When European studies scholars discuss the European Union (EU)’s institutional structure, they usually stress its sui generis supra- or trans-national nature, and sometimes even indulge in a post-national trope (reminiscent of a broader de-nationalization and de-territorialization trend in international relations). Provided they look at the State and do not disparage it as a thing of the past, it is usually as a static political unit, acting as an agent of EU law, and sometimes, albeit more rarely (even among federalists), as a model for the institutionalization of the EU itself. European integration would not have been possible without a simultaneous evolution of the State itself, however. This is true of EU Member States as much as of other States participating in the broader project of European integration, like Switzerland. This mirroring relationship has been famously exemplified in discussions pertaining to the EU’s and States’ sovereignty, constitutionalism or democracy. Interestingly, the European State has now returned to the fore in European debates. The questions the 2018 ECSA-CH Annual Conference would like to broach pertain therefore to the state of the European State today.
Thursday, 29.11.2018

16:00- ECSA-CH Members Annual Assembly
17:00
17:15- ECSA-CH Annual Keynote Lecture
19:00 L'Europe peut-elle éviter de se désintégrer ?
   Prof. Paul Magnette (Bourgmestre de la Commune de Charleroi, Professeur à
   l'Université libre de Bruxelles et ancien Ministre-président de la Wallonie)
19:30 Dinner (Conference Speakers and ECSA-CH Committee Members only)
   Restaurant de l'Aigle Noir, Rue des Alpes 10, 1700 Fribourg (see map on the last page)

Friday, 30.11.2018

08:00 Welcome coffee
08:15 Opening Words
   Prof. Samantha Besson (University of Fribourg)
08:30 Towards a relational understanding of EU Statehood
   Prof. Teresa Pullano (University of Basel)
09:15 Are EU member States still States according to International Law?
   Prof. Nicolas Levrat (University of Geneva) & Yuliya Kaspiarovich (PhD candidate,
   University of Geneva)
10:00 Coffee break
10:15 The rise of border middle management
   Jean-François Clouzet (PhD candidate, University of Geneva) & Dr Stephan
   Davidshofer (University of Geneva)
11:00 The European State Facing The Crises: Did The Financial Crisis Reinforce
   States’ Role In European (Dis)Integration?
   Flore Vanackère (PhD candidate, University of Geneva)
11:45 Competition is good, cooperation is better - The crystallization of social order in
   the European Union
   Dr Sean Mueller (University of Bern) & Prof. Michael Hechter (Arizona State University
   & University of Copenhagen)
12:30 Lunch

Friday, 30.11.2018 (continuing)
13:15 A Europe of which Peoples? Political Outcomes and National Minorities’
   Attitudes towards the EU
   Dr Hugo Marcos Marne (University of St Gallen)
14:00 Inequality and EU Trust
   Dr Dominik Schraff (ETH Zurich) & Jana Lipps (PhD candidate, ETH Zurich)
14:45 Coffee break
15:00 Member State Signals and the Effectiveness of Conditionality in the EU
   Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policies
   Prof. Tina Freyburg (University of St Gallen) & Prof. Solveig Richter (University of
   Erfurt)
15:45 The violation of core political norms and determinants of EU sanctioning
   Martina Fuerrutter (PhD candidate, University of St Gallen)
16:30 Coffee break
16:45 The development of European security and defence since 2016: challenging a
   purely intergovernmental approach?
   Dr Alessia Biava (University of Geneva)
17:30 Voting against all odds
   Prof. Klaus Armingeon (University of Bern) & Philipp Lutz (PhD candidate, University
   of Bern)
18:15 End of conference