



JAGIELLONIAN UNIVERSITY
IN KRAKÓW



PROSPER

Jean Monnet Network

Jean Monnet Network PROSPER Event

Europe Under Pressure: Security, Governance and Geopolitics in a Time of Global Turmoil

1-2 October 2026

Jagiellonian University, Krakow

Faculty of International and Political Studies

W. Reymonta 4 street, 30-059 Kraków

The Jean Monnet Network
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PROSPER

Project to Research Opportunities
to Strengthen Prosperity and
Economic Resilience in the EU

Europe is facing a series of interconnected crises, ranging from major power rivalries and regional wars to economic shocks, disinformation and mounting pressures on democratic institutions, as well as the growing influence of illiberalism.

This conference brings together scholars and practitioners from within and beyond the PROSPER network to analyse the interaction between security, governance and geopolitics across the European Union and its neighbourhood. The aim is to discuss ways of tackling the democratic disconnect and rising societal and economic tensions.

Dr Natasza Styczyńska, Assistant Professor at the Institute of European Studies of the Jagiellonian University, Team Leader of the Jean Monnet Network PROSPER



15.00 Coffee & Registration (Hall, Ground floor)

15.30 Welcome Remarks

Krzysztof Koźbiał, Vice-Dean for Human Resources and Development, Faculty of International and Political Studies, Jagiellonian University

Kinga Gajda, Director of the Institute of European Studies, Jagiellonian University

Ian Cooper, Dublin City University, PROSPER Research Coordinator

15.45-17.00 Keynote

Dr Kinga Redłowska - Head of Centre for Finance and Security Europe, RUSI Europe

The New Financial Order: Alternative Systems, Geopolitical Rivalry and Europe's Security

Chair: **Natasza Styczyńska**, Jagiellonian University

17.15-18.30 Panel Europe Under Pressure: EU Constitutional Responses and Financial Capacity

Chair & discussant: **Ian Cooper**, Dublin City University

Federico Fabbrini, Dublin City University

The EU Constitution in Time of War: Legal Responses to Russia's Aggression Against Ukraine

Ana Belén Macho Pérez, Pompeu Fabra University

Financing the European Union in a Changing Geopolitical Landscape: Financial Autonomy and Budgetary Flexibility in EU Public Finance Law

Julien Debande, Université Libre de Bruxelles

Legitimacy Challenges in the Evolving EU Financial Toolkit for Ukraine

9.00-10.30 Panel 1 | Building Capacity for a Stronger Union: The EU's Financial Capacity, Strategic Autonomy and Solidarity in Times of War

Chair & Discussant: **Paulina Lenik**, Jagiellonian University

Aikaterini Angelaki, Université Paris-Est Créteil

Enhanced Cooperation in Times of War: The Ukraine Support Loan and the Limits of EU Financial Solidarity

Joan Castelló Segura, Pompeu Fabra University

Enhancing the Financial Autonomy of the European Union through Fiscal Revenue

Volodymyr Posviatenko, Jagiellonian University

EU Enlargement and Open Strategic Autonomy: Discursive Linkages in European Parliament Debates

10.30-10.45 Coffee Break (hall)

10.45-12.15 Panel 2 | Cohesion, Enlargement and the Geopolitics of European Integration

Chair & Discussant: **Laure Clement-Wilz**, Université Paris-Est Créteil

Paulina Lenik, Jagiellonian University

Grants Without Gratitude? EU Rural Development Funding and Institutional Trust in Poland

Stefania Baroncelli, Free University of Bolzano

EU Cohesion Funding and Euroscepticism: The 2028-2034 Reform Battle

Ian Cooper (DCU) & **Lien Jansen** (KU Leuven)

EU Enlargement under Geopolitical Time Pressure: Insights from the European Parliament's Western Balkans Delegations

12.15-13.15 | Lunch (Hall, Ground Floor)

13.15 - 14.45 | Panel 3 – Democracy and Governance in a Turbulent Europe

Chair & Discussant: **Natasza Styczyńska**, Jagiellonian University

Joanna Dyduch, Jagiellonian University

Why Democracy Needs Academic Freedom: Politicisation, Polarisation, and Radicalisation in the Contemporary University

Triantafyllia Lina Papadopoulou, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Combating Fake News as a Defence of Democracy

Elodie Thevenin, Katarzyna Zielińska, Magdalena Góra, Jagiellonian University

The Young Citizens' Assembly on Pollinators: Reconnecting Strategy through the Institutionalisation of Citizens' Deliberation in the European Union

Johannes Gerken, Otto-von-Guericke University Magdeburg

EU Public Administrative Capacity Policy: Steering in an Area of Limited Hierarchy

14.45 Conclusions