

## Geopolitics over Ukraine: International Policies and Domestic Problems

**Authors :** Daniel Silander

**Abstract :** This article explores the EU Initiated European Neighborhood Policy (ENP) towards Ukraine. It also explores Russian geopolitics in the region. We argue that Ukraine is sandwiched between two regional powers in the EU and Russia. By analyzing EU democracy promotion towards Ukraine and neighbors, we assess a weak EU normative capacity. Instead of building a “ring of friends”, as argued by the EU Commission, in an enlarged democratic community, the EU has achieved poor democratic records in Ukraine which opened for a revival of Russia in the region and causes the international crisis over Crime of 2014.

**Keywords :** regional neighborhood policy, European Union, Russia, Ukraine, domestic elites

**Conference Title :** ICSCS 2014 : International Conference on Social and Cultural Studies

**Conference Location :** Los Angeles, United States

**Conference Dates :** September 29-30, 2014