Book launch and expert seminar

The EU and Effective Multilateralism: Internal and external reform practices

Edited by Edith Drieskens and Louise G. van Schaik
Published by Routledge

Monday 31 March, 12.00-17.00

Venue: Permanent Mission of the Netherlands in Brussels, Avenue de Cortenbergh 4-10, Brussels

How does the EU operationalize its objective for effective multilateralism in various international settings and how did the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty affect the EU’s performance within these settings? These are the main questions that will be addressed in this expert seminar. Presentations will be based on a new book ‘The EU and Effective Multilateralism: Internal and external reform practices’ published by Routledge. This book combines insights on the EU’s internal reform after Lisbon with those on the EU’s positioning in debates on reform of international fora, such as the G20, NATO, and the UNSC. The seminar will explore ways to more adequately operationalise the EU’s objective for effective multilateralism, more than ten years after the European Security Strategy adopted this as core objective. It aims to provide a balanced account of the fit between the EU’s internal reform and external reform of the international settings. During the seminar, Chatham House Rule will apply to stimulate a free and open discussion. Participants include senior officials from the Member States of the European Union and from the EU Institutions, as well as a limited number of other experts.
CONCEPT Programme (speakers not yet confirmed):

12.00 Registration and sandwich lunch

13:00-13:15 Welcome by Ambassador Carola van Rijnsoever, Representative to the EU Political and Security Committee, Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Ambassador Michel Tilemans, Representative to the EU Political and Security Committee, Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

13:15-14:30 Plenary session: book introduction & discussion on “The EU’s search for effective participation at the UN General Assembly and UN Security Council”
Chair: Knud Erik Jørgensen, Professor Aarhus University
Presentation by: Edith Drieskens, Professor KU Leuven
Responses by: Stephan Auer, Director of Multilateral Relations and Global Issues, European External Action Service
Karen Smith, London School of Economics
Antonio Vigilante, Director of the UN office in Brussels

14:30-15:00 Tea break

15:00-16:15 Group sessions covering the case studies (you can choose to participate in one of the three sessions)

Group 1 Effective Multilateralism: The EU and the G8 & G20
Chair: Ambassador Carola van Rijnsoever, Representative to the EU Political and Security Committee, Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Presentations by:
Judith Huigens, University of Amsterdam
Peter Debaere, Ghent Institute for International Studies
Responses by:
Pierpaolo Settembri, Assistant of the G8 Foreign Affairs Sous Sherpa of the European Union
Knud Erik Jørgensen, Professor Aarhus University
(15:00-16:15) **Group 2 Effective Multilateralism: The EU and the WHO, FAO & UNEP**

Chair: Aldrik Gierveld, dept. Director Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights department, Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Presentations by :

Tom Delreux, Associate professor, University of Louvain

Robert Kissack, Assistant professor, Institut Barcelona d’Estudis Internacionals

Louise van Schaik, Senior Research Fellow, Clingendael Institute

Responses by :

Canice Nolan, Senior Coordinator for Global Health, DG SANCO European Commission

Sebastian Oberthür, Academic Director, Institute for European Studies

(15:00-16:15) **Group 3 Effective Multilateralism: The EU and the OSCE & NATO**

Chair: Ambassador Michel Tilemans, Representative to the EU Political and Security Committee, Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Presentations by :

Margriet Drent, Assistant professor, University of Groningen & Senior Research Fellow, Clingendael Institute

Niels van Willigen, Assistant professor, Leiden University

Responses by :

Heinrich Brauss, Assistant Secretary General for Defence Policy and Planning, NATO

Sven Biscop, Director “Europe in the World Program”, Egmont Institute

16.15 -16.45  **Feedback by the chairs of the group sessions and closure of the meeting**

16.45  **Cocktail/ network drinks**