Early-Stage Researchers \(QP\)](#), in cooperation with the EUF research department and ZeBUSS and implemented by the EUF Centre for Further Education (ZWW). The training measures include, for example, strengthening methodological skills, holding workshops on how to apply for third-party funding and on how to implement a research project, as well as a supervision programme for early-stage researchers. With the Research School, ICES complements the QP with subject-specific offers that meet the individual needs of ICES early-career scholars. This can include the organisation of EUF Summer Schools (currently mainly in the context of third-party funded projects) and the financing of participation in external summer schools (so far only in individual cases).

In addition, ICES has published a [Call for Field Research Proposals](#) in 2019 and 2020, which will enable field research visits by early-stage scholars. This year the call generated less interest than last year. In total, only three proposals were submitted (five would have been possible). This can be explained, in particular, by the travel restrictions brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. A new call for proposals is planned for 2021.

On November 18, 2020, a [Webex Information session for PhD researchers](#) was organised together with ZeBUSS and the EUF Office of Research (?). During this event, all EUF doctoral students were informed about the offers for early-career researchers at the university. On December 15, 2020, an [info session for MA students interested in pursuing a doctorate](#) after completing their master's studies took place. The event was organised by ZeBUSS in cooperation with ICES and the research department.

In November 2020, ICES acquired *full institutional membership of the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR)*. Members of EUF can now attend ECPR events such as Futures Lab, Winter School and Summer School, Joint Sessions of Workshops and General Conference at a greatly reduced price and have access to a range of funding opportunities for academics.

3.3 Networking and community building

ICES Members

ICES members can contribute to the centre's development in a variety of ways. They receive support in terms of research funding, networking and the promotion of early-career scholars. Starting in 2020, ICES members will elect the Board of Directors every two years and may be elected to serve on the board. ICES currently has [83 members](#). Fifteen new members joined last year. 70 are affiliated with EUF and come from seven institutes and 21 departments or seminars, as well as seven other non-academic departments of the university. Of these, 28 are professors. Accordingly, the departments and institutes that handle European Studies topics at EUF are largely represented in the membership. Twelve members are external to EUF, coming from five countries (Germany, USA, Denmark, Great Britain, Brazil).

Internal networking events

In October 2020, an [ICES Reading Group](#) was launched for the time. Achille Mbembe's book "Critique of Black Reason" is currently being read. The reading circle has sparked a very high level of interest from the university community, with 16 EUF staff members from six departments attending the first meeting.

4. Opportunities and challenges in representation beyond the EUF

Strengthening the impact of European Studies at Europa-Universität Flensburg not only within the university, but also in the world at large, was one of the central starting points for the establishment of ICES. ICES outreach activities include any measure or activity that can increase ICES' visibility to the wider academic community, politicians, and the general public. ICES has set itself the goal of strengthening its impact beyond EUF, in particular by further raising its thematic profile. Against this background, the ICES board of directors is currently developing a joint research profile in the thematic area of Centre-Periphery Conflicts (see chapter 2.1).

A core challenge with respect to the centre's representation is to reconcile the efforts to increase international visibility with the centre's internal impact at EUF. In this sense, we want to retain the original research axes Evidence & Communication, Culture & Identity, Justice & Democracy and Welfare & Work, for example. This will allow us to continue to adequately represent the research projects, and to create compatibility for those who cannot identify with the ZPK research programme (see Figure 4).

