



UNIVERSITY OF NATIONAL AND WORLD ECONOMY  
FACULTY OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS AND  
POLITICS



ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC UNIVERSITIES IN  
SOUTH AND EASTERN EUROPE AND THE BLACK  
SEA REGION (ASECU)



UNION OF ECONOMISTS IN BULGARIA



## CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

*International Conference*

**THE EUROPEAN UNION AFTER BREXIT**

**June 4, 2021**

**Sofia, BULGARIA**

*(hybrid format)*

## **International Scientific Committee**

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As of 1 February 2020, the United Kingdom (UK) is no longer a member of the European Union (EU). For the first time in the history of European integration we have witnessed a withdrawal of a Member State, terminating its 47-year membership. Moreover, this used to be the EU's second largest economy, the strongest EU military power, one of the two EU's nuclear powers and UN Security Council members, the largest global financial centre, the country, that gave the world the modern "lingua franca" and some of the world's best universities. By no doubt Brexit is the biggest shock for the European integration from its formal beginning on 01.01.1958. and raises a number of important political, economic, social, legal and cultural issues.

Brexit has coincided with the worst socio-economic crisis in the global economy caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, objectively shifting the academic community interest. Furthermore, during the transitional period, which expired at the end of 2020, there was complete uncertainty about the parameters of the future partnership between the EU and the UK. Possible scenarios included options for a "soft" exit (with the UK remaining in the European Economic Area similar to Norway) and a "hard" exit (in which trade and economic relations are governed by the WTO rules). After lengthy talks, London and Brussels managed to reach a "last minute" agreement on December 24, 2020. Thus, from January 1, 2021 the United Kingdom, while maintaining duty-free trade in bilateral relations with the EU, has exposed them to a number of non-tariff barriers, leaving the internal market and the customs union.

The international conference "The EU after Brexit" aims to gather scholars from different fields in Social Sciences, providing a platform of discussion and exchange of ideas on Brexit's multifaceted implications. *The objective* is to contribute to the interdisciplinary debate on Brexit, focusing on the risks and opportunities for the EU, Southeast European countries, Bulgaria and third countries, shedding light on the *political, economic, social, legal* and *cultural* aspects of the phenomenon.

**CONFERENCE TOPICS** are related *but not limited* to answering some of the following questions:

- How will Brexit change the EU as a global power in international relations and the global economy?
- What is the future of the European integration process - will the EU overcome Euroscepticism, public discontent, internal differences and succeed to restore solidarity between the Member States?
- What are Brexit's institutional implications and how will the balance of power change in the EU-27 decision-making process?
- Will Brexit provoke disintegration impulses in other regional economic blocs that have emulated the European integration model?
- What are the effects on intra-EU trade and trade relations with third countries?
- How will Brexit affect the further enlargement of the EU and the Western Balkans' membership prospects?
- What will be the effects on the four freedoms of movement in the EU?
- Will Brexit harm the status of the English language in the EU institutions?

Authors are invited to submit papers which feature both conceptual and empirical findings based on original research on the indicative topics. Besides established scholars, young researchers and students are also welcome to participate, for whom a special session will be organized.

The conference will take place at UNWE-Sofia, on June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and will have a hybrid format with in-person sessions that can also be accessed remotely through the MS Teams platform for those who are unable to travel due to COVID-19 or other reasons. All participants will be issued a certificate of participation.

**OFFICIAL LANGUAGE** of the conference is English.

### **CONFERENCE COSTS**

There is **no fee** for participation. The conference organizers are able to arrange and cover accommodation for authors of selected papers. The conference organizers cannot cover costs of international travel.

### **PUBLICATION OPPORTUNITIES**

All accepted papers will be included in Conference Proceedings with an ISBN number. Selected papers subject to double-blind review process will be published in:

- the UNWE scientific journals [Yearbook](#) and [Research Papers](#) (abstracted and indexed in RePec, Google Scholar, ROAD, SIS, J-Gate, CEEOL);
- a special issue of the journal of the Faculty of International Economics and Politics.

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

Abstract submission deadline	May 9 <sup>th</sup> 2021
Notification of acceptance	May 15 <sup>th</sup> 2021
Full paper submission deadline	July 4 <sup>th</sup> 2021

### **SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

Abstracts should be sent along with the registration form as an attached pdf/ word file to [fiep\\_conference@unwe.bg](mailto:fiep_conference@unwe.bg)

Alternatively, you can register by filling in the registration form at the website of the conference

<https://www.unwe.bg/eu-after-brexit/en>

Your abstract should be between 150 and 200 words. All abstracts should be submitted in English (including the title, authors' names, affiliation, and contact information of the authors). Abstracts should include Background, Objectives, Methods, Results, and Conclusions. JEL classification and up to 6 keywords should be used.

The decision regarding the acceptance of each abstract will be communicated with the corresponding author together with attached instructions for a full paper submission.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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