



Austrian Society
for European Politics



Webster
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Brussels, 21 June 2019

Dear Colleagues,

After successfully completing our first joint book “The Future of Europe – Views from the Capitals” (Palgrave Macmillan) and the various book presentations and public debates with many of you, TEPSA, together with the Austrian Society for European Politics and the IHS/Webster Vienna Private University, is embarking on a new exciting book project intended to further contribute to the discussion on the future of Europe.

We are contacting you to cordially ask you - or a colleague of yours - for a contribution.

Background:

Europe has seen the rise and fall of Eurosceptic parties over the last decades, with nationalistic tendencies gaining further ground. Recently, many Eurosceptic parties have taken up national executive responsibilities, have influenced the thinking of mainstream parties and have increased their number of parliamentarians in the European Parliamentary elections. In various European countries we find Eurosceptic parties in government, supporting the government, winning the European elections in e.g. Italy, France, Hungary, Poland, the UK, and until recently Austria.

This volume is an attempt to map and analyse the nature and impact of Euroscepticism in the different party systems of Europe together with new nationalistic tendencies for the period around 2019. The reason for this focus is that political parties are key gatekeepers in the process of political representation. They play a pivotal role in mobilizing our societies and in setting the political agenda. In the end, they not only shape politics at a national level, but determine the way Europe plays out - or does not play out - as a political issue and thus, define the very future of Europe. The three main questions we want all contributions to address – preferably in this order - are:

- What is the current state of play in your respective country with regard to the presence of Eurosceptic parties (right and left)?
 - o How has it developed over the last years?
 - o Are there any particular developments between the last national election(s) and European election(s)?
- Did the success of Eurosceptic parties in your country change the government’s EU policy?
 - o If yes, in which areas?



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- What would you recommend on how your country should deal with Euroscepticism in light of the future of European integration?

The Project:

1. One author from each of the respective 28 member states plus selected countries in the EU's vicinity **will analyse the political party landscape at home and the impact Eurosceptic and nationalistic tendencies have on European affairs**. What is the situation in the respective countries regarding the rise and fall of Eurosceptic parties during the last national and European election(s)? How do they impact European priority setting on a national level? How to counteract these tendencies? **The contributions shall be short, bold, and provocative. Most importantly, the contribution needs to be country-specific WITH concrete recommendations on how the country should deal with Euroscepticism need to be included.**
2. Every author **commits to organize a mediatic book presentation and public debate around this issue discussing their views with e.g. member of political parties, representatives of the government, academia, civil society etc.** Kick-off Events shall take place in Vienna and in Brussels. In addition, authors shall contribute to maximise public outreach by publishing their contributions as op-eds to accompany the public discussions in the respective capitals.

Technicalities for the publication:

Rather than academic masterpieces, we want to publish short, concise and easy-to-read Op-Ed like commentaries, which are also appealing to the wider public and practitioners. Each contribution shall **not be longer than 6,000 characters (!)**. For the sake of user friendliness there is **no need for references or footnotes**, but a **“catchy” title** should be included. Please also add a short bio and an info on your institution (together not more than 400 character). The content may well be a bit provocative, as it shall encourage the different national debates around the role of national Eurosceptic parties on EU affairs. Most importantly, the contribution **needs to be country-specific WITH concrete recommendations on how the country should deal with Euroscepticism need to be included.**

Timeline:

We would very much appreciate to have you on board for this joint project: **Please inform us whether we can count on you until 12 August 2019: pol.vila@tepsa.eu.** *In case your time does*



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not allow participation AND/OR in case the topics does not fall within your field of expertise we would be glad to receive a recommendation from you for another author by 12 August as well.

We would then expect the **first drafts to be sent to us until 30 September 2019** and after the review process the second and final drafts by 30 October 2019.

The final contributions will be sent to the publisher 10 November in order to allow for the public events to take place during the first months of 2020.

In case you have any questions, feel free to contact us.

We look forward to hearing from you and remain with our best regards from Vienna and Brussels,

Michael Kaeding (TEPSA), Johannes Pollak (IHS/Webster) and Paul Schmidt (Austrian Society for European Politics)