

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

(To be filled in and uploaded as deliverable in the Portal Grant Management System, at the due date foreseen in the system.

 *Please provide one sheet per event (one event = one workpackage = one lump sum).)*

PROJECT	
Participant:	6 - Finnish Institute of International Affairs (FIIA)
PIC number:	995038029
Project name and acronym:	(Re)uniting the East and West: Reflections on the 2004 EU enlargement — REWEU

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	D10.2
Event name:	20 vuotta suuresta itälaajentumisesta: lessons for the next EU enlargement round
Type:	conference
In situ/online:	in-situ
Location:	Finland, Helsinki
Date(s):	10.9.2024
Website(s) (if any):	https://www.fiaa.fi/en/event/20-vuotta-suuresta-italaajentumisesta-lessons-for-the-next-eu-enlargement-round
Participants	
Female:	40
Male:	29
Non-binary:	0
From country 1 [Finland]:	77
From country 2 [Poland]:	1
From country 3 [Spain]:	1
From country 4 [Denmark]:	2
From country 5 [Netherlands]:	1
From country 6 [Czech Republic]:	2
From country 7 [Chile]:	1
From country 8 [China]:	1

From country 9 [Portugal]:	1		
From country 10 [Romania]:	1		
Total number of participants:	88*	From total number of countries:	10
Description			
<i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>			
<p>According to the president of the European Commission, Ursula Von der Leyen, a new era began in the European Union 20 years ago when Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia joined the European Union. It was hoped that the great enlargement would bind the countries of Eastern Europe more tightly to the European community, but the feared costs of the enlargement raised criticism.</p> <p>The Finnish Institute of International Affairs, together with University of Helsinki and European Movement Finland organised a joint seminar titled “20 vuotta suuresta itälaajentumisesta: lessons for the next EU enlargement round”.</p> <p>The first panel of the seminar focused on commemorating the 20 years since the eastern enlargement from Finland’s point of view and the lessons learned. The first panel was held in Finnish.</p> <p>The second panel of the seminar focuses on the future of EU enlargement. After a decade of stagnation in the enlargement process, Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine gave the EU a geopolitical incentive to reboot enlargement. Both the EU and the candidate countries should, however, manage to implement a number of challenging reforms before the EU can accept new members. The outcome of the process is not only essential for the neighborhood but also changes the EU for good. The panel discussed: How should the EU look like in the future? How do young Europeans in particular see the future of the Union? The language of the panel was English.</p> <p>Both panels were followed by a Q&A-session, providing the audience an opportunity to share their thoughts and ask questions to the panellists. Several members of the audience shared their memories of the 2004 enlargement. The comments and questions focused, for example, on the role of civil society in the EU’s eastern enlargement, the political, economic and cultural accomplishments of the EU, and whether the EU has changed from a peace project into more of an organisation with a security policy focus. The challenges of the future EU enlargement came up as well in the audience comments as well as the different circumstances of the 2004 enlargement compared to the current situation in Europe. The audience was of very high level with comments and questions coming from several significant figures involved in Finland’s EU policy.</p> <p>The seminar was held at University of Helsinki’s Think Corner (https://www.helsinki.fi/en/think-corner) and livestreamed on their website. In addition to participants at the seminar, the livestream was followed by 14 viewers.</p> <p>*Some participants did not want to answer question on gender.</p>			

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	01.04.2022	Initial version (new MFF).