

Foreword

Our background

The idea for a 'European' journal in the area of international studies emerged from discussions among an international staff at a summer school for post doctoral and research students held at Arcachon in France in 2010 (who constituted themselves as a Steering Committee). Since then planning meetings have been held, publishers contacted and collaboration begun with various institutions, notably CERI-Sciences Po (Paris) and Canterbury Christ Church University (CCCU) in the UK. There have been extensive talks with the European International Studies Association (formerly SGIR). From its starting point at Arcachon, *ERIS* has become a truly European enterprise.

The Raison d'être of the new journal is:

- i. To reflect European specificities and approaches in international studies.
- ii. To be an outlet in English for non-English language authors in particular, while not excluding English language authors.
- iii. To make the Anglophone world aware of research in other European languages.
- iv. To make non-English language authors aware of research in other non-English academic cultures and languages in Europe.
- v. To encourage multidisciplinary across the social sciences and humanities among those concerned with international studies broadly defined.
- vi. To be eclectic in terms of concept, method and approach with rigorous international academic standards.

We seek to become a journal to which those who wish to know what is happening in 'European' International Studies can turn. We hope to achieve this goal through an extensive review section of monographs published in European languages and review articles of the literature on substantive themes or significant developments in different European academic communities. Our other principal goal is to publish original articles and, from time to time, translations of major existing articles not readily available in English.

ERIS is intended to reflect European approaches to International Studies (it is not a journal of European studies, nor is it a policy-oriented journal). It is thus complementary to existing journals. It aims to be the journal of the 800 participants who attended the SGIR/EISA Conference in Warsaw in September 2013 and of the numerous European ISAs which do not have their own journal in English. This is not at all to exclude Anglophone writers from Britain, Ireland or elsewhere as a matter of policy, but the Editors will seek a balanced agenda in order not to undermine the

‘continental’ European ethos of this journal.

It is not always easy for young non-Anglophone researchers to break into the English language world of publishing despite this now often being a career requirement. Yet, from our experience, there is an abundance of excellent research ‘hidden’ from the Anglophone world. Moreover, approaches vary between academic cultures of which the English-speaking world is sometimes ignorant, especially because speaking the language dominant in the international sphere does not always encourage the learning of foreign languages. Nevertheless, there is no sense in publishing a journal that does not insist on the highest standards simply to have an international spread. Eclecticism yes, but rigour too!

The nuts and bolts

Manuscripts may be submitted in languages other than English such as French, German, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish. Papers will be submitted where possible to peer-reviewers with both the necessary thematic competence and linguistic skills, and then decisions are taken on the usual basis. When a paper has been accepted, publication is conditional on the submission of a new translated version by the author in good English, at no additional cost for the Review. We expect that, with the acceptance for publication in hand, authors will be able to secure funding for the translation.

ERIS envisages, as a rule of thumb, that 70 percent of its content will be original academic articles and the balance reserved for reviews, review articles and occasional translations. In short, our ambition is to create a journal to which everyone will turn if they are interested in International Studies in Europe. We expect that one issue per annum (out of, initially, three issues annually) will be a special issue or have a cluster of articles on a particular theme. All academic articles will be subject to double blind peer review. The final decision rests with the Editors.

Structure: An Academic Advisory Council has been created of leading figures in the field both from Europe and elsewhere (the ‘great and the good’). Its function is to advise on academic matters, to make available personal and institutional networks, to bring *ERIS* to the attention of scholars as an outlet especially for those who have high quality work and who need publications in English. We would also invite the members of the Council to contribute their own work. We are grateful to them for their encouragement and cooperation.

The core Editorial team consists of an Editor (Anglophone), a non-Anglophone Editor and a Managing Editor. Initially the Anglophone Editor for three years is AJR Groom (eris@canterbury.ac.uk) while the non-Anglophone Editor, Christian Lequesne (christian.lequesne@sciences-po.fr), is for 6 years. The review section is the responsibility of Christian Lequesne. Original articles and the final copy are the responsibility of AJR Groom. The Managing Editor for three years is Antoinette Groom (eris@canterbury.ac.uk).

Supporting the core Editorial team is a group of Associate Editors from language areas (Czech, Dutch, French, German, Greek, Italian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian,

Scandinavian, Spanish and Turkish). The function of the language area specialists is to promote the journal by encouraging authors to submit their work to *ERIS*, suggest books for review and reviewers, and write occasional surveys of developments in their language area.

A second group supporting the core Editorial team is a group of Associate Editors in sub-fields in international studies such as IR theory, International History, IPE, International Law, International Organisation, Strategic Studies, Conflict Studies and FPA. The aim is to encourage interdisciplinarity of a transnational nature. This group's function will be to support the core Editorial team in the same manner as the language area specialists.

We are greatly indebted to both teams of Associate Editors. For details of the individuals concerned see the website (www.erisjournal.eu).

Owners and Sponsors: A consortium of two institutions owns *ERIS* namely CCCU and CERIS-Sciences Po. In addition, a number of institutions have made a financial contribution to the *ERIS* project and this is recognised by the status of sponsor: Association française des Internationalistes (AI), ESSEC-IRENE, Finnish Institute of International Affairs (FIIA), Institut de Hautes Études Internationales et du Développement (HEID) Geneva, Institut de Recherche Stratégique de l'École Militaire (IRSEM), Paris and the Compagnia di San Paolo, Turin. Without their support the launching of the Review would have been very difficult. We are indeed grateful for this support.

The editorial team is delighted that Barbara Budrich Publishers of Leverkusen in Germany have accepted to publish *ERIS*. We have established a good working relationship with them.

The first year's issues

We are now 'in business' and preparing the three issues for 2014. This first issue contains a Forum on the contribution (if any) of European scholars and scholarly communities to International Studies. A wide range of contributors from Europe and elsewhere in the world have been asked for their points of view. The response to our invitation has been gratifying. The Editors would welcome further contributions and comments from readers. The first issue also contains book reviews and we would welcome monographs for review from publishers and authors.

The second issue contains among others some original articles from authors such as Bertrand Badie on 'When History begins'. Paul Taylor analyses multilateralism in the context of the EU and the UN, while Maarten Van Alstein of the Flemish Peace Institute explores the political, economic, social and historic aspects of commemoration. Who is commemorating what, for whom and for what reason or purpose is relevant as we embark upon a season of commemorations associated in particular with the Great War. We encourage the submission of manuscripts for future issues on a variety of topics.

The third issue is a Special Issue edited by Elise Féron and Valérie Rosoux on 'Former Colonial Powers and the management of political crises in their former

colonies.’ This includes case studies such as that of Belgium in the Congo as well as a more general analysis of the phenomenon.

As we said, we are ‘open for business’ and, being newcomers, we do not have a backlog of either articles or reviews to publish. As Editors we have an open mind on subjects, approaches or methodologies, but a determination and commitment to the highest intellectual standards. Above all, we want to enable Europe’s voices to be heard by each other and to contribute to putting the ‘international’ into International Studies.

AJR Groom and Christian Lequesne