Beyond a thorough assessment of current dynamics in the EU’s enlargement and neighbourhood policies, the Summer School seeks to explore what future relations between the EU and its neighbours will look like, and which factors will shape these relations. After providing a comprehensive picture of the EU’s horizontal policies and strategies, lectures will delve into different regional contexts and examine EU policies towards the Western Balkans, Eastern Partnership countries and the Southern Neighbourhood in more detail.

In line with the trilateral approach of our Summer School, special attention will be dedicated to diverging perceptions of and priorities for the EU’s neighbourhood from a French, German and Polish perspective.

Topics discussed in the past Summer School editions have been EU energy policy, EU external relations, the EU’s role in the Middle East conflict, EU security and defence policy, EU migration and refugee policy, the role of cities in the EU multi-level governance system and rising divisions within the EU.

The EU pursues a very ambitious agenda towards its neighbours to its east and south. Not only does it strive to entertain close and peaceful relations with surrounding countries; it also aspires to foster stability, security and prosperity, and promote core liberal norms and values beyond its borders. At the same time, the question arises whether the multiple crises currently facing the EU from within restrain its ambition and ability to act in its vicinity. The Summer School asks to which extent the EU’s aspirations in its neighbourhood have materialized in practice so far.

Since 2012, the Genshagen Trilateral Summer School brings together 24 students from German, French, and Polish universities at beautiful castle Genshagen close to Berlin to discuss a topic of European relevance.

Through lectures held by scholars with specific expertise, the Summer School provides in depth-knowledge on various sub-topics of the overall theme. In afternoon workshops, which build thematically on the respective morning lectures and are supervised and monitored by the lecturers, students have the opportunity to practically apply their knowledge and to gain further insights into the topic. The Summer School programme is completed by a cultural and a study trip to Berlin as well as informal meetings with practitioners from business, government or NGOs in our so-called ‘fireside lounge’ format.

The EU and Its Neighbours—Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policies in Times of Uncertainty

Genshagen Castle, 19 - 28 August, 2019

Call for applications

8th Genshagen Trilateral Summer School 2019

Genshagen Foundation

© Bertelsmann Stiftung
Who can apply?

We invite applications from students at Masters level as well as early-stage PhD students enrolled at a German, French or Polish university (all nationalities) and students with German, French or Polish nationality enrolled at universities in other countries. Prior experience with the topic of this year’s summer school is welcome, but not obligatory. As the Summer School’s working language is English, its excellent command is a prerequisite. Up to 8 students from each country will be able to participate in the Summer School.

How can I apply?

Please send us a cover letter detailing why you wish to participate in the 2019 Genshagen Summer School and your interest in the topic as well as your CV including your academic and extracurricular career. Everything should be in English, as that is the Summer School’s working language. We only accept electronic applications sent via e-mail to: summerschool@stiftung-genshagen.de.

The deadline for applications is 26 May 2019 and successful candidates will be notified by early June 2019.