

“Méthode Monnet” and the Future of Europe

A Stocktaking on the Occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Treaty of Rome

State: March 19, 2007

Date	Thursday, March 22, and Friday, March 23, 2007
Venue	WU (UZA 4, Konferenzsaal D 7/06 (Workshop) and UZA 1, Festsaal (Public Conference))
Working Languages	English / German
Organizers	Europainstitut wu ECSA Austria

Outline:

On March 25, 2007 the 50th anniversary of the signature of the Treaty of Rome will take place. On this occasion, this event shall discuss the past, presence, and future of the *Méthode Monnet*, which, although not easy to define, proved to be crucial for European integration. By this, the debate on the future of European integration, its theoretical foundations and its historical roots shall be fostered.

The overall programme will be composed of a high-level academic workshop on Thursday, March 22nd and Friday, March 23rd, 2007 and a public event in the late afternoon/early evening of March 23rd.

During the high-level academic workshop, a distinguished selection of international top academics, comprising the relevant disciplines of economy, history, law, and political science will discuss the roots, the core elements, the functioning, and the limits of the *Méthode Monnet*, laying a special strain on theoretical aspects of the subject matter. Twelve papers, which will be distributed to the participants of the workshop in advance, will be presented briefly (about 20 minutes) to be scrutinized by a prepared discussant (about 10 minutes) and a plenary debate immediately afterwards. To provide for an optimum opportunity for in-depth debate, the number of participants of the workshop will be limited to 30. The working language in this part of the programme is English.

In the afternoon of the second day, one representative of each of the academic disciplines represented in the workshop shall contribute to a round table discussion on the future of European integration. This round table shall comprise also political practitioners of European integration (e.g. representatives of the Austrian government / administration, MEPs, MPs, etc.) and will be open to a wider public. Therefore, the language will switch to German in this part of the programme.

Finally, the head of the parliamentary club of the Austrian People's Party (ÖVP), the former Austrian Chancellor Dr. Wolfgang Schüssel, will give a keynote speech that will also serve as some sort of official celebrations of the EU's 50th birthday.

Preliminary Programme

Thursday, March 22nd, 2007

Part I: Workshop (Konferenzsaal 7/06, in English)

- 9.00 a.m.:
Introductory Remarks by Stefan GRILLER, Europainstitut | wu / ECSA Austria, Vienna, AT
- 9.15 a.m.: Topic 1
T h e R o o t s
 - Breaching the Bulwarks of National Sovereignty:
International Public Law and the *Méthode Monnet*¹
Reporter: Stefan GRILLER, Europainstitut | wu / ECSA Austria, Vienna, AT

¹ National sovereignty is one of the core-concepts of international public law, and one takes no great risk stating that it is also one of its major problems. In his memoirs, Jean Monnet said that he suggested the ECSC because he wanted “to breach the bulwarks of national sovereignty to an extent that could gain consent of the states, but would be deep enough to press them for

Coffee Break

- Was there a *Méthode Monnet avant la lettre*?
Functionalism in International Relations before the ECSC²
Reporter: Ruth DONNER, University of Helsinki, Helsinki, FI
Discussant: Pascaline WINAND, European University Institute, Florence, IT
- After the Foundation of the EEC
The *Méthode Monnet* in the History of European Integration
Reporter: Franz KNIPPING, University of Wuppertal, DE
Discussant: Wolfgang SCHMALE, University of Vienna, AT

▪ 12.15 p.m.: Lunch

▪ 1.45 p.m.: Topic 2
T h e M e t h o d

- "*Nous ne coalisons pas des Etats, nous unissons des hommes*"
Monnet's Conceptions of Policymaking in a Democratic Environment³
Reporter: Johannes POLLAK, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna, AT
- The *Méthode Monnet's* Achilles' Heel?
Implementation into Member States' Law
Reporter: Gerda FALKNER, Institute for Advanced Studies – IHS, Vienna, AT

4:15 p.m.: End of the First Day

unity" In this contribution, the structural limits of the concept of sovereignty shall be outlined and further on it shall be analysed, how the application of Monnet's method has contributed to the further development of international public law.

