



Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence – Tensions at the Fringes of the EU – regaining the Union's purpose

The EU without the UK: Implications and Legal Consequences of BREXIT

Faculty of Law and Administration

University of Warsaw

26 November 2016



TREUP members **Dr. Marek Martyniszyn**, **Dr. Dieter Pesendorfer** and **Prof. Dagmar Schiek** contributed to this conference at Warsaw University with papers about the future of competition law, the Banking Union and the free movement of persons, respectively. The conference represented one of the activities of an ongoing partnership between the University of Warsaw Faculty of Law and Administration and Queen's University Belfast School of Law. As part of this partnership, there will be a follow-up conference in September 2017 at Queen's University Belfast entitled: *"BREXIT? -15 months on: Socio-legal perspectives on substantive proposals"*.

At this Warsaw event, Dr. Pesendorfer's paper "European financial markets integration, Brexit, and the re-making of a European financial center" explored key theoretical aspects behind the strategic decisions that the EU and the UK face in the Leave negotiations and how different options might affect the future of financial markets integration in Europe.

Dr Martyniszyn investigated the possible Brexit's implications on the area of competition law and policy with a paper entitled "Brexit and competition law: challenges and implications".

The paper concludes that, regardless the final terms of a Brexit, the scope for regaining sovereignty in this area is modest as UK firms trading in the EU market must comply with competition laws.

Finally, Prof. Dagmar Schiek presented a paper exploring possible futures of the link between free movement of persons and equal treatment beyond EU membership. While EU institutions have stressed that access to the Internal Market in a post-Brexit scenario will not be possible without maintaining the free movement of persons, the paper highlights how the Internal Market also fosters forms of labour mobility based on unequal treatment. Against this background, two questions addressed in the paper are: a) How far should the strict link between equal treatment and free movement be strengthened again? and b) How can such link be maintained in a new relationship between the EU and the UK?

Prof Schiek also had the honour of closing the conference and announcing the follow-up conference in this partnership. She applauded the organisers for a very substantive conference, stating that it would be difficult to match this effort with the follow up conference. The follow up conference should focus on substantive responses to legal challenges by the UK's withdrawal strategy, of which we hope to know more by the time the call for papers will end (May 2017). These substantive responses should be investigated from socio-legal perspective, and it is hoped to widen the geographical catchment of this series with the second conference as well.