URBAN POLITICS

MIGRATION

DIVERSITY

A MAX WEBER PROGRAMME
MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH WORKSHOP

ABSTRACT

The movement of people, things and ideas has significant implications for the urban social fabric and urban politics. Cities are hubs in global migration patterns and arguably the place where the most mobile populations meet some of the least mobile ones. We need to better understand the transformative role that movement to and away from cities has.

This graduate workshop aims to bring together researchers who are working on issues linked to the city, migration and/or population diversity. The focus of the workshop will be on issues related to urban diversity. Understanding urban migration driven diversity calls for dynamic analysis of the issues involved.

While some headway has been made with a recent diversity-turn in the migration literature, there is ample room to further our understanding of the migration-city nexus. Particularly we face some conceptual and empirical hurdles in starting to think urban politics in more complex ways.

Organiser: Fran Meissner
A EUI and MPI Göttingen Graduate Workshop

URBAN POLITICS / MIGRATION / DIVERSITY

PROGRAMME

9:15 Registration & Welcome

9:30 – 10:30 ### Urban Citizenship for the 21st Century
Masterclass with Prof Rainer Bauböck (EUI)

Reading*:

Barber, B. R. (2013) Chaper 1, If Mayors Ruled the World:
Dysfunctional Nations, Rising Cities, Yale University Press: 3-24.

Bauböck, R. (2003) Reinventing Urban Citizenship,
Citizenship Studies, 7/ 2: 139-160.

Magnusson, W. (2011) Seeing like a state, seeing like a city,
Politics of Urbanism: Seeing like a City, London: Routledge, 111- 124.

10:30 – 10:45 Coffee Break

10:45 – 12:15 ### Governing Regions and Cities

Christian Jacobs (MPI)
Planning diversity – Housing policies and spatial planning in German cities

Lorenzo Piccoli (EUI)
Migration diversity and sub-state territories: regional citizens or citizens without a region?

Simone Cremaschi (EUI)
Is friendship the best policy? Immigrants' jobs and legal status

12:15 – 13:30 Lunch – EUI Mensa (a table will be reserved)

13:30 – 15:00 ### Cities, Politics, Diversity
Masterclass with Fran Tonkiss (LSE)

Reading*:

Holston, J. and Appadurai, A. (1996) 'Cities and citizenship',
Public Culture: 8/2: 187-204.

Tonkiss, F. (2013) 'Afterword: the possible city',
Cities by Design: the social life of urban form. Cambridge: Polity.

15:00 – 15:15 Coffee Break

15:15 – 16:45 ### The micro-politics of diversity

Anna Subirats Ribas (EUI)
Urban Social Movements in the New Scenario of Urban Transformation

Kristen Biehl
Migration, diversification and sense of place in Istanbul's Kumkapi neighborhood

Peter Kankonde Bukasa
Conflict, Social Fragmentation, and the Pursuit of 'Unity in Diversity' in Post-Apartheid Johannesburg's Local Churches

16:45 – 17:30 ### Final Round Table

18:15 Dinner (by invitation)

European University Institute

MAX WEBER PROGRAMME FOR POSTDOCTORAL STUDIES

mpi mmg

WHEN & WHERE

24.04.2015

European University Institute

Badia Fiesolana

Max Weber Common Room (Bank corridor)

CONTACT & REGISTRATION

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*Readings are made available upon registration

MASTERCLASSES

Urban Citizenship for the 21st Century - Masterclass with Prof Rainer Bauböck (EUI)

This masterclass will consider the city as a polity and the special nature of its territorial boundaries and membership norms.

In advance of the session, please read the three following pieces:

- Barber, B. R. (2013) Chaper 1, *If Mayors Ruled the World: Dysfunctional Nations, Rising Cities,* Yale University Press: 3-24.
- Bauböck, R. (2003) Reinventing Urban Citizenship, *Citizenship Studies*, 7/ 2: 139-160.
- Magnusson, W. (2011) Seeing like a state, seeing like a city, *Politics of Urbanism: Seeing like a City,* London: Routledge, 111- 124.

