

Call for Abstracts
MWP Multidisciplinary Research Workshop (Hybrid)

**From Global to Local and Back:
Untangling “Glocal Governance”**

In recent years, the concept of *glocal* governance has become a useful tool for describing the increasing interaction between global and local levels of governing. Used by practitioners and academics, the *glocal* signifies a governing space in which global norms and actors influence local legal and political processes and in which local agency and autonomy impact the global governance discourse. For example, the City Council of Florence or of Nairobi use the guidelines developed by the UN in shaping a public policy on urban green spaces, and thus directly link local governing with the global governance processes. On the other side, the UN and other international institutions use local models of governing as exemplars for global governance, from ‘solidarity cities’ that support asylum seekers and refugees to municipalities that take novel approaches to climate change and urban transport management.

But urban public policy is just one of a vast number of public and private fields of governance shaped by *glocal* interaction. These include sustainability, human rights, humanitarian work, science diplomacy, emerging technologies, climate change and others. What one can observe with the rise of *glocal* governance, is that the national level of governing is not always seen as central for tackling environmental, social and economic issues. Instead, the more intensive feedback loop between the global and the local changes the paths and modalities in which norms and principles travel between global and local levels of governing. As a result, through *glocal* interaction, local and global actors acquire a new *glocal* agency and with it, new competencies and altered political and economic roles.

The concept of *glocal* governance, therefore, allows us to focus on the mutual exchange between the global and the local levels of governing. It also permits us to critically evaluate the effects that the global-local flow of practices, values and norms has on the daily lives of citizens and its potential for challenging the exclusion and inequality within global and local law-and-policy-making.

In this workshop, we hope to engage with a variety of different empirical examples of public and private fields of governance in which one can observe the rise of the *glocal*. This will allow us to gauge the extent and variety of the phenomenon. Additionally, we wish to explore *glocal* governance through different theoretical approaches, including legal and political sciences, sociology, development studies and others. Having an array of different epistemological approaches to *glocal* governance speaking to each other will allow us to deepen our understanding of what this concept means, and how it is (and can be) used. Moreover, different approaches will help us to engage with the politics of *glocal* governance. In other words, in addition to looking at *how* *glocal* governance functions we will be able to examine *what it is used for*.

This workshop is aimed at academics interested in local governance, global governance, and their interactions. In particular we are interested in examining questions relating to the following themes:

- How can we historically contextualize the concept of *glocal* governance?
- In what ways is *glocal* governance transformative?
- What changes does *glocal* governance bring to the flow of global norms and standards?
- Does it minimize/reduce the role of the national level of governance?
- Is this process disrupting the traditional administrative structures?
- What kind of political agency arises in a *glocal* governance space?
- What kind of a role does the local agency have in international institutional fora?
- Which actors should be responsible for *glocal* governance?
- How do emerging technologies enable and/or constrain *glocal* governance?
- Does *glocal* governance also shift the boundaries between the public and the private?

We are now welcoming submissions of paper abstracts that explore a topic related to any of these above-mentioned themes. Please submit your abstract (max 350 words) via email to miha.marcenko@eui.eu, specifying your name in the file name. Please also include a short biography of 70-100 words.

The hybrid workshop will take at the European University Institute in Florence, Italy and online. Unfortunately, we cannot reimburse travel-related expenses.

Timeline:

- **Deadline for submission of application: May 31st, 2023**
- **Deadline for extended drafts of 5 pages or more (only selected participants): 12th of June, 2023**
- **Workshop: 22nd of June, 2023 – 9 a.m-1 p.m.**

Organizers MW Fellows: Miha Marcenko, Cristiana Lauri, Tatyana Bajenova, Télió Cravo