## Proposal for a paper panel at the 24th International Conference of Europeanists, University of Glasgow, UK • July 12-14, 2017, organized by the Council for European Studies

# Horizontal Europeanization. Europe as an emerging social entity between the national and global sphere

The economic, legal and political integration of Europe is at the core of the process of European integration. However, in particular since the 1990s, European integration has given rise to a fundamental transformation of social relations and the living worlds of people. While in the postwar period, daily life primarily took place in the framework of nation-states, the opening of hitherto largely nationally regulated and limited social fields and spaces has fostered increasing cross-border contacts and a stronger transnationalisation of social interactions, attitudes and interpretations. This transnationalisation of social fields and spaces as a result of European integration lies at the heart of the concept of horizontal Europeanization, which has been developed in relation to the political, supposedly vertical Europeanization of national political and administrative fields. The focus of this panel will be horizontal Europeanisation processes in academic, bureaucratic, professional and associational fields, as well as on related conflicts and bargaining relations and their impact on patterns of social inequality. Complementary to the Europeanisation of social fields, the Europeanisation of social space (P. Bourdieu) will be discussed, taking the examples of the transnationalisation of everyday practices, solidarities and reference groups of social inequalities.

Title:

Horizontal Europeanization: Europe as an emerging social entity between the national and the global sphere

Proposal Type:

Paper Panel

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Disciplinary Tags:

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**Session Abstract:**

The economic, legal and political integration of Europe is at the core of the process of European integration. However, in particular since the 1990s, European integration has given rise to a fundamental transformation of social relations and the living worlds of people. While in the post-war period, daily life took place primarily in the framework of nation-states, the opening of hitherto largely nationally regulated and limited social fields and spaces has fostered increasing cross-border contacts and a stronger transnationalisation of social interactions, attitudes and interpretations. This transnationalisation of social fields and spaces as a result of European integration is captured by the concept of horizontal Europeanization, which has been developed in relation to the supposedly vertical Europeanization of national political and administrative fields. The focus of this panel will lie on horizontal Europeanisation processes in academic, bureaucratic, professional and associational fields, as well as on the related conflicts and bargaining relations and their impact on patterns of social inequality. Complementary to the Europeanisation of social fields, the Europeanisation of social space (P. Bourdieu) will be discussed, taking the examples of the transnationalisation of everyday practices, solidarities and reference groups of social inequalities.

Paper ID# 14800

Transnational Attachment As a Mediator Between Cross-Border Interaction and Supranational Identification: Evidence from Europe

**Jan Delhey**, Emanuel Deutschmann, Monika Verbalyte and Auke Aplowski, Otto-von-Guericke-University of Magdeburg

Abstract Text:

Transactionalist theory holds that cross-border transactions breed a sense of community (Deutsch et al. 1957), which works as an important social glue for all regional integration projects. In the sociology of Europe, this sense of community has been chiefly interpreted in terms of a supranational feeling of attachment towards the European Union, European identity, and similar concepts. However, the mechanism by which a typically bilateral transnational experience made in specific foreign countries translates into a broader positive affect towards a supranational unit such as Europe or the European Union has not been sufficiently examined as yet. In this paper, we test whether transnational attachment (i.e. the feeling of attachment towards a European country other than one’s own) mediates the relationship between cross-border transactions on the one hand, and the feeling of attachment to the European Union on the other hand. Using Eurobarometer data on the EU-27 countries from 2010, we find that transnational attachment indeed mediates the relation between transactions and supranational attachment. A separate analysis for European macro regions further demonstrates that the mediation effect is particularly strong in Southern Europe.

Paper ID# 15133

Beyond Capacity, Conditionality, and Compliance – Everyday Practices in the EU-Funding World

**Katharina Zimmermann**, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Abstract Text:

The scholarly debate on European funding is strongly shaped by debates on the role of administrative capacities, governance by conditionality, or compliance with EU regulations. However, while these concepts are highly valuable for understanding why and how EU-funding is implemented, they are of little help when it comes to grasping what EU-funding actually means for those who deal with it in their everyday work. Therefore, the proposed paper seeks to go beyond vertical top-down concepts, adopts a more horizontal perspective, and focuses on the subjective perceptions of EU-beneficiaries and how they position themselves in the EU-funding game. By comparing qualitative evidence (documents and expert interviews) from two different funding schemes (the ESF and research funding) in three different countries (Poland, Spain and Germany), the paper aims at mapping beneficiaries’ everyday practices and their subjective perceptions of their work. How do they experience their own capacities in light of the perceived requirements of funding schemes? What does conditionality mean to them and how do they deal with it in their daily work? To what extent do they understand their work as compliance with EU targets? And how are these practices and perceptions linked to both the EU-funding world and the domestic spheres of funding and project work? The empirical answers to these questions will not only provide comparative insights into the everyday practices of EU-beneficiaries, but shall also be fed back into the theoretical concepts of capacities, compliance, and conditionality in order to broaden the analytical scope of these approaches.