Key questions you might consider are:

(1) What is distinct about local and urban citizenship today compared to membership in ancient, medieval and early modern free cities?

(2) What are the main variations between local citizenship arrangements across contemporary democratic states?

(3) What should be the main criteria for local citizenship and how can they be argued normatively?

(4) Big cities have often been regarded as the natural social environment for diversity and cosmopolitan life-styles. Can and should cities also play a political role in global governance and can they become a space for global citizenship?

Cities, Politics, Diversity - Masterclass with Fran Tonkiss (LSE)

This session aims to explore the relationship between conceptual and critical arguments concerning cities, politics and citizenship and practical and policy issues of urban governance and intervention.

In advance of the session, please read the two following pieces:

- Holston, J. and Appadurai, A. (1996) 'Cities and citizenship', Public Culture 8/2: 187-204.
- Tonkiss, F. (2013) 'Afterword: the possible city', Cities by Design: the social life of urban form. Cambridge: Polity.
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Key questions you might consider are:

1. How might we relate these conceptual arguments to more practical programmes

of policy, planning and government?

2. What political visions or rationales do you see as underpinning contemporary

approaches to urban governance? What alternatives might there be to these kinds of

policy imagination?

3. Is the government of cities an instance of the 'post-political'? How might urban

government be re-politicised?

Paper Abstracts

Christian Jacobs

Planning diversity – Housing policies and spatial planning in German cities

For my dissertation I work on the influence of city planning on spatial structures and housing of diverse groups in German cities. I aim to analyze interventions of public and private planners as well as the ideas underlying them.

How people with diverse backgrounds are spread over a city can to a large extend be explained by the housing market. Still the spatial distribution of a city´s residents is not only based on individual decisions or – mainly financial – opportunities. Another main variable in regulating the distribution comes within the scope of city planning. Analyzing this field becomes especially interesting in these days, as the image of cities – through the diversification of urban society – as well as the structures of urban planning through a changing composition of relevant actors which shape a city have recently changed significantly.

Higher residential concentrations of migrants have often been seen as a problem. In the paper I want to present I will describe the perspective of planners on residential (ethnic) segregation in Germany. A guiding principle in urban planning that I want to comment on is the idea of implementing a "good social mixture" in specific neighbourhoods. In my paper I will explain the emergence and transformation of this idea. Underlying assumptions are for example that this kind of social engineering helps to promote the life chances of the migrants living in these areas as well as the social cohesion in the neighbourhood overall.

One of my main questions in my dissertation is if and how specific perceptions like these are changing in the light of the diversification of cities and the acceptance of this fact by municipalities. In the last decade the notion of diversity has changed. Diversity appears as a guiding principle within cities. The question now is, in how far this increasing diversity and the more positive discourse around it have an impact on city planning. My paper will include first empirical insights from interviews with planners as well as experiences from congresses which address the above-mentioned questions.

Lorenzo Piccoli

Migration diversity and territorial projects: regional citizens or citizens without a region?

Immigration is one of the most contested issues in contemporary democracies. However, while immigrant integration has long been understood as a competence to be dealt with by national democracies only, in federal and devolved systems immigration has become a key concern for the political institutions at the sub-state level too. By focusing on the unit of the region, this paper sets out to answer the question: when does migration related diversity matter for regional politics and when does it not? By comparing three case studies from a confederal state (Ticino, Geneve, and Neuchatel in Switzerland) and three case studies from a devolutionary state (South Tyrol, Tuscany, and Calabria in Italy), the paper tests four hypotheses with a view to explaining the variation in the relative importance of migration related diversity at the regional level as driven by: (a) the political party system at the regional level; (b) the institutional system and the division of powers between the state and the region; (c) the nature or (d) the size of the immigrant population. By testing these hypotheses, the paper aims to explain why and in what cases multilevel governance becomes important for immigrant integration. Although the paper is focussed on the level of the region only, the analysis might be relevant for understanding how migration related diversity is dealt with at other territorial levels within the state.

