

The European Union and the Challenges of the Global Order

Workshop 3 March 2010

Scotland Europa, Rond-Point Schuman 6, Brussels

14.00 MERCURY to date: understanding the EU as a multilateral actor.

- *Multilateralism and the European Union.*
 - **John Peterson**, Professor, University of Edinburgh
- *Towards A New Architecture of EU External Relations.*
 - **Wolfgang Wessels**, Professor, University of Köln

15.30 – 16.00 Coffee

16.00 MERCURY lectures with distinguished guests.

- *Understanding the European Union as a Risk Averse Power.*
 - **Zaki Laidi**, Professor at CERI, Sciences Po, Paris
- *The EU and Multilateralism: a Practitioner's View.*
 - **Matthew Baldwin**, Director in DG Trade, European Commission

17.30 Finish.

Entry free but limited. Please register at mercury@ed.ac.uk

MERCURY is a consortium of academic partners in Europe, China and South Africa, formed to examine the European Union's contribution to multilateralism. It is funded through the FP VII, and will run for 3 years from February 2009. It advances an intellectual agenda – to explore, explain, and evaluate different conceptions of multilateralism – but also seeks maximum, practical policy relevance. The EU has recognized the importance of multilateralism in both the 2003 European Security Strategy and Lisbon Treaty, and claims actively to promote multilateralism. MERCURY's primary research questions flow from this commitment:

- 1) *how should we understand multilateralism, both historically and in contemporary terms?*
- 2) *does the EU live up to its ambitions to contribute to effective multilateralism?*
- 3) *what lessons can be drawn from Europe's experience of promoting multilateralism?*

www.mercury-fp7.net

