

# Lehrstuhl Politik und Verwaltung Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

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## *Newsletter No. 2 | November 2011*

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### **EDITORIAL**

Dear friends and colleagues!

I am pleased to be able to send you the second newsletter of the Politics and Public Administration Chair of the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

The last year has been pleasant and productive. There are many new publications out or in the pipeline that may arouse your interest. New research proposals are in the pipeline. Also a number of workshops and other events organised by the Chair are worth the while noting. Read more below.

I hope you will find this newsletter useful.

Best wishes

Michael W. Bauer, Berlin, November 2011

## EVENTS

### *Workshop "Public Administration in the Multilevel System" (23-24 June 2011)*

The Chair organized the workshop "Public Administration in the Multilevel System" with more than 50 international scholars from the fields of Public Administration, Public Policy and International Relations.

The workshop started off with a pre-workshop session intended to give the audience the opportunity to get an update on current research projects and work in progress about the European Commission. The workshop itself comprised four regular panels that dealt with a variety of questions relating to classical issues of politicization, bureaucratic autonomy, control, public officials' roles and bureaucratic rules and behaviour in different phases of the policy process within multilevel constellations. The stimulating presentations and vivid discussions once again showed that these classical issues of Public Administration provide fruitful research ground at the European-level (i.e. the European Parliament bureaucracy and Commission bureaucracy as well as European agencies), but also with regard to international administrations/ international organizations more generally. One of the highlights of the workshop was the dinner on Thursday evening, where Ed Page delivered an inspiring keynote speech that reminded us that voluntary subordination of civil servants and professional ethos is often theoretically underestimated in our research.

The workshop closed on Friday afternoon with a public round table. Arthur Benz, Christopher Daase, Morten Egeberg, Edgar Grande, Christoph Knill, Les Metcalfe and Ed Page shared their thoughts on the challenges of developing a new research agenda in multi-level administration. The Chair would like to thank the workshop participants for their valuable contributions and last but not least the numerous people involved in the organization that helped to make event a success both thematically and organizationally.

### *International Workshop on "New Research on Regions in Europe" (5-6 July 2011)*

This workshop, organised by Michael W. Bauer and Michaël Tatham, sought to explore new avenues of research on regions in Europe. Invited external participants included Michael Keating & Alex Wilson (both University of Aberdeen) who presented their ongoing work on spatial rescaling and interest representation in Europe; Berthold Rittberger & Stefan Götze (both University of Mannheim) who gave an update on their latest DFG project dealing with conceptual and theoretical aspects of jurisdictional reforms; Arjan Schakel (University of Maastricht) who provided an analysis of the interaction between decentralization and regionalist parties' strength and regionalist demands; and finally Lisa Dellmuth (University of Stockholm) who provided evidence on the relation between political decentralisation and intergovernmental transfers looking at the case of EU regional development funds. Additional participants included Roland Sturm, Jörn Ege and Eva Heidbreder.

[Further information on these workshops can be found on our homepage.](#)

## CONFERENCE PARTICIPATIONS AND PAPERS

(in chronological order)

Bauer, Michael W., *Reforming the European Commission*, HR Workshop at the European Commission, December 2010, Brussels

Adam, Christian/Bauer, Michael W./Hartlapp, Miriam, *Determinants of vertical governmental conflict in the EU multilevel system: An analysis of actions for annulment under article 263 TFEU*, Dreiländertagung von SVPW, DVPW und ÖGPW, January 2011, Basel

Adam, Christian/Hartlapp, Miriam/Bauer, Michael W., *Annulment Politics: Observing and Explaining Policy Implementation Conflict in the EU*, European Union Studies Association Twelfth Biennial International Conference, March 2011, Boston

Bauer, Michael W., *Commission bureaucrats' attitudes to organizational change*, European Union Studies Association Twelfth Biennial International Conference, March 2011, Boston

Bauer, Michael W./Studinger, Philipp, *European Regions' relationship with the EU seen from below. Re-visiting the subnational mobilization thesis*, European Union Studies Association Twelfth Biennial International Conference, March 2011, Boston

Bauer, Michael W./Ege, Jörn, *Post-Kinnock: The De-Politicization of the European Commission's Bureaucracy*, Workshop "Public Administration in the Multilevel System", June 2011, Berlin

Kassim, Hussein/Hooghe, Liesbet/Bauer, Michael W., *The European Commission in Question*, Workshop "Public Administration in the Multilevel System", June 2011, Berlin

Adam, Christian/Hartlapp, Miriam/Bauer, Michael W., *The Politics of Annulment Litigation – Explaining under which conditions Member States take the Commission to Court over the application of European legislation*, Eighteenth International Conference of Europeanists, June 2011, Barcelona

