**[EU IN THE SHADOW OF ASIA](http://cesaa.org.au/events/EUSA%20AP%20Conf%20CfP%2020%20Dec%202013.docx)?**

**Changing relationships between the EU and the Asia Pacific**

**01-02 May 2014, Melbourne, Australia.**

The discussion on the emerging powers of Asia is well established. However, there have been
few Asia Pacific platforms where academics can present their research into how the concept of
the coming century being one which pivots around Asia impacts on Asia Pacific – EU relations.
A growing emphasis on Asia as an economic and political powerhouse also has implications for
how the EU deals with other regions and how other regions in turn align or realign their foreign
policies.

The Australian government has recently published its White Paper entitled Australia in the Asian
Century. While relations between the EU and Australia remain somewhat stable, numerous
developments have made Australia’s appreciation of the European Union tenuous. With
Australia’s self-portrayal as a middle size power in the Asia Pacific region and as its economic
engagement with China and other Asian powers grow, what does this mean for Australian – EU
relations? Will Australia turn its back on traditional alliances and the European Union? Is
Australia and the Asian century a party politic position or an ingrained bi-partisan position? Can
Australia be seen as an interlocutor between Asia and the EU? Does it want this role? Do
others? These questions also hold a similar relevance for many other nations within the Asia
Pacific region.

The following six sub-themes will be investigated from both, an European and an Asia Pacific
perspective:

* What is changing and what remains unchanged in relations between the EU and the Asia
Pacific?
* How has a focus on Asia impacted other countries policies towards the EU; and the EU’s
polices to other regions?
* How do financial and membership crises impact on the relationships between the EU and the
Asia Pacific?
* What impacts do various forms of regional integration in Asia have on EU relations with the
region?
* How do perceptions of ‘self’ and ‘others’ and concepts of identity influence understandings,
political and economic interactions between EU and Asia Pacific?
* Do expat/migrant communities help to facilitate understanding between regions?

This conference will be multidisciplinary in focus and applications from a wide range of fields
are encouraged to develop a deeper understanding of the complexities of the relationship, and
to understand the broad range of areas that can be impacted by international political and
economic issues. The EUSAAP is by nature multidisciplinary and in previous conferences has
drawn together experts from a wide range of disciplines such as History, Political Science, Law,
and Economics. With Australia’s ties to the Pacific Islands we especially encourage Pacific
Island researchers to engage EU Studies through this conference. This conference hopes to
help overcome some of the geographical distance between Europe and the Asia Pacific nations
and investigate ways in which they can and do communicate and interact on the world stage.

**Timeline**
Deadline for online-paper submissions: **31 January 2014**
Successful applicants will be informed by mid-February 2014
Acceptance of the invitation to present: 10 working days after notification of acceptance via
payment of registration fees (PayPal).

Abstracts of your paper should be sent to: yvonne.grosch@canterbury.ac.nz