

Seminars on the comparative politics of migration

These seminars are organized in the framework of the Comparative politics of migration course taught by Dr. Christina Zuber in the Master in Immigration Management of the University Pompeu Fabra. The theme of this year is **“Immigrant Integration in Multi-Level Systems”**.

10 April 2014, 18-21h, room 13.001: Invited talk 1: *Political participation of aliens at local level in some EU countries: a normative perspective*. David Moya, University of Barcelona, Spain.

30 April 2014, 18-21h, room 40.113: Invited talk 2: *Transnational politics: The political impact of migrants on the home and host societies*. Jean Michel Lafleur, University of Liège, Belgium.

7 May, 18-21h, room 40.113: Invited talk 3: *The role of cities in the multi-level governance of immigrant integration*. Dirk Gebhardt, Pompeu Fabra University, Spain.

14 May 2014, 18-21h, room 40.113: Invited talk 4: *Minority Nationalism and Immigrant Integration: the case of Quebec and Canada*. Keith Banting, Queen's University, Canada.

28 May 2014, 18-21h, room 40.113: Invited talk 5: *Do Integration Policies Affect Immigrants' Voluntary Engagement? An Exploration at Switzerland's Subnational Level*. Anita Manatschal, University of Berne, Switzerland.

Biographical information on invited speakers and abstracts (in order of appearance)

David Moya

David Moya is Lecturer in Constitutional and Immigration Law at the University of Barcelona. He holds a Master in Constitutional Law and Human Rights by the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law of New York and a Doctor by the University of Barcelona. His PhD thesis addressed the rights of immigrants subject to return proceedings; later on he has also published on topics like the political participation and the integration of immigrants in European societies. He is author or coauthor of different books and articles on those topics both in Spanish and European publications. He is a collaborator of the Spanish Immigration Yearbook published by the CIDOB Foundation and of the journals

Public Law Review and *Revista de Derecho Migratorio y Extranjería*. He has carried out research stages in New York, Brussels, Lausanne, Strasburg and Heidelberg. He has been Deputy Director of the Public Law Institute between 2005-2013 and Co-director of the Master on Immigration and integration at the University of Barcelona since 2012. He has provided his expertise to different Administrations, including the European Commission.

ABSTRACT: EU countries recognize the right to suffrage to EU citizens at local elections, and some have also undertaken significant steps to allow non-EU aliens to take part in local elections, too. Although countries that entirely exclude aliens from the right to municipal suffrage are few and far between in Europe, it is also true that the countries falling into this category are those that host two thirds of the non-EC immigrants in Europe. It is also the case that there is a trend backed by associations and international organisations to expanding this right but such an acknowledgment is progressing at a slow pace and on many occasions it calls for constitutional reforms that are not always easy to enact, especially if they have an immediate impact on the outcomes of elections. This working paper offers an overview on the regulation of the right to suffrage and the instruments for political participation in several European countries and it does so by placing such trend comparing the different formula adopted in each country in the context of their own political and institutional structures, their migration and integration policies, and their electoral system. The paper points to certain similarities between them and proposes some classifications taking into consideration the different formulas employed to expand the right to suffrage.

Jean-Michel Lafleur

Jean-Michel Lafleur is the Associate Director of CEDEM and a Research Associate at the Belgian Fund for Scientific Research (FRS-FNRS). He also teaches courses on Migration, transnationalism and development at the Social Science Institute of the University of Liège. He holds a joint PhD in Political Science from Sciences Po in Paris and the University of Liège. Jean-Michel's area of expertise is the political participation of immigrants. His particular interest lies in transnational political participations and the right to vote of immigrants in home country elections (external voting).

ABSTRACT: Two decades of research on immigrant transnationalism have demonstrated that migrants are willing and able to maintain social, political and economic ties across borders. Looking at different of transnational political activities and drawing on many examples from past and current research projects, this lecture will underline the impact of these activities both on state diaspora relations and on migrant integration in destination countries.

Dirk Gebhardt

Dirk Gebhardt is currently Marie Curie researcher at GRITIM where he investigates the role of cities in the multi-level governance of migrant integration in Europe. He explores the ways in which cities make (different) use of the scope they have to develop policies in given national contexts and try to identify broader trends of how cities across Europe try to shape local forms of citizenship that compliment national (or regional) forms of belonging.

Dirk holds a PhD in Geography from Humboldt-University Berlin. He previously worked as a policy advisor for EUROCITIES, the Brussels-based network of major European cities, where he developed mutual learning activities and projects for integration policy makers in European cities. He taught a variety of courses at bachelor and master level related to urban development and migration at Humboldt-University Berlin and has worked in a variety of research, consultancy and urban development projects in Berlin.