Bauer, Michael W./Studinger, Philipp/Tatham, Michaël, *Preliminary results from our regional elite survey 'Regional Preferences for Competence Allocation in the EU Multilevel System'*, International Workshop on "New Research on Regions in Europe", July 2011, Berlin

Studinger, Philipp, *Development of Subnational Interest Representation in Brussels*, 6th General Conference of the European Consortium for Political Research, August 2011, Reykjavik

Tatham, Michaël/Bauer, Michael W., *Not necessarily supranationalists? Regio-crats and the European Commission*, 6th General Conference of the European Consortium for Political Research, August 2011, Reykjavik

Ege, Jörn, *Bureaucratic Autonomy – A Useful Conceptual Tool to Compare International Administrations*, PhD Symposium of the Annual Conference of the European Group for Public Administration, September 2011, Bucharest

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## RESEARCH

### *International Organizations as Bureaucracies*

The research foci at the Chair are consolidating. We made progress in conceptualising the structural autonomy of international administrations and are now developing a research project following a comparative policy analytical perspective. A proposal for a six year joint project on “international public administration” together with Arthur Benz, Eugénia Conceição-Heldt, Klaus Götz, Christoph Knill, Andrea Liese, Stephan Grohs, Helge Jörgens and Wolfgang Seibel has made it to the second stage of the German Science Foundation review process.

### *Regions in the European Union*

We are going through the final stage of our data collection effort regarding our DFG project on European regional élites. After an intensive hiring and training period this summer, we still have 25 active interviewers covering twelve European countries. 28 regions (well over 800 interviews) are already complete while work is ongoing in another 41 regions where well over 200 interviews have already been carried out. Overall, we expect our interviewers to have carried out between 1,500 and 2,000 interviews in over 60 regions in twelve EU countries

### *New Research Network on “Territorial Politics and Federalism”*

The Council for European Studies (CES, Columbia University) gave its support for the creation of a new research network. The Territorial Politics and Federalism Research Network wishes to provide a platform for scholars interested in the broad themes of territory and federalism, within but also outside of the European Union. Topics of interest to the network span a wide array of subjects, ranging from territorial elections/electoral dynamics and multi-level governance, to issues related to regional paradiplomacy (both European and global), the reform of government structures, the re-definition of territory and regional spaces, consociationalism, ethnic conflict, the effect of federalism/decentralisation on government processes, outputs and outcomes, and broader issues regarding questions of participation, legitimacy, identity and efficiency.

The network preaches methodological openness, innovativeness and pluralism. Its members use of a variety of research methods derived from different epistemological and ontological outlooks. Hence, the group is open to research using a diversity of approaches such as econometrics, legal analysis, case-studies, ethnographic methods or thick explanatory narratives.

In line with such epistemic and methodological openness, the research group aims to span disciplines. It already includes a number of public administration, political science, sociology, and law members and would be happy to welcome political geographers, historians, economists and other members of the social science and humanities community. Similarly, it aims to bring together members at all levels of professional development, from advanced graduate students to senior professors.

At this stage, the research network is still very much under construction. Although it already counts 80 members from 16 different countries, its webpage and distribution lists are still in the process of being set up. It is, however, already running on an informal basis. The network's official launch is scheduled for the coming CES conference in Boston, March 2012. If you or your colleagues would like to join the network, please send an Email directly to Michaël Tatham ([tatham.michael@gmail.com](mailto:tatham.michael@gmail.com)).

#### *Annulment Politics in the European Union*

In collaboration with Miriam Hartlapp from the Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin (WZB) and Christian Adam from the University of Konstanz, the work on annulment cases is consolidating. The database is almost completed. A proposal based on a comparative case study design to study the politics of annulment actions in the EU multilevel system has been submitted to the German Science Foundation. Furthermore, a new article on the topic, including four illustrative case studies, should be ready for submission in the following weeks. We think the Annulment-Project will provide interesting insights to everyone interested in policy implementation and in the legalization of politics.

#### *EUCIQ – The European Commission in Question*

EUCIQ – the large scale survey of Commission officials – has formally ended. Papers and information can be found under <http://www.uea.ac.uk/psi/research/EUCIQ>. The project monograph is in the making and will be published by Oxford University Press in 2012 (see publications).

#### *CONSENSUS – Dismantling Environmental and Social Policies*

The CONSENSUS project draws to a fruitful close. You can find more information under <http://www.polver.uni-konstanz.de/knill/forschung-projekte/confronting->

[social-and-environmental-sustainability-with-economic-pressure-balancing-trade-offs-by-policy-dismantling-consensus](#). It is bitter to say but the financial crisis has further increased the interest for this project. A first volume of the results of the qualitative case studies is going to be published by Oxford University Press in 2012 (see publications).

