



Call for papers

31st Annual conference on Alternative Economic Policy in Europe

“Europe Quo Vadis: Militarisation or socio-ecological transformation?”

22-23 September 2025, Athens/Greece

The geopolitical conditioning – shaped by Russia’s war of aggression in Ukraine, Trump’s MAGA agenda and competition with China – of EU policy developments is intensifying. The principal EU response has been to promote massive public spending in rearmament, and investment in the defence industry (Rearm Europe Plan/Readiness 2030, SAFE loan instrument, activation of the national escape clause of the Stability and Growth Pact to provide fiscal space for military spending), in short, militarization and readiness for war. This strategic move, emboldened by a process of unification through enemy construction, reorientates EU and Member State macroeconomic, social and industrial policies away from priority goals, such as preventing climate catastrophe, achieving sustainable development and ensuring social and ecological justice, by making them subservient to geopolitical rivalry.

At the same time, the US policy under President Trump of tariffs almost across the board of states and products is creating a global havoc in trade patterns, production frameworks and foreign exchange markets. The combination of the two forces unleashed both in Europe and globally are expected to lead to a redefinition of social and political forces with negative implications for society at large.

This year’s EuroMemo Group conference will be jointly hosted with **Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences** and will take place on **22nd – 23rd September 2025** (Monday - Tuesday) in **Athens/Greece**.

We would like to invite you to attend the conference and to submit paper proposals for contributions to the workshops.

We invite proposals for papers that address militarization and its implications for EU's cohesion and socioecological transformation, but equally encourage submissions that relate to recent European developments that pertain to one of the following topics (indicative list):

- Growth/degrowth, sustainability and alternative forms of economy
- Global competition and EU's militarization strategy in a multipolar world
- Military Keynesianism? The new EU fiscal governance framework, austerity and social spending
- The development of military spending and the military-industrial complex in the EU; challenging EU's defence and security policy
- Wages, collective bargaining and income distribution in the EU – Impact of the EU Directive on Minimum Wages
- Privatization of the commons and the welfare state: neoliberal reforms across Europe
- Effectiveness of the social policy Directives at the Member State level
- Migration and refugee flows and policy
- The European Green Deal, just transition/socio-ecological transformation, climate and biodiversity targets
- The political economy of energy and the energy transformation in the EU
- Trump's tariffs war, international trade and global competition: implications for the global and EU economy
- The competitiveness and deregulation agenda and its economic and social implications
- Fragmentation vs. federationist tendencies in the EU
- The role of the state and of planning in socio-ecological transformation
- Hierarchies and social/societal inequalities in the EU and Europe

Proposals for papers together with a short abstract (maximum 250 words) should be submitted by **29 June 2025** to info@euromemo.eu. If possible, please indicate the topic which the proposal is intended for.

Applications from young scientists, CEE and Balkan countries as from EU neighbourhood, and different networks of heterodox economists are highly welcomed.

All submitted abstracts will be reviewed by the Steering Committee of the EuroMemo Group. Decisions will be made by the **end of July**. If accepted, **completed papers should be submitted by 12 September 2025** to info@euromemo.eu. After acceptance, full

papers will be posted on the conference webpage. There is also the possibility to publish selected papers in the EuroMemo Group Discussion Paper Series.

We strongly encourage participants to submit short papers (5000 – 6000 words) and to explicitly address policy implications.

Please note that there will be **conference fees** to cover the cost of the conference: €100 standard fee, €40s student fee, €150 for participants with institutional support. There will be a discount of 20% for members. You can become a member by clicking [HERE](#).

Please note that there is no deadline for registering for participation only.

Registration details for the conference, practical information including hotel bookings and transport will be available soon via the **conference web page**, which you can visit [HERE](#). Early booking is strongly recommended.

For further questions, please contact: info@euromemo.eu