

## **GRITIM-UPF Research in Progress Session**

Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016

12.00-14.00

Room 24023

### **1. The interrelationship between collective ownership and collective identification: an unexplored aspect of ethnic conflict**

Anna Kyriazi

EUI

#### ***Abstract***

In this paper I argue that possessions and self are interlinked and that this linkage contributes to inter-group conflict in ways still unexplored in the literature of ethnicity. Drawing on anthropological research, I begin by surveying how certain kinds of possessions become constitutive of identity on both the individual and the collective level. I further show that there are good reasons to regard the collective ownership of special possessions as a boundary-marker that entrenches difference between ‘us’ and ‘them’. The pivotal role that collective possessions play in the construction of a sense of collective belonging gives, in turn, rise to antagonisms over ownership and control. To empirically validate these propositions I conduct a comparative narrative analysis of interview data collected in three different sites (Romania, Bulgaria, and Estonia). The assessment of this evidence shows that, first, certain possessions do indeed become intrinsic to a sense of collective self and, second, that attachments to such special possessions constitute a key underlying reason of social conflict between the different ethnicities of a given society. I end by arguing that although conflict over possessions appears ethnic due to the social categories it engages, it is also rooted in factors other than – even if related to – ethnicity *sensu stricto*, including notions of rightful ownership and historical tradition. Theoretically, the paper contributes to the better understanding of collective identification and the place of ethnicity therein as well as how they jointly or independently contribute to social conflict.

## 2. Philosophy of Integration and the Politics of Citizenship in Spain

Francesco Pasetti

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### ***Abstract***

The present study wants to investigate the politics of citizenship in Spain, paying special attention to the recent introduction of the civic integration tests for the acquisition of nationality through *ius domicili*. The main goal is to shed the light on the reasons that lie behind the “Spanish civic turn” while trying to account for the specific character of such evolution. This will be done relying on a theoretical framework combining ideational constructs and party politics dynamics, and employing a methodology merging process tracing method and content analysis techniques. My argument is that the “Spanish civic turn” gets back to an ideational substratum historically rooted in the Spanish way of thinking the relationship between the state and its citizenry (i), which is re-instated given the political context of the country after the 2008 crisis (ii). The study speaks to the broad and vibrant debate in comparative integration politics, aiming at filling some of its relevant gaps.