

**ECPR Budapest Conference, 8-10 September 2005**  
**Section 16: Europeanisation, Governance and Political Changes: Empirical Investigation and Theoretical Reflections,**  
**Section chairs: Massimiliano Andretta and Erol Kulahci**

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*Adopting and Adapting to EU policies in Southern and Central Eastern Europe.*  
*'Smoothing' EU Enlargements through New Forms of Governance?*  
*Panel 9*

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The panel seeks to examine the role of new forms of governance and non-hierarchical steering (as OMC, regulatory networks, regulatory agencies, voluntary accords, standard setting, benchmarking and peer review) in the process of adopting and adapting to EU policies in Central and Eastern and Southern European member states. The aim is to evaluate the extent to which new forms of governance (actors involved/steering modes) are able to render accession "smoother" by reducing the risk of implementation-conflicts in "weak" countries during the pre-accession phase and after accession. We invite papers focusing on theory guided empirical research from different EU policy areas pointing to questions such as: Which steering modes (arguing; learning; persuasion; economic incentives) are used and are they efficient to facilitate conflict-resolution with regard to the adoption of the *acquis communautaire*? Which actors are involved (e.g. national/European agencies; national/European associations; national/transnational NGOs; enterprise representatives; European Commission; national civil servants)? Are these emerging structures that involve all relevant societal actors more legitimate than the "classical" enlargement method, which only involves governmental actors? Is there a trade-off between efficiency and legitimacy?

| <b>Paper title</b>  | <b>Paper Author (s)</b>           | <b>Discussant (s)</b>     |
|---|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Road To Europe – Legacies, Strategies, Norms and the Development of the Rule of Law in Hungary and Bulgaria | Aneta Borislavova<br>Spendzharova | Charalampos<br>Koutalakis |
| Towards Europe: Integration through Combating Discrimination  | Andreea Sinziana<br>Carstocea     |                           |
| Measuring EU Impact on south-eastern Europe's energy sector institutions                                    | Daniel Schroth                    |                           |
| New Modes of Governance and Eastern Enlargement – The role of Social Capital                                | Sonja Guttenbrunner               |                           |