ABSTRACT: Immigrant integration is a task that is shared between states, cities, and regions as intermediate level. Within this constellation, cities are the site where new migration phenomena materialize, where policies are implemented and where the effects of dysfunctional policies are felt hardest. Focusing on the field of newcomer reception, I want to present examples for the failed multi-level coordination impeding policy outcomes on the ground. I want to show how some of these failures are, firstly, a result of different scale-specific rationalities of local and national governments, opposing a logic of population control and policy coherence of states with a logic of social cohesion and flexible adaptation of cities. Secondly, I see the highly politicised character of immigration policies as a factor jeopardising multi-level coordination by making policies unreliable and prone to the pursuit of secondary goals such as showing a tough hand towards immigrants (symbolic politics).

With my overview of coordination failures between cities and states, I want to lay the ground for a wider, policy-oriented discussion on the rationalities that steer integration policies at different levels of government and the possibilities for and desirability of a bottom-up approach in immigrant integration.

Keith Banting

Keith Banting holds the Queen's Research Chair in Public Policy at Queen's University in Canada. His research interests focus on the politics of social policy, ethnic diversity, immigration and multiculturalism. In the field of multiculturalism, he is the editor (with Will Kymlicka) of *Multiculturalism and the Welfare State: Recognition and Redistribution in Contemporary Democracies* (2007), and the editor (with Thomas Courchene and Leslie Seidle) of *Belonging? Diversity, Recognition and Shared Citizenship in Canada*. Recent articles include "Minority Nationalism and Immigrant Integration in Canada," *Nations and Nationalism* (2012), with Stuart Soroka; and "Is There Really a Retreat From Multiculturalism Policies? New Evidence from the Multiculturalism Policy Index", *Comparative European Politics*, (2013), with Will Kymlicka.

ABSTRACT: Immigrant integration is currently a prominent issue in virtually all contemporary democracies, but countries in which the historic population itself is deeply divided – particularly those with substate nations and multiple political identities – present some interesting questions where integration is concerned. The existence of multiple and potentially competing political identities may complicate the integration process, particularly if the central government and the substate nation promote different conceptions of citizenship and different nation-building projects. What, then, are the implications of minority nationalism for immigrant integration? Are the added complexities a barrier to integration? Or do overlapping identities generate more points of contact between immigrants and their new home? This article addresses this question by probing immigrant and non-immigrant 'sense of belonging' in Canada, both inside and outside

Quebec. Data come from Statistics Canada's Ethnic Diversity Study. Our results suggest that competing nation-building projects make the integration of newcomers more, rather than less, challenging.

Anita Manatschal

Anita Manatschal is senior researcher and lecturer at the Chair of Political Sociology at Berne University, where she is engaged in the project management of the research unit "Volunteering and Social Capital". Her research interests embrace civic engagement, immigrant integration, policies of migration and integration, and (sub-)national comparative policy research. Anita Manatschal's research appears in Journals such as *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, the *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, *Comparative European Politics* and the *Swiss Political Science Review* as well as various edited volumes.

ABSTRACT: This paper investigates whether integration policies influence immigrants' propensity to volunteer, the latter being an important element of immigrants' integration into the host society. By distinguishing different categories of integration policies at Switzerland's subnational level and applying a Bayesian multilevel approach, our results suggest varying policy effects: while policies fostering socio-structural rights enhance immigrants' propensity to volunteer, we observe a negative curvilinear relationship between cultural rights and obligations and immigrants' volunteerism implying that a combination of cultural entitlements and obligations is most conducive to immigrants' civic engagement.

Related papers

- Lafleur, J.-M. (2012). Introducción: Transnacionalismo, diáspora y voto en el exterior, in J.-M. Lafleur (ed.): *Diáspora y voto en el exterior. La participación política de los emigrantes bolivianos en las elecciones de su país de origen*, Barcelona: CIDOB.
http://www.cidob.org/en/publicaciones/monografias/monografias/diaspora_y_voto_en_el_exterior_la_participacion_politica_de_los_emigrantes_bolivianos_en_las_elecciones_de_su_pais_de_origen.
- Martiniello, M. & Lafleur, J.-M. (2008). Towards a Transatlantic Dialogue in the Study of Immigrant Political Transnationalism. *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 31(4):645-663.
- Banting, K., & Soroka, S. (2012). Minority nationalism and immigrant integration in Canada. *Nations and Nationalism*, 18(1), 156-176
- Manatschal, A. & Stadelmann-Steffen, I. (2014). Do Integration Policies Affect Immigrants' Voluntary Engagement? An Exploration at Switzerland's Subnational Level. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* 40 (3), 404-423.