

LSEE-CEFTA Academic Network on International Trade

2nd Network Workshop

Skopje, 13-14 September 2019

“CEFTA after Poznan: Commercial and Institutional Issues”

Call for Papers

Deadline for submissions: Monday 15 July 2019

LSE Research on Southeast Europe (LSEE) and the CEFTA Secretariat are pleased to announce **the 2019 workshop of the LSEE-CEFTA Academic Network on International Trade which will take place in Skopje on 13 and 14 September.**

Since its establishment in the region in 2006, CEFTA has made significant grounds in strengthening trade integration and economic cooperation in the region and, through this, supporting economic growth and the European perspective of each and every of its constituent parties. Following concrete steps in trade integration, CEFTA constitutes today a modern multi-thematic trade area, extending increasingly to investment and commercial issues, including trade in services, IPRs, e-commerce, trade dispute mechanisms, risk management, quality infrastructure, and others.

The collaboration between LSEE and CEFTA has long followed these developments. In 2016 we co-organised a best-paper competition with the award ceremony taking place during CEFTA Week (Podgorica, December 2016). The winning papers in 2016 provided ample evidence of the trade-creation and welfare-enhancing effects of CEFTA. In 2017 we joined forces to establish the LSEE-CEFTA Academic Network. The first workshop of the network (Belgrade, June 2018) hosted papers covering more specifically issues related to trade in services, customs issues and e-commerce, among others.

Following the evolution of CEFTA, the 2nd workshop of the LSEE-CEFTA Academic Network will focus on some of the key themes among the stated priorities of CEFTA, concerning in particular the issues of:

- **Quality Infrastructure**, Market Surveillance authorities and product safety
- **Geo-blocking** measures and IPRs
- **E-commerce: how can regional trade agreement facilitate cross-border e-commerce**
- Interconnections between goods and services trade in the CEFTA region

We invite submissions of abstracts of papers dealing with any of the above themes, from any disciplinary field, including Law, Economics, Politics, Information Systems, International Relations and others. **Beyond these core themes, we also invite submissions on any other topic relating to CEFTA, including:**

- Economic and sectoral benefits of trade in the CEFTA region
- The politics of trade and trade cooperation in the CEFTA region
- Progress assessment and impact evaluation of key CEFTA processes, such as:
 - o Trade in services (linked to CEFTA Additional Protocol 6)
 - o Trade dispute settlement mechanisms (linked to CEFTA Additional Protocol 7)
 - o Mutual recognition of Authorised Economic Operators (AEOs)
 - o E-commerce and barriers to digital trade

The Call is open to all members of the LSEE-CEFTA Academic Network as well as to the wider academic and policy community. Papers by practitioners working in the area are particularly welcome. **Those interested in presenting at the workshop should submit a long abstract to lsee.ceftanetwork@lse.ac.uk by Monday 15 July.** Successful applicants will be notified by 19 July 2019. Abstracts should be between 500 and 800 words, written in English, and should explain clearly the research question, data, case and methodology of the paper, as well as indicate the main findings.

There is no fee for participation to the workshop, but participants are expected to cover their own expenses. For those without financial support from their home institutions, a number of bursaries will be available covering reasonable travel and accommodation costs. Network members and paper-givers interested in applying for a bursary should send an email to lsee.ceftanetwork@lse.ac.uk at any point in time but before **5 August 2019**, explaining their 'case for support' (maximum 300 words) and giving an estimate for their travel expenses. Decisions on bursaries will be made by LSEE and are final, subject to the availability of funds. Coffees/teas, buffet lunch and a workshop dinner will be provided to all participants.

For informal enquiries or any other questions, please contact in the first instance the local organiser and network co-coordinator **Dr Silvana Mojsovska** at s.mojsovska@ek-inst.ukim.edu.mk. Enquiries can also be made directly to lsee.ceftanetwork@lse.ac.uk.

Important dates

- 15 July 2019: Deadline for submission of abstracts
- 19 July 2019: Notification of acceptances
- 5 August 2019: Deadline for confirming attendance and requesting financial support
- 13-14 September 2019: Workshop