

## **Third Annual Convention, Odesa (Ukraine), 19-20 April 2019**

The general topic will be:

### **“The Experience of Inter-Regionalism in the Black Sea and Caucasus Regions: Norm Diffusion, Legal Approximation and Contestation”**

AESC as the Caucasus’ only regional association of European Studies will use its Third Annual Convention to go beyond the borders of the Caucasus and assess the experience of the Black Sea region in norm diffusion and contestation. From EU membership of Bulgaria and Romania to the still tenuous negotiations of a Strategic Partnership Agreement with Azerbaijan, there is a wide range of legal approximation and norm diffusion taking place. Mandated by agreements with the EU, the task goes far beyond technicalities and involves the changing of political culture and discourse.

The Convention will be hosted by Odesa I.I. Mechnikov National University.

For the general topic, the AESC Programme Committee will accept proposals for panels (max. 3 presenters, max. 2 discussants), roundtables (max. 5 participants), individual presentations and also poster presentations. A special feature will be "junior sessions" moderated by experienced researchers and aiming to provide methodological support to early-stage research projects of young scholars. Graduate students are invited to submit individual applications as well as panel proposals (max 5 presenters and a moderator).

In addition to the general topic, the AESC Convention is planning to offer two specialised sections on issues of methodology and best practice exchange:

- Teaching and training in European Studies
- Research skills for European Studies

Presentations from all angles of European Studies including the relevant mother disciplines are welcome. Please send a short bio, a one-page abstract and, if applicable, the proposed composition of your panel / roundtable

**by 17 February 2019 (extended!)**

to the Programme Committee, c/o [kruessmann.thomas@gmail.com](mailto:kruessmann.thomas@gmail.com). If you want to apply for “junior sessions”, please send your documents to [aesc.junior@gmail.com](mailto:aesc.junior@gmail.com).

Participation in the Third AESC Annual Convention is free! Please visit us at <http://aesc-online.eu>. The best presentations will be published in the AESC’s “Yearbook of European Studies in the Caucasus” with ibidem / Cambridge University Press.