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## JOINT COLLOQUIUM WITH THE HERTIE SCHOOL OF GOVERNANCE

Together with the Hertie School of Governance and Potsdam University the chair initiated the "Berlin Public Management and Governance Research Colloquium". It aims at providing a forum for these institutions to learn from each other and develop collective activities in the fields of research and teaching, particularly on PhD level.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS/CALL FOR PAPERS

The Chair will focus on contributing to organise the meeting of the Study Group XIV on EU Administration and Multilevel Governance at the 2012 EGPA Conference, from 5 to 8 September 2012, Bergen Norway. Please note down the date, a CfP will follow early 2012.

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## STAFF NEWS

The chair welcomed **Eva Heidbreder** as visiting professor for EU Integration in the summer term. Eva taught on general EU issues, EU public administration and public policy. After her stay at the HU, she returned to the Hertie School of Governance, where she teaches and researches since 2010. Eva Heidbreder was a postdoc in the Researchers College (KFG) on the "Transformative Power of the EU" at the Freie Universität. She holds a PhD from the European University Institute in Florence. Her current research focuses on multilevel administration.

During her stay at the HU, she participated in the chair's workshop on "Public Administration in the Multilevel System" with a paper on the "Pattern and Extent of EU Involvement in Public Administration" and the EGPA convention in Bucharest with a paper on "Bureaucrats in Multilevel Governance".

Currently, **Merethe Dotterud Leiren** is here as a visiting scholar. She is working on a dissertation focussed on differential integration in the European Union, comparing public services such as post, public transport and ports. Merethe is a Research Fellow at the University of Agder, Norway and continues to work as a Research Political Scientist at the Institute of Transport Economics (TOI), Norway. At TOI, Merethe has developed research that in-turn translates into political decisions. Having studied

political science at the University of Michigan and Freiburg, Merethe has come to Humboldt to carry out field work and develop research alongside Humboldt's acknowledged community.

**Philipp Studinger** handed in his PhD (*Die Entwicklung regionaler Repräsentanzen in Brüssel*) and took on a job as office manager of a member of the parliament of the Land Baden-Württemberg. However, he is still active in academia.

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## PUBLICATIONS

### *Forthcoming*

Bauer, Michael W., 2012: Tolerant to a Point: Attitudes to Organisational Change within the European Commission, in: *Governance. An International Journal of Policy, Administration and Institutions*, Vol. 25.

Bauer, Michael W./Ege, Jörn, 2012: Commission Civil Servants and Politics: Depoliticized Bureaucrats in an Increasingly Political Organization, in: Neuhold, Christine/Vanhoonacker, Sophie/Verhey, Luc (eds.): *Civil Servants and Politics*. Basingstoke; New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

Bauer, Michael W./Jörgens, Helge/Knill, Christoph, 2012: Organizational Change in International Bureaucracies, in: Wolfgang Seibel, Julian Junk, Till Blume, and Francesco Mancini (eds.): *UN Peace Operations as Political and Managerial Challenges*, Boulder: Lynne Rienner.

Bauer, Michael W./Jordan, Andrew/Green-Pederson, Christoffer/Héritier, Adrienne (eds.), 2012: *Dismantling Public Policies: Strategies, Constraints and Outcomes*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Bauer, Michael W./Knill, Christoph, 2012: Exploring Policy Dismantling: An Analytical Framework, in: Bauer, Michael W./Jordan, Andrew/Green-Pederson, Christoffer/Héritier, Adrienne (eds.): *Dismantling Public Policies: Strategies, Constraints and Outcomes*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Bauer, Michael W./Jordan, Andrew/Christoffer Green-Pederson/Héritier, Adrienne, 2012: Conclusions, in: Bauer, Michael W./Jordan, Andrew/Green-Pederson, Christoffer/ Héritier, Adrienne (eds.): *Dismantling Public Policies: Strategies, Constraints and Outcomes*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Kassim, Hussein/ Peterson, John/Bauer, Michael W./Hooghe, Liesbet/Dehousse, Renaud/Thompson, Andrew, 2012: *The European Commission of the Twenty-First Century*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Studinger, Philipp, 2011: Review of Rune Dahl Fitjar (2010). The Rise of Regionalism, New York, Routledge, in: *Regional and Federal Studies*.  
*Recently published*

Hartlapp, Miriam/Bauer, Michael W., 2011: Determinanten der Konfliktgenese bei der Durchführung europäischer Politik, in: *Politische Vierteljahresschrift*, 52. Jahrgang, Nr. 1, 3-28.

Studinger, Philipp, 2011: *Die Entwicklung regionaler Repräsentanzen in Brüssel*, Dissertation an der Universität Konstanz.

Tatham, Michaël, 2011: Devolution and EU policy-shaping: Bridging the gap between Multi-Level Governance and Liberal Intergovernmentalism. *European Political Science Review* 3(1), 53-81.

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