Towards a European Identity
Rainer Bauböck & Martin Kohli
Department of Political and Social Sciences
Second Term Seminar – Winter 2008
Thursday 08.45–10.45 - Seminar Room 2
Please register with Eva Breivik (eva.breivik@eui.eu)

Does a European society presuppose a collective sense of attachment to and identification with Europe? On the one hand, Europe may require strong identification because other mechanisms of integration are weak. On the other hand, the demands of the European polity towards its citizens – e.g., with regard to taxation or civic duties – are (still) modest, so that identification may remain shallow.

The seminar approaches these issues (1) by discussing the conceptualization of personal and social identity in social psychology, sociology and political science, (2) by considering citizenship and language regimes as policy fields in which European identities are at stake, and (3) by examining the available data sources (including large-scale surveys).

Participants are expected to give a presentation of the texts of one sessions, and to serve as a discussant for another session.

1. Thursday 10.01. 8:45-10:45: Conceptions of identity in the social sciences: personal, social and collective identities

Core readings:

Further readings:

2. Thursday 17.01. 8:45-10:45: Identity as a political concept: reification and essentialism in political constructions of group identities
Core readings:

Further reading:

3. Thursday 24.01. 8:45-10:45: The idea of Europe: historical lineages of “Europe” as a distinct cultural, social and political entity.
Guest speaker: Peter Wagner, Univ. of Trento (formerly EUI SPS)

Core reading:

Further readings:

4. Thursday 31.01. 8:45-10:45: European citizenship as a shared identity? Perspectives in normative political theory

Core readings:

Further reading:
5. **Friday 08.02. 8:45-10:45: Citizenship of the European Union as a legal status and bundle of rights: its history since 1957 and its contribution to European integration**

   Guest speaker: Antje Wiener (University of Bath)

   Core readings:

6. **Thursday 14.02. 8:45-10:45: Europeanization of national citizenship? National conceptions of membership and identity in European citizenship laws.**

   Core readings:

   Further reading:

7. **NB!! Friday 22.02. 15 – 17: The politics and policies of European identity.**

   Guest speaker: Monica Sassatelli (Università di Ferrara and University of Essex)

   Core reading:

   Further readings:

8. **Thursday 06.03. 8:45-10:45: European identities and Euroscepticism: the empirical evidence in Eurobarometer and other data sets.**

   Core readings:


Further readings:


Core readings:


Further reading:

10. Thursday 13.03. 8:45-10:45: Does Europe need a common identity and common values – and what could they be? Concluding discussion forum