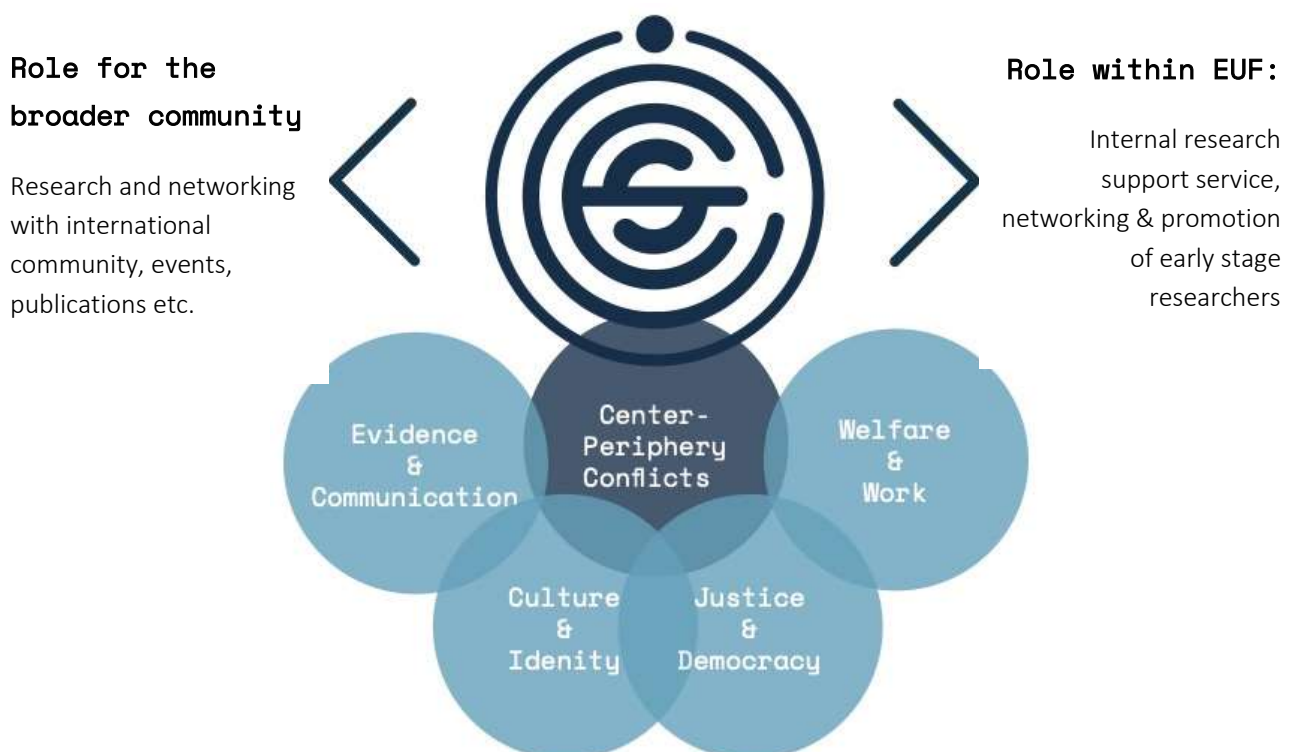


Fig. 4: Mandate and research foci of ICES

4.1 International visibility of ICES research projects, activities and the research programme

Third-party funded research projects significantly contribute to ICES' visibility in the academic community. All affiliated projects are collaborative research projects or networking activities. In the four collaborative research projects, ICES members have the lead. In these projects in particular, but also in the other projects, ICES achieves great *visibility among the project partners* through its project support and the responsible ICES members through their research activities and expertise.

Visibility in the international research landscape beyond the project partners is achieved in particular through the *publications* that result primarily from the projects. These are supported by the editing service at ICES. Especially in larger collaborative research projects, articles in renowned scientific journals are planned². In almost all of the affiliated projects, funding is available for *international conferences, summer schools and/or workshops*, which also involve academics from outside the project and in some cases non-academic partners, thus generating greater international visibility. In this way, and also through the involvement of non-academic stakeholders in research and networking activities, *visibility outside of science* is increased (especially within the projects ValCon, EUKID, DIREPA-East, MEWEB). In order to establish the research focus on Centre-Periphery Conflicts actively, convincingly and sustainably at ICES, we plan to write an *application for third-party funding in this thematic area* in the medium-term. Not only the Board of Directors, but also other ICES members who have research priorities that can be integrated will be involved. Interesting funding lines could be, for example, the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence, Research Training Group, or Researcher Group.