Simone Cremaschi

Is friendship the best policy? Immigrants' jobs and legal status

This paper estimates the effect of social ties on immigrants' labour market outcomes employment and wages) and legal status. Although social ties to previous migrants are usually recognized as a crucial source of support, embeddedness in ethnic networks is also one leading explanation of persistent immigrants' economic disadvantage and network effects have been more generally acknowledged as one key source of reproduction of social inequalities. We use a unique survey of both documented and undocumented immigrants, conducted in Southern Italy in 2007. The survey has a direct indicator of social ties: whether, before migrating, the respondent knew who to contact at destination. This measure of actual social contacts allows us to differentiate across types of relationship (relatives, co-ethnics and Italians) and to overcome usual reverse causality and contemporaneous selection issues. We find that ethnic ties increase the employment probability of immigrants, but they have a detrimental effect on wages. On the contrary, having a family or an Italian tie gives no significant employment advantage, but it does increase the immigrant's probability of being documented. We discuss the implications of our results for the proper design of policies targeted to the integration of immigrant in the host country.

Kristen Biehl

Migration, diversification and sense of place in Istanbul's Kumkapi neighborhood

Located within Istanbul's historical peninsula, Kumkapi is a neighborhood of intense and continually changing diversity. Having already been at the center of varying internal and international migration flows for decades, its current residential population reveals substantial differences on innumerable fronts including ethnicity, religion, gender, age, migration motive and channel, employment prospects, legal status and the like. My doctoral research is concerned with understanding the factors that have led to this current context of diversity in Kumkapi, and examines the ways that physical structure and everyday life are being transformed in the process. In particular, I focus on the role of housing, as both a material and social space. My research builds on 15 months of ethnographic research in Kumkapi in 2012-2013, combining multiple methods like spatial mapping, semi structured interviews, life histories and participant observation in a migrant share house.

In this paper, I will present a chapter of my thesis where I focus on the different ways that the changing diversity of Kumkapi is perceived and responded to at the neighborhood scale. First I will briefly discuss the local context in view of its historical evolution, laying out the multiple and interlinked factors that have transformed this space into a migrant hub. Then I will reflect on the varying kinds of narratives emerging in response to changes in Kumkapi, including nostalgic loss, physical/symbolic pollutions, (informal) potential and opportunity, as well as legal/cultural/moral exceptionality. In drawing these themes together, I will try to reflect on the notion of conflicted openness as a prevailing sense of place produced in urban contexts of rapidly changing migrations and diversities.

Peter Kankonde Bukasa

Conflict, Social Fragmentation, and the Pursuit of 'Unity in Diversity' in Post-Apartheid Johannesburg's Local Churches: the Case of St. Patrick's "Festival of All Nations"

This paper compares and discusses the contrasting strategies and approaches of a Congolese migrants' initiated Pentecostal church and a Catholic Parish in Johannesburg and how each deals

with new configurations of difference to sustain conviviality among their socio-culturally diverse lay church members. South Africa has initiated multiple social cohesion initiatives aimed at consolidating unity and solidarity between members of its different ethnic and racial groups in line with the "rainbow nation" discourse. However, the historically produced socio-economic and cultural conflict prone and xenophobic context of the Post-Apartheid era accounts for the fact that there are still very few social contacts taking place between members of the country's different racial and ethnic communities. In such a context, we not only see a paradox in the numbers and social status of South Africans joining migrants' Pentecostal churches but also a rapid internal diversification of mainline churches situated in socially transforming neighbourhoods. These churches thus constitute, this paper argues, unique social spaces where both migrants and local populations have, qualitatively, not only extended, but also meaningful interactions, leading to contextually defined forms of cohabitation and social connectivity. Churches and their entrepreneurial pastors and priests become crucial in constructing these unique social spaces, where both migrants and local populations change perceptions and forge connections. The paper shows that sustaining conviviality in the Pentecostal social space depends on the extent to which a church achieves a degree of organizational cultural embeddedness in the host society. This paper suggests that this is a form of tactical creolisation. In contrast, the Catholic Parish pursues "unity in diversity" through initiating a community "Festival of All Nations"" based on a model imported from Italy. The paper discusses the impacts of these strategies on the micro-politics of difference in local settings drawing on ethnographic data from both church leaders and lay church members.