



Cyprus and Challenges in Constitutional Transitions

Nicosia, Cyprus 08-10 April 2019

This three-day conference will focus on challenges in constitutional transitions in Cyprus and beyond.

- **Day 1- Monday 08.04.19: Time 12:00 -16:00:** workshop at the Home for Cooperation, will be devoted to negotiation training including an interactive simulation of the Guterres framework and new tools in assessing public opinion trade-offs using conjoint experiments (RSVP as limited space is available).
- **Day 2 – Tuesday 09.04.19. Time: 10:30-21:30:** conference at the University of Cyprus, will focus on proposals for a semi-presidential system and a roundtable with George Anderson on his recently co-edited book on Territory and Power in Constitutional Transitions. A former deputy minister in the Canadian federal government, George Anderson has worked in over 20 countries on issues of devolved and federal governance in both developed and developing countries, first as president of the Forum of Federations and latterly as a consultant with the United Nations, the World Bank, and NGOs.
- **Day 3 Wednesday 10.04.19: Time: 18:00-21:00:** at the Home for Cooperation keynote by George Anderson on the management of Natural Gas and Oil in Federal Systems based on his earlier book published by Oxford University Press and current work for the World Bank.

DAY 1: April 8th - Home for Cooperation (Buffer Zone) - 12:00 -16:00
Workshop on Negotiating the Guterres Package and beyond

This workshop will focus on negotiation theory and practice of conflict resolution. It will first expose participants to simulations (key knowledge points and skills needed in interactive negotiations such as identifying best alternatives, revealing or not preferences, seeking win-win arrangements, defeating spoilers, and exercising veto rights-wisely). Then the seminar will introduce the core issues in negotiation theory for Cyprus and focus on the Guterres package as a case study of a multi-player multi-issue mediation. Participants will be asked to represent one of the sides in the negotiations and will be challenged to reach the “best agreement” over sub-packages of the Guterres Plan. The seminar will focus on influencing group-decisions as well as strategies to maximize benefits for each side in a mediation. Participants will then use similar exercises in world politics (e.g. Turkey’s EU accession, Brexit, the Belfast Agreement). The final part of the workshop will focus on new survey tools in assessing public opinion trade-offs in multi-issue, multi-player negotiations using conjoint experiments and integrating the views of different groups within each community in a conflict (e.g. victim groups, refugees, women, diasporas). No prior knowledge of negotiations or quantitative skills is needed but might be useful to bring some Euro coins/small cash for one of the simulations. The workshop will be led by Isik Kuscü, Laura Sudulich, Charis Psaltis, Edward Morgan-Jones, Afxentios Hadjiminas, and Neophytos Loizides.

Limited space please signed up with n.loizides@kent.ac.uk

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DAY 2: April 9th - University of Cyprus (UCY Campus) – 10:30-21:30
Conference Room B108, Floor B1,
University House Building "Anastasios G. Leventis"

10:30 - 11:00

Registration

11:00 – 13:00

Welcome by Charis Psaltis

KEYNOTE: Edward Morgan-Jones

The Costs and Benefits of Semi-Presidentialism: when does it work?



Dr Morgan-Jones is a Senior Lecturer at the University of Kent and an expert on constitutional choice and its consequences, semi-presidential and parliamentary government, cabinet composition and democratic accountability. His research on these topics has been published in the *American Political Science Review*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *European Journal of Political Research* and *Post-Soviet Affairs*.

13:00 – 14:00

Lunch Break

14:00 – 15:45

Debating Semi-Presidentialism in Cyprus

Chair: Nur Koprulu

Speakers:

- Nicos Peristianis
- Yucel Vural
- Filipa Alves Raimundo
- James Ker-Lindsay

15:45 – 16:15

Coffee break

16:15 – 18:15

Public Opinion in Border Disputes and Constitutional Transitions Chair: Anna Koukkides-Procopiou

Presentations:

- Laura Sudulich
Northern Irish Citizens Preferences for Border arrangements after Brexit. Evidence from a Conjoint Survey Experiment
- Huseyin Cakal



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To Return or Not To Return: The Role of Positive Contact in Alleviating the Psychological Cost of Returning to Pre-74 Properties

- Charis Psaltis
Comparing the views of IDP's and non IDP's on the Guterres Package
- Alexandros Lordos
Which factors underpin support of the Minsk Agreements for Eastern Ukraine? A longitudinal investigation of the post-Maidan era

18:15 – 18:30

Coffee break

18:30 – 20:00

Roundtable on George Anderson's co-edited Territory and Power in Constitutional Transitions.

Chair: Neophytos Loizides

Commentaries by:

- Aristotelis Constantinides
- Emel Akcali

20:00 – 21:30

Dinner reception

Day 3: April 10th - Home of Cooperation (Buffer Zone) – 18:00-21:00

KEYNOTE: Natural Gas and Oil in Federal Systems

18:00 – 18:15

Welcome: Harry Tzimitras

Chair Hayriye Kavheci

18:15 – 19:30

KEYNOTE: George Anderson

Natural Gas and Oil in Federal Systems

19:30 – 20:00

Conference closing

20:00 – 21:00

Wine reception



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George Anderson has been a senior mediation expert with the United Nations' Mediation Support Unit and the president and CEO of the Forum of Federations from 2005 to 2011. He served for over thirty years in Canada's federal public service, where his positions included Deputy Minister of Natural Resources (2002-2005) and Deputy Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs in the Privy Council Office (1996-2002). He held assistant deputy minister level positions in the departments of Energy, Mines and Resources, Finance and External Affairs, as well as the Privy Council Office. Mr. Anderson has degrees in political science from Queen's University and Oxford University, and a diploma from the École nationale d'administration in Paris. He is the author of several books including *Federalism: An Introduction* (2008), *Fiscal Federalism: A Comparative Introduction* (2010) and editor of *Oil and Gas in Federal Systems* (2012). His most recent volume, co-edited with Sujit Choudhry, is *Territory and Power in Constitutional Transitions* (2019).