Departement of Social and Political Sciences
2nd term Foundation Seminar
Winter 2019

Migration crises and democratic politics in Europe

James Dennison, Andrew Geddes and Hanspeter Kriesi
Tuesdays 9:00 AM-11:00 AM, Badia Seminar Room 4
Registration with Maureen Lechleitner (Maureen.Lechleitner@EUI.eu)

Description
This seminar is a collaborative effort of James Dennison and Andrew Geddes from the Migration Policy Center of the Robert-Schumann-Center, and Hanspeter Kriesi from the Department of Social and Political Sciences. The goal is to gain a better understanding of the increasingly resonant interplay between migration and democratic politics in Europe today, with a focus on the ‘migration crisis’ and electoral outcomes since then. We start by asking about the causes of migration and about its effects in the receiving countries. We then focus on the political consequences from the perspectives of public policy, party politics, and public opinion. In terms of policy, we look at policy at the national and the European level. In terms of public opinion, we ask how the migration crisis has affected public opinion and what kind of individuals and which countries have been affected most. As for politics, we focus on the rise of the radical right and the transformation of the cleavage structure underlying this rise, as well as on the reciprocal effects of policy and politics in general and the effect of the radical right on politics and policy in particular. Finally, we zoom in on a special case – Brexit.

The students are expected to submit three 500-word response papers to the readings for a given session and post that paper on the course website by noon on the day before class at the latest. These response papers are fundamental for the holding of a good discussion of the materials, as is a thorough reading of the assigned texts.

Writing a term paper is encouraged. Those who wish to write a term paper should submit it to me by email and in paper copy, with a cc to Maureen Lechleitner.
Sessions, topics and readings

1. Causes of migration (Andrew) (January 8)


2. Effects of migration (Andrew) (January 15)


3. Policy: national level (Andrew) (January 22)


4. Policy: EU-level (Andrew) (January 29)


- Guiraudon, Virginie. 2018. The 2015 refugee crisis was not a turning point: explaining policy inertia in EU border control, *European Political Science Review*, https://doi.org/10.1057/s41304-017-0123-x

5. Public opinion I (James) (February 5)

Why do individuals and countries vary in their attitudes to immigration?


6. Public Opinion II (James) (February 12)

What explains cross-time variation in attitudes to migration? (How) has the ‘migration crisis’ affected public attitudes to immigration?

7. Politics: the rise of the radical right (Hanspeter) (February 19)

What are the factors that contribute to the rise of the radical right? What is the role of immigration for the rise of the radical right? What is the role of political discontent? Are these protest parties? Do these parties express/contribute to the political discontent? What is the role of the strategy of other parties?

- Ivarsflaten, Elisabeth 2008. What unites right-wing populists in Western Europe? Re-examining grievance mobilization models in seven successful cases, *Comparative Political Studies* 41, 1: 3-23.

8. Politics: cleavage structures (Hanspeter) (February 26)

What are the long-term factors that contribute to the rise of these parties and what is the role of the more recent crises for their rise? How do preconditions for their rise vary from one European region to the other?


  o Chapter 1: Hanspeter Kriesi and Swen Hutter, Crises and the transformation of the national political space in Europe
  o Chapter 12: Jasmine Lorenzini and Mathilde van Ditmars, The radical populist right in the Great Recession: old and new winning formulas in Austria, France, the Netherlands, and Switzerland
  o Chapter 13: Björn Bremer and Julia Schulte-Cloos, No country for the New Right? Restructuring British and German party politics
  o Chapter 14: Hutter, Swen, Argyrios Altiparmakis, and Guillem Vidal, Diverging Europe: the political consequences of the crises in a comparative perspective

9. Politics: the reciprocal relationship of politics and policy, and the effect of the radical right on policies and politics (Hanspeter) (March 5)

   How about the politicization of immigration in Western Europe: has it increased more recently? In which countries? Does the radical right in government influence immigration policy and how does immigration policy influence the vote for the radical right? What happens to the radical right voters once their parties is in government – do they radicalize or moderate? And what is the effect of radical right parties on mainstream parties: do they influence their position on immigration?


10. Politics: Brexit (James) (March 12)

What caused Brexit? To what extent did migration (and the migration crisis) cause Brexit? Is Brexit part of broader changes affecting Western democracies?


