

Call for Papers

Workshop on The changing boundaries of European integration

9-12 March 2025
Monte Verità, Ascona, Switzerland

Workshop organizers:
Frank Schimmelfennig (ETH Zurich) & Stefanie Walter (University of Zurich)

The boundaries of the European integration project are changing, both geographically and regarding the boundaries between national and European policymaking capacities. While countries from Albania to Ukraine want to join the EU, the UK has opted to leave the Union, and integration with Switzerland is slowly eroding. Likewise, integration is increasing in some policy fields such as fiscal capacity building and military cooperation, stagnating in others, and in some policy fields there is even discussion of a re-nationalization of European competences. The recent crises of the EU – from the Eurozone crisis to the Russian full-scale invasion of Ukraine – have accelerated these developments and invite fresh thinking on polity (re)construction in Europe.

We invite submissions for a workshop that explores this phenomenon and addresses questions such as: How can we map the expanding and retrenching horizontal and vertical boundaries in European integration? How can the de-bordering and re-bordering dynamics across countries and across policy fields be explained, and what effects do they have? What role do the public, political parties, member state governments, and the EU bureaucracy play in these dynamics? What feedback effects do the changing boundaries of European integration have on national and European politics? And what do these developments mean for regional polity formation in Europe.

This workshop will bring together a diverse group of junior and senior scholars who work on these questions from a variety of perspectives and will consist of paper presentations and roundtables to allow for a broad discussion. It bridges research from two ERC-funded projects on boundary formation in European integration (EUROBORD – Frank Schimmelfennig) and on the mass politics of disintegration (DISINTEGRATION – Stefanie Walter) and puts them into dialogue with other researchers who specialize in topics related to the breadth, depth, and dynamics of European integration.

The workshop will take place from 9-12 March 2025 at the Congressi Stefano Franscini (CSF) at Monte Verità, Ascona (Switzerland). Travel and accommodation costs will be covered for all selected participants. This project is generously funded by the DISINTEGRATION and EUROBORD projects as well as the Congressi Stefano Franscini.

To apply for the workshop, please submit a 200-300 word abstract here: <https://forms.gle/2VFkPf8qefDxYyGc7>

Deadline for abstract submission is **15 September 2025**.