

Dr Susana Muñoz, Head of the European Integration Department, and Dr Cristina Blanco Sío-López, Researcher in European Studies at the CVCE, were invited to take part in the 2013 Jean Monnet Conference 'The political implications of European economic integration. Towards a political Union', organised by the European Commission in Brussels. The conference examined possible solutions to the current economic and financial crisis via a deepening of economic integration, which could lead to further political convergence in the European Union and eventually to the consolidation of a political union. The question of further political convergence at the EU level was analysed from an economic, political and societal perspective. The conference also examined a plurality of approaches and methodologies to progressively bridge the gap between citizens and the European Union institutions.