

PREFACE

It is our pleasure to present to you the conference proceedings with the papers of the Sixth International Conference of the European Studies Department at the Faculty of Philosophy of Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski” and the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence, with the support of Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union.

The event has been accomplished also thanks to the support of “Hanns Seidel” Foundation and the kind hosting of the Representation of the European Commission in Bulgaria.

The Conference took place on 30-31 May 2019, in Sofia, under the title “EU post 2020 – New Europe in a New World”. It was dedicated to the 20th anniversary of the European Studies Department and the 30th anniversary of the Jean Monnet Programme. This turned into an excellent opportunity to share thoughts about the challenges in teaching European Studies in Bulgaria and abroad.

The participants focused upon the EU’s perspective for growth and jobs for the next decade. We discussed the need for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth as a way to overcome the structural weaknesses in Europe’s economy, improve its competitiveness and productivity and underpin a sustainable social market economy. European Union Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policies continue to be EU priorities. The European identity and the problems of multiculturalism are also issues that are tackled in the framework of the debate for the future of the EU.

Many students participated in the debate and made the event even more vivid and fruitful.

Among the speakers of the conference were lecturers from leading universities in Germany, the Netherlands, Romania, Serbia, North Macedonia and Bulgaria, as well as from Australia and China.

The five sections in the conference proceedings correspond to the five round tables within which the speakers presented their reports.

We wish you a pleasant reading!