Lasse Thomassen is García Pelayo Fellow at Centro de Estudios Políticos y Constitucionales and Senior Lecturer in the School of Politics & International Relations at Queen Mary, University of London. Before that he was a Junior Lecturer at the University of Limerick and a Teaching Fellow the University of Essex. He holds an MA and a PhD in Ideology and Discourse Analysis from the Department of Government at the University of Essex. His research has three foci: first, a deconstructive reading of the political philosophy of Jürgen Habermas and deliberative democracy; second, debates within radical democratic theory, for instance debates surrounding Laclau and Mouffe's work and debates between so-called theorists of abundance and theorists of lack; and, third, theories of tolerance, especially contemporary theories and cases of tolerance. The latter is the focus of his research at CEPC. He is the author of *Deconstructing Habermas* (Routledge, 2007) and *Habermas: A Guide for the Perplexed* (Continuum, 2010), the editor of *The Derrida-Habermas Reader* (Edinburgh University Press and the University of Chicago Press, 2006) and the co-editor of *Radical Democracy: Politics Between Abundance and Lack* (Manchester University Press, 2005).