**Studia Europejskie – Studies in European Affairs 4/2019**

**The EU in the aftermath of the EP Elections 2019**

**Editors:**

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The 2014-2019 term of the European Parliament unfolded in a period of substantial change in the EU’s external and domestic environments. The EU had to address the implications of both the global financial crisis and the euro area crisis and their implications in the form of EU-wide recession and political fragmentation. In this context, the migration and refugee crises had further aggravated the already tense situation, while the annexation of Crimea and the debate on the EU sanctions against Russia had almost led to a split among the EU member-states.

The outcomes of the June 2016 Brexit referendum seemingly confirmed the fears expressed by many that disintegration was feasible. The early days of Trump administration were filled will great uncertainty as to the future of Transatlantic collaboration, including the Allies’ roles and the very future of NATO. As a result, the deep-rooted debate on the EU defense capacity was revived; this time bearing substantiated hopes.

From a different angle, as China’s role in the global economy, so as the efficiency of China’s economic diplomacy, have become increasingly tangible in the EU, voices were raised that more coordination in dealing with China was needed. Domestically, across the EU member-states the multiple and overlapping crises that the EU member-states were exposed to over the past decade, left large parts of the societies confused and disenchanted, therefore more susceptible to populism and demagogy, and voices contesting the value of the European integration project. In this context fears and concerns beset the May 2019 elections to the European Parliament.

The 2nd highest, since 1979, turnout in the elections to the European Parliament (EP) suggests nevertheless that the idea and the ideals underpinning European integration are still valid and relevant to voters across the EU. The political scene, as the distribution of seats in the newly elected EP suggests, is fragmented though. Considering the external and domestic challenges the EU is facing, the fragmentation of the EP, along with the party dynamics’ implications, indicate that the 2019-2024 term will be demanding. What are the key challenges the EU and so the key EU level actors, including the EP, the European Commission, the European Council, the Council will have to face over the next years? How will it impact their collaboration and the efficiency of the EU overall? How will it translate in relations with the EU member-states? How will it be reflected on the EU’s position and influence in its external environment?

The Guest Editors of the journal invite incisive and conceptually-sound papers that address, but are not limited to, the following topics and issues:

* The EU institutions following the May 2019 elections to the EP;
* Domestic and EU-level party dynamics following the May 2019 elections to the EP;
* Scenarios for European integration;
* EU safety and security: issues, challenges, responses;
* Economic collaboration: issues (including trade wars and the functioning of the WTO), challenges, responses;
* The 2021-2027 Multi-annual Financial Framework (MFF): hopes, prospects, challenges;
* The future of enlargement policy;
* The euro area and its future;
* European identity: issues, challenges, responses;
* EU citizenship: relevance, strategies, country-specific differentiation;
* Non-institutionalized collaboration in the EU;
* EU and other regional integration schemes;
* The inroads of sophisticated technology and the functioning of the EU;
* Understanding, conceptualizing, and explaining European integration.

**Papers’ submission:**

Prospective authors are requested to submit their papers to the Editors at **wydawnictwoce@uw.edu.pl**

**Formatting requirements available at:**

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