



The 8<sup>th</sup> ESSCA Space Policy Workshop was held under the topic “A European Space Policy – past consolidation, present challenges and future perspectives” on 20-21 April 2017 at Trinity Hall, University of Cambridge.

With great sadness we had to commence the workshop by the announcement that Fabian Kienzler (MA) had passed away only a few days earlier. He had been a regular contributor to the work of the standing research group on European Space Policy and was meant to give a paper at this workshop. A minute of silence was held in his honour. He will be thoroughly missed by all his colleagues.

Professor Hoerber, who convened the workshop, continued by thanking the generous sponsors of the standing research group for their continued support since its foundation in 2009, particularly the host institution, ESSCA; the Independent Social Research Foundation (ISRF) which has generously funded its work for the past year; but also the University Association for Contemporary European Studies (UACES) and the European Space Agency (ESA) which had both provided generous funding in the past; and the European Research Council (ERC) which will hopefully do so in the future.

The publication activity of the ESSCA standing research group on European Space Policy has been prolific. Two books European Space Policy, edited by **Paul Stephenson** and **Thomas Hoerber** (Routledge, 2016) and Theorizing European Space Policy, edited by **Emmanuel Sigalas** and **Thomas Hoerber** (Lexington, 2016) have come out. A special issue with Space Policy on the ‘Popularisation of Space’, edited by **Harald Koepping Athanasopoulos** and **Thomas Hoerber**, is forthcoming in 2017. Finally, another edited book featuring principally the papers of this workshop was accepted by Routledge and should be published in 2018.

The workshop hosted 10 delegates and several visitors in the audience on the beautiful premises of Trinity Hall. **Dr Iraklis Oikonomou** talked about ‘The European space industry and the socio-economic logic of EU space strategy: From economic consolidation to policy transformation’. **Daniel Sagath, MA**, from the VU Amsterdam, gave his paper on ‘Regional Integration and Cooperation in the Central and Eastern Europe. Cooperation as an Essential Perspective from the Past to Present’. **Andrew Thomas, MA**, presented his PhD project in ‘The Popular Discourse of the Chinese Space Programme 2011-2016 in China: an empirical analysis’.

On the second day, the discussion continued with contributions by **Ntorina Antoni, MA**, **Dr Christina Giannopapa**, **Maarten Andriansen, MA**, from the ESA, on ‘Space security in the era of Space 4.0’. **Dr Nikita S.W. Chiu**, from the University of Cambridge, talked about ‘Promoting International Co-operation in the Age of Global Space Governance - A Study on On-Orbit Servicing Operations’. **Prof. Thomas Hoerber**, from ESSCA, exposed a first draft paper on ‘Sustainability in Space’.

In the afternoon, future perspectives of European space policy were considered in the papers by **Dr Sarah Lieberman**, from Canterbury Christ Church University. She analysed ‘Trump, Autonomy and the future of the European Space Policy’; **Fabian Kienzler, MA**, from Passau

University, could sadly not show the results of his PhD thesis in ‘Europeanization of Space Policy’; **Ntorina Antoni, MA**, from ESA exposed the ‘ESA-EU joint statement on the European strategy’; and finally **Dr Lorna Ryan**, from London City University, showed the perspectives of a ‘Space Strategy for Europe’.

We concluded with a resumé of the workshop by Prof. Thomas Hoerber, finishing with the publication perspective in the edited volume with Routledge, co-edited by **Sarah Lieberman** and **Thomas Hoerber**, and highly appreciated contributions to it from **Frans van der Dunk**, Harvey and Susan Perlman Alumni / Othmer Professor of Space Law at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln’s LL.M. Programme on Space and Telecommunication Law, and potentially even by **Stephen Hawking**.