ICES members regularly invite researchers for a research stay, thereby gaining further international visibility and the opportunity to initiate joint research projects. The following *visiting scientists* were hosted by ICES in 2020:

- Prof. Dr. Elisabeth Greif (Johannes Kepler University Linz, Institute for Legal Gender Studies), the visiting professorship had to be terminated due to the pandemic
- Prof. Dr. Christopher Thornhill, Humboldt Research Award Winner at the EUF, several stays starting in May 2019 (University of Manchester, Professor of Law), this year's stay was "digital". In a workshop he entered into an exchange with EUF internal and external researchers
- Giulia Lasagni (Department of Philosophy, University of Parma)
- Darrell Conklin (research professor at the University of the Basque Country UPV/EHU and part of the Music Informatics Group)

The following stays could not take place due to Corona: Lydia Malmedie (University of Potsdam, Social Science and Economics Department), Dr Marek Mazurkiewicz (Institute of Political Sciences and Administration, Katowicka) and Anne Fladmose (SdU, Institute for Design and Communication/ Department of Sociology).

² A documentation of the publications does not yet exist at the EUF and ICES, but is currently being developed.

Next year, a guest stay of Dr. Christian Wille, a partner in the project "Border Complexities" is planned. He would like to use the time to prepare publications and possibly a joint project application with EUF colleagues (Center for Border Studies, University of Luxembourg).

4.2 Research support services promoting international visibility

Funding and application advice: In view of their visibility in the international research landscape, the acquisition of collaborative projects is given priority already in the phase of funding advice. In particular, larger EU-funded collaborative research projects within the framework of Horizon 2020/Europe increase the visibility of those responsible for the project, ICES and the university as a whole. For example, a collaborative research proposal is currently being intensively supported within the framework of the European Green Deal. A Marie-Skłodowska Curie European Training Network is currently being prepared within the MEWEB project. In both cases, EUF/ICES acts as coordinator. Since EUF has had little experience coordinating larger EU projects to date, capacity building in the central administration has to be and is considered in the project acquisition phase.

Networking and promotion of young talent: In this context, the organisation of an *international summer school*, for example in the CPC field, is being considered. In addition to a greater visibility of ICES and the EUF, this would not only be helpful for EUF early-career researchers in terms of methodology and content, but also against the background of international networking. One possibility that could support the holding of such a summer school would be the acquisition of third-party funds by members of the Research School, supported by ICES (this would also strengthen experience in the acquisition of third-party funds).

Particularly against the background of the increasing importance of stakeholder involvement in research projects, efforts are being made to expand non-academic cooperation. In order to strengthen networking with non-academic partners, regional networking events are attended (Investitionsbank Schleswig-Holstein, Europarunde Schleswig-Holstein, public events), institutional cooperation is being expanded (Akademie Sankelmark, EU-Direkt Informationszentrum) and targeted funding advice is provided for applications for transdisciplinary research projects (e.g. EuKiD, ITN, H2020 Societal Challenges).

In support of networking, ICES members also have the possibility to invite researchers, e.g. for a guest stay or a guest professorship at ICES, to give a lecture within the framework of ICES Lectures or a lecture series or to promote joint publications and project proposals. ICES also provides travel grants for institutional cooperation initiatives.

4.3 Strengthening ICES' international visibility in line with its internal impact

The visibility of EUF in the academic community as an internationally renowned European Studies research centre with a unique profile must be in line with our internal claim to be a comprehensive service facility for *all* EUF researchers and, accordingly, to be open to the associated topics and projects in the field of European Studies research. The research currently taking place at ICES is mostly the result of research funding, and the research projects create new opportunities and resources for general research funding at ICES.

In this context, some important questions arise. Given this hybridity of the centre, how do we present ourselves in a convincing and meaningful way? How do we find a good balance between external representation and internal impact? How can the individual research priorities of ICES members, as well as projects located at ICES, be integrated into its research programme?" In answering these questions, we certainly face numerous challenges. It is therefore all the more important to make the best possible use of the strategic advantages of the centre and the achievements of recent years.

We are a small, but all the more dynamic research centre, where research on European issues rather than disciplinary affiliations is the unifying element. This puts us in a special position, enabling us to promote innovation and foster thematic synergies.

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