



THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY



PUBLIC SEMINAR

The National Europe Centre at The Australian National University is pleased to invite you to:

The Co-ordination of the European Union: Exploring the Capacities of Networked Governance

Dr Andrew Jordan

School of Environmental Sciences, The University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK

Monday 19 December 2005, 1230, at the National Europe Centre

The Australian National University, 1 Liversidge Street [67C]

Parking available in Balmain Lane, opposite University House

Light refreshments will be served after the seminar.

All policy systems are struggling to respond to 'wicked' problems such as international terrorism, drug crime, mass immigration and unsustainable development, none more so than the European Union (EU), which is renowned for its fluidity, deeply sectorized structures and weak political leadership. As the traditional mode of coordinating - essentially issuing regulation - no longer commands sufficient political support, the EU has turned to what are increasingly termed soft or 'new' modes of governance which rely upon different actors working together in relatively non-hierarchical networks. New modes of governance are in vogue because they appear to provide the EU with a new way to add value to national level activities without the slow and process of agreeing new legislation or the cost associated with building new administrative capacities in Brussels.

But just how effective are network-based modes at addressing problems that simultaneously demand greater levels of horizontal and vertical coordination? Taking, as an example, the thirty year struggle to build environmental thinking into all areas and levels of EU policy making, Dr Jordan will systematically explore the steps that two major EU institutions (the European Commission and the European Parliament), and three member states (Germany, the Netherlands and the UK) have (not) taken to build effective networked governance. He concludes that the EU needs to devote more of its time to the more mundane but important task of network management, which, paradoxically, is an exercise in hierarchy. In so doing, he tries to strip away some of the rhetorical claims made about the novelty and appeal of new modes, to reveal a much more sober and realistic appraisal of their coordinating potential.

Dr. Andrew Jordan is Reader in environmental politics and Philip Leverhulme Prize Fellow at the internationally recognised School of Environmental Sciences at the University of East Anglia in Norwich, UK. He has published extensively on many aspects of British and EU environmental policy. His most recent books include *The Europeanization of British Environmental Policy* (Palgrave, 2002), *'New' Instruments of Environmental Governance* (ed., Frank Cass, 2003), *Environmental Policy in Europe* (ed., Routledge, 2004), and *The Coordination*

of the European Union (Oxford University Press, 2006). For further details, visit: <http://www.uea.ac.uk/env/people/jordanaj/index.shtml>

Please forward this invitation to anyone who may be interested.

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