

Warsaw 2007 - Conclusions

EIN Summer University and European Ideas Fair

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EIN POLICY ROUNDTABLE ON

GEOGRAPHIC LIMITS OF THE EU

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Conclusions

It was agreed that the EU is a success story!

The task force discussed several issues and among those the following:

1. VALUES. EU has a history of common values of democracy, freedom, Christian heritage, rule of law, equality of sexes, fundamental rights, respect for others, a "we feeling". Recently, solidarity in fighting terrorism has been added.

2. EUROPE. EU is not the same as Europe.

3. INSTITUTIONS. There is a strong need for functioning European institutions, which can make the necessary decisions, in an EU of 27 members. The forthcoming Treaty will hopefully accomplish this. Such a development will also facilitate internal cohesion.

4. INTERNAL MARKET. European business has a particular interest in a stable internal market that is as large as possible.

5. EU GLOBALLY. There is an increasing demand that the EU shoulders more external responsibilities and takes on a global role in relations with the US, Japan, China, India and Russia.

6.ENLARGEMENT. Enlargement up till now has been very successful. There were, however, differing views on whether there is now enlargement fatigue or not, and if the enlargement process should continue.

7.INTEGRATION CAPACITY refers both to the potential candidate that must have accomplished necessary changes to be ready to join the EU as well as the readiness of the EU as such to receive new members. Currently, internal cohesion of the EU should have priority over further enlargement.

8.NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICY. It is vital to continue to develop a policy for the EU neighbourhood that would not undermine the autonomy of the EU.

9.GEOGRAPHIC LIMITS. While accepting that the EU treaties acknowledge the ability of European countries to apply to join the EU, for reasons of clarifying European identity, it was recognised that the EU should establish frontiers to help meet global challenges ahead.

10.CONNECTING WITH THE EU CITIZENS is seen a crucial for the further success of the European Union.