

**The Foreign Policy of the EU**  
**EUIJ Open Lectures by Professor Stephan Keukeleire**

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On October 12 (Thu), Professor Stephan Keukeleire (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven) visited International Christian University and held two open lectures. These lectures, which were based on the structure and the decision-making process of the EU, stimulated our interest in the present state and the prospects of the EU.

In the first lecture titled “The Foreign Policy of the EU: General Overview”, Professor Keukeleire discussed the process of the European integration such as the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), the European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP) and the failure of the European Defence Community. He argued that the importance of the integration derives from its content rather than its formality; it is important for member states to cooperate. Referring to three pillars of the EU, he emphasized that it would not be sufficient to consider foreign policy of the EU only through the second pillar; the first and third pillars are also important. He also pointed out that the term “common” in the CFSP context would differ from the general understanding of the term. Furthermore, he stressed that there were cases where it would be difficult for the union to achieve common interests, due to the fact that each country has its own world views. There are also institutional and procedural challenges. At the same time, however, he contended that European foreign policy could serve as a “rescue of national foreign policies” in the sense that it could enhance the potential of, as well as strengthen legitimacy of foreign policy of each member state.

In the second lecture titled “The Foreign Policy of the EU: The Institutional Dimension”, Professor Keukeleire discussed the role of three main organs (the European Council, the European Commission and the European Parliament) of the EU and the EU policy making. He suggested that in foreign policy making the three organs coordinate not only among themselves but also with other organs. He also pointed out the important role the Council Secretariat, Core Groups and the European Commission play in foreign policy making. Finally, he discussed difficulties of the policy making as the number of members grows, and the commitment of the three organs to the CFSP/ESDP.