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Newsletter #3

Dear Friends,

We are pleased to share with you the third issue of the newsletter for the Centre of Excellence in EU Studies at ADA University. In this issue you will receive information about our activities from July to December 2015: the first EU ADA Summer School, a study trip for Azerbaijani civil servants to Estonia, public lectures held in ADA University, trainings for Azerbaijani officials, and more.

Thank you for being with us in 2015!

Enjoy the holidays and our newsletter!

Your EU Centre of Excellence team

- Training on Cultural and Science
 Diplomacy in the EU
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- Study trip to Estonia
- Introduction of EU Certification to MADIA students
- Future plans

IN OTHER NEWS

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The First EU Summer School

The summer school was organized at ADA University on 13-24 July 2015. This was an eight-day programme, designed to equip participants from Azerbaijan, Belgium, Romania, Georgia, Denmark, Italy and Kazakhstan with a solid primary understanding of



the main policy areas of the European Union. Distinguished scholars and experts from the College of Europe, European Parliament, Institute of Europe and other research and policy sectors discussed topics within their respective fields, setting the stage for insightful and rewarding in-class debates.

The courses included ranged from EU History, EU Institutions and Member states, to EU Energy Policies, EU Economic Policy, etc. This program encouraged an interactive learning environment using workshops and group exercises. At the end, all participants were awarded a certificate.

Public lecture by Dr. Harald A. Benink



On 22 September, Prof. Dr. Harald A. Benink, who is currently a full professor of Banking and Finance at the Tilburg School of Economics and Management of Tilburg University, delivered a lecture in ADA University. The public lecture mainly covered the

Eurozone crisis and European Banking Union.

Public lecture on European Company Law

On 8 October the Centre of Excellence in EU Studies organized a public lecture on European Company Law. The lecture was held by Sonja Bydlinski from Austrian Ministry of Justice. She spoke about development of company law in the European



Union and the main directives and regulations, focusing on the most important legislative measures and most recent initiatives.

Presentation of the International Monetary Fund's World Economic Outlook

On 20 October, the Centre of Excellence in EU Studies organized a presentation of the International Monetary Fund's World Economic Outlook "Where are commodity exporters headed?" by Zsoka Koczan, an economist in the World Economic Studies division of the research department at the International Monetary Fund.

Introductory Course to the European Union

The Centre of Excellence in EU Studies organized the Introductory Course to the European Union by Jamila Musayeva for ADA students on 27-28 October. The course aimed to showcase basic knowledge about the EU: an overview of the history (making), enlargement (developing), institutions (working), and policies (functioning) of the European Union. Mainly, the course contributed to the MADIA students' knowledge of the EU sphere.

Training on Cultural and Science Diplomacy in

the EU

The Centre of Excellence in EU Studies organized training on Cultural and Science Diplomacy in the European Union and the Challenges of European Union Neighborhood Policy on 3-5

November for Azerbaijani civil servants. This training was a



continuation of a comprehensive training program aimed at capacity building of civil servants in EU Affairs and organized within the EU funded project "Support to Civil Service EU trainings and Establishment of a Centre of Excellence in EU Matters in Azerbaijan". The course was delivered by Dr. NSelin Shenojak, Chair Holder of UNESCO Cultural Diplomacy, Governance and Education. The course was designed to provide participants from different state agencies with a thorough understanding of the origins and development of the diplomacy, and consider the context within which cultural diplomacy takes place in EU, etc.

Public lecture on the French system of state governance

On November 26, ADA University Centre of Excellence in EU Studies hosted the French Minister of State for Regional Reform, former Senator and member of the Parliament's Foreign Relations Committee, H.E. Andre Vallini. He delivered a presentation about the French system of state governance.

Study trip to Estonia

The Centre of Excellence in EU Studies at ADA University

jointly with the Estonian Centre of Eastern Partnership organized a study visit for Azerbaijani civil servants to Estonia on 7-10 December 2015.



During the trip participants,

explored the Estonian experience of EU integration. The study visit included numerous meetings with the government bodies and public organizations of Estonia. Thus, participants have visited European Union House, e-Showroom, Parliament and National Bank of Estonia. Additionally, a one-day trip to Tartu - Ministry of Education and European College of University of Tartu was organized. The Azerbaijani civil servants also visited e-Governance academy and Tallinn University.

Introduction of EU Certification to MADIA students

As the second part of the project, EU Certification courses were offered to the students as part of the MADIA programme starting from Autumn 2015. Students who chose to register for the certificate in EU studies and who satisfy the certain curricular requirements will be awarded a certificate of MA in DIA/PP, containing a specific reference to the EU studies. The introduction of the academic MA programme in EU studies will ensure that there will be professional staff available for the jobs requiring EU related knowledge in the future.

Future plans

The year of 2016 will be full of different events. Thus, more trainings on EU matters for civil servants, the 2nd EU Summer School, international conference, EU info days – all these are just a short list of plans of the Centre of Excellence in EU Studies, ADA University



New year 2016 is here. The Centre of Excellence in EU Studies wishes you a Prosperous and Happy New Year!

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