- ² It is obvious that Jean Monnet was not the first one who tried to use functionalist approaches in international relations to reconcile diverging interests (e.g. early international organisations on technical matters, The Hague Conventions, Bryan treaties, the GATT, etc.). This contribution shall shed some light on Monnet's "predecessors", analyse them against the backdrop of the concept of functionalism (which is underlying Monnet's conceptions in the eyes of the conveners of the workshop) and – if possible – shall demonstrate how these examples influenced Monnet in developing his ideas.
- ³ Although the object of Monnet's strive for an integrated Europe were democratic states with a high level of public participation in policymaking, his personal working style can be described as elitist and technocratic. E.g. he never exerted his considerable influence on public policies out of an elected position, and always preferred bilateral talks to more democratic forms of policymaking. This contribution shall analyse the field of tension between Monnet's personal approach to politics and his political objectives and shall try to find out how his approach affected the political results.

Friday, March 23rd, 2007

▪ 9.15 a.m.: Topic 3

It's the Economy ...

- Reconciling the Irreconcilable?

Monnet's Interventionist Concepts and the Role of a Liberal Economy in European Integration⁴

Reporter: John R. GILLINGHAM III, University of Missouri, St. Louis, MO, USA

Discussant: Rolf STEININGER, University of Innsbruck, AT

Coffee Break

- The EMU

A Giant Revival of the *Méthode Monnet*?

Reporter: Fritz BREUSS, Europainstitut | wu / ECSA Austria, Vienna, AT

▪ 12.00 p.m.: Lunch

▪ 1.15 p.m.: Topic 4

Legal Limits and New Approaches

- Agencies

The *Méthode Monnet* in a 21st Century Style?⁵

Reporter: Michelle EVERSON, Birkbeck College, London, UK

Discussant: Andreas ORATOR, Europainstitut | wu, Vienna, AT

2:30 p.m.: End of the Academic Discussion

⁴ Economic measures were and are the central instruments to foster political integration by the *Méthode Monnet*, and it has become nearly proverbial that a market driven, liberal economy serves integration best. Nevertheless, taking into account his functions (e.g. as head of the *Comité du Plan*) and his political concepts (e.g. installing a new regime of regulation on Western Europe's coal and steel industries) suggests that Monnet's personal approach to economy was rather an interventionist (French??) than a liberal one. This contribution shall analyse whether Monnet really was an interventionist, and if so, if he ever put into practice his own economic thought. Further on it shall discuss if these economic ideas really were overturned in the further-development of integration and answer the question whether integration on the basis of the interventionist economic concepts that stood at the outset of the integration process might have been successful.

⁵ It can be argued that agencies and other "new modes of governance" are the continuation of the application of Monnet's integrationist approaches under the actual political conditions with an EU that has become more and more unpopular with its citizens: Technical issues are integrated on a European level but outside the traditional institutional framework. Possibly, it can be expected that the spill-overs of this process will lead to a new momentum of its own for further integration. On the other hand, the resulting "Byzantine" structure of policy-making may pose a major threat to further integration, e.g. because it aggravates the alleged democratic deficit of European decision-making. This contribution shall discuss the possible effects of the instalment of agencies, etc. for European integration and try to answer the question whether the implicit democratic deficit of the *Méthode Monnet* will be perpetuated by that process in an objectionable manner.

Part II: Public Round Table

(Festsaal, in German)

- 3.00 p.m.:
Welcome Address by Stefan GRILLER, Europainstitut | wu / ECSA Austria, Vienna, AT
- 3.10 p.m.:
Frisst die Integration ihre Eltern?
Die EU mit 50 und die Zukunft der Ideen Jean Monnets
Public Round Table-Discussion with Roland ADROWITZER (Austrian Broadcasting Corporation), Fritz BREUSS, Karl DOUTLIK (European Commission Representative in Austria), Judith GEBETSROITHNER (Cabinet of Commissioner Ferrero-Waldner), Wolfgang HILLER (European Parliament Representative in Austria), Hannes SWOBODA, MEP.
- 4.30 p.m.
Wolfgang SCHÜSSEL, Head of the Parliamentary Club of the Austrian People's Party
Keynote Lecture on the Occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Signature of the Treaty of Rome, covering some topical Aspect of European Integration.

About 5:15 p.m.: End of the Programme