

NOTICE

Registration for the following conference is now open, see our website at

<http://www.monash.edu.au/europecentre>.

24-25 Sept. 2009: ANNUAL CONFERENCE - The External Relations of the European Union: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives.

A global conference of the Monash European and EU Centre

With the *Monash Asia Institute (Monash University, Melbourne)*, the *National Centre for Research on Europe (University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand)*, the *University of New South Wales, (Sydney)*, the *Australian Institute of International Affairs (Melbourne)*, the *European Studies Centre (Sichuan University, China)* and the *Machiavelli Centre for Cold War Studies (CIMA), University of Florence*.

Venue:

**Monash University Law Chambers
472 Bourke Street
Melbourne, Australia**

Given the changing architecture of global economic and political power, the role of the EU in the world is increasingly the focus of a vigorous debate. As a powerful trade negotiator and a leading player in global issues such as the environment, development aid, social policy and human rights, the EU is increasingly recognized as a new force for global security and welfare. Certainly the EU sees itself as a

growing political and strategic presence. But is this perception shared by non-EU countries and organisations? Exactly how is the EU perceived by the international community and how have these perceptions developed since the creation of the European Communities in the 1950s? Has the EU been perceived to be more of an economic actor or a political force? Is the EU seen as a regional model that could be emulated? Which countries are favourable and which hostile to a growing EU influence in their region or internationally?

In particular, the conference aims to promote the collaboration of academics and scholars on the following themes:

- *The EU, its origins and evolution from the 1950s to the 21st Century as seen from the perspective of non-EU countries and regions (e.g. China, India, the Asia-Pacific, New Zealand, Australia, the US, Russia, the Middle East, Africa etc).*
- *The post-colonial heritage in EU external relations.*
- *The EU and its view of the Asia-Pacific.*
- *The EU and international organizations: past and future challenges.*