Paper ID# 15137

The Public Sector Dilemma: Marginal Flexibilization As a Consequence of European Crisis Management and Fiscal Austerity

**Sven Broschinski** and Jenny Preunkert, University of Oldenburg

Abstract Text:

In the course of the European crisis management, some member states were forced to accept structural reforms and austerity measures in order to get financial support. Against this background, the governments of the concerned countries are faced with a dilemma: On the one hand, they must cut spending and consolidate their budgets in order to show credibility to international lenders. On the other hand, the public sector is a large employer with a strong responsibility for its employees, and its wage and employment policies are under close public scrutiny. In this paper, we employ power resource and labour market theories to analyse which new cleavages or conflicts arise from governments’ solutions to this dilemma and how this affects the working conditions of certain employment groups. Using EU-SILC data from 2010-2014, we find that the solution to the public sector dilemma generally resulted in the transformation of the public wage and employment structure through marginal flexibilization (implying that labour market newcomers are much more affected by job and wage cuts than the established employees), which has led to an increasing dualization along the age dimension.

Paper ID# 15319

A Transnational Community of Purpose? the Professionalization of Lobbyists at the European Union

**Christian Lahusen** and Frank Borchers, University of Siegen

Abstract Text:

Research in the social sciences has invested considerable effort into describing and analysing EU-lobbying as an organizational field that spans across the EU Member States and beyond. The focus has been placed on organizations (federations, individual representations, NGOs etc.), revealing a high degree of fragmentation and competition within the field. However, little evidence is available on the lobbying personnel. Preliminary studies have shown that EU-lobbyists are part of an occupational field that cuts across the cleavages and fragmentations of the organizational field of EU public affairs. For instance, lobbyists maintain close professional relations to many other colleagues, and their career patterns transgress segmentations between the organizations they have worked for. Brussels is thus a supranational arena that facilitates the emergence of a transnational community of professionals.  This paper will deal with the gradual professionalization of EU-lobbyism and its implications for the field of public affairs. Based on a standardized survey among public affairs professionals registered in the European Transparency Register, the paper will present new data about this professional field, its internal structures and cleavages. On the one hand, the paper will show how this occupational field develops cross-national structures of cooperation, and how it gradually integrates a highly contentious field of competing organizations. On the other hand, the paper will investigate the professional cleavages between contending occupational groups and interests (such as lawyers, social scientists, activists, self-made men etc.) in their aim to define the terms of what the rules of the game are about.

Paper ID# 14940

Towards the Europeanization of Asylum Procedures? Negotiation and Implementation of the ‘Asylum Procedures Directive'

**Karin Schittenhelm**, University of Siegen

Abstract Text:

Despite the goals proclaimed in the evolving ‘Common European Asylum System’, numerous infringement cases indicate failures in implementing asylum legislation in the EU. Focusing on the asylum systems of Germany and Sweden, this paper analyses the case of the ‘Asylum Procedures Directive’. How to translate this directive into practice was the subject of transnational negotiations including the member states’ asylum administrations. During infringement procedures, implementing EU directives is a matter of negotiation between the Commission and the concerned member states. Yet as the analysis will show, even in highly regulated asylum systems, the way in which decision-makers interpret and implement the directives on the work-floor is also a consequence of local conditions at the respective asylum institution. Safeguarding the protection-seekers’ rights as guaranteed in the directives is thus a highly negotiated objective for the Europeanisation of asylum procedures. However, the implementation of the Asylum Procedures Directive in everyday practice, which includes interaction with the applicants, depends on strategies and knowledge resources activated in decision-making procedures within local settings of the administrative field. The researched data include official documents, participant observations and semi-structured interviews with experts and asylum case officers in Germany and Sweden.

Paper ID# 14963

The Contested Constitution of Wage Coordinating Institutions in Social Services from a Multi-Scalar Perspective

**Nele Dittmar**, University of Linz

Abstract Text:

European political programs of economic liberalism and public austerity have sought to restructure the provision of social services in the EU member states. Hence, market competition, the emergence of large transnational corporations in certain subsectors such as elderly care, and migration processes have increased pressures on wages and working conditions in social services. While cross-country comparative perspectives perceive these material and symbolic changes as external challenges which – being contingent on the state of national employment systems – induce different responses of trade unions, employers and state actors, we assume that local and national actors and institutions facilitate or inhibit market competition. The structuring of a European field of orthodox (wage competition) and heterodox norms and ideas (wage bargaining coordination) in economic and employment policies is therefore seen as an outcome of historical and contemporary struggles between actors at various spatial scales. Our focus lies on the evolution, maintenance or disruption of wage-bargaining institutions in the social services sectors of Germany and Austria. German policy and industrial relations actors are assumed to have paved the way for the privatization and marketization of public services, which in turn influenced European policies. Austria, in comparison, provides an example in which national actors’ commitment towards inter- and intra-class coordination has been continuously (re-)produced and enforced by a strong social partnership. This in turn has led to the creation of collective bargaining institutions in the formerly excluded social services sector.