

CALL FOR PAPERS
bEUCitizen 2015 Mid-Term Conference
BEING A CITIZEN IN EUROPE

Presentation

The bEUCitizen Coordination Team and the Center for the Study of Ethnicity, Citizenship and Migration (CEDIM), Faculty of Political Science – Zagreb University are pleased to announce the bEUCitizen 2015 Mid-Term Conference on the theme: “Being a citizen in Europe” to be hosted in Zagreb (Croatia), 29- 30 June.

The 2015 bEUCitizen Annual Conference will include a two-day international and interdisciplinary conference (29-30 June) open to both participants in the bEUCitizen research project and external scholars. The Conference, entitled ‘Being a citizen in Europe’, is divided into four thematic streams, addressing different aspects of European citizenship, its historical development, the rights that European citizens have within the present-day European Union and the multiple legal, practical and other barriers they still face in exercising these rights, depending on their capacity and their status.

We welcome scholarly papers on the themes addressed below. We are particularly looking for analyses and critical assessments from scholarly disciplines such as history, sociology, political science, law, philosophy, and economics, as well as for interdisciplinary papers, combining two or more of the aforementioned disciplines. Abstracts, which should be no longer than 500 words, need to be submitted by **February 28th, 2015**, and must be sent via the online form available on the Conference website. The organizing committee will select conference contributions before **March 15th, 2015**. A full paper must be submitted by **May 15th, 2015**.

Papers will be circulated in advance through the Conference website.

Streams

Stream 1: EU-Citizenship – towards new forms of bounded or unbounded citizenship?

Stream coordinators: Sandra Seubert and Frans van Waarden

Modern Citizenship has long been constructed as a bounded concept, intimately related to the nation state. Since the “nationalization” of citizenship in the 19th century it refers to a coherent status with particular rights and duties based on a collective identity, a “we” perspective, defined by living (or rather being born) within the bounded territory of a ‘nation state’. In this context citizenship became synonymous with *democratic* citizenship: a status of also equal rights to participate in the political process.

For this understanding European integration, and in particular the introduction of EU citizenship in the Maastricht Treaty, came as a challenge. Since then EU-citizenship has unfolded an expansive dynamic (not least due to the juridical activism of the ECJ) which is shifting the relation of national and EU citizenship in a not yet foreseeable direction. What are the consequences of these developments for the concept of citizenship and how are they to be evaluated?

While EU citizenship shares some features of bounded citizenship, e.g. by being based on national citizenship in a member state (citizenship based on *peoplehood*), it also shows tendencies towards unbounded forms of citizenship: rights are being granted not qua being members of a certain community but based on their status

as individuals (citizenship based on *personhood*). This can either be based on an ascribed status, such as ethnicity, language, gender, age, or physical handicap or on an achieved, acquired, or adopted status, such as religion, education, or economic position. Individuals will share such characteristics with others, thus forming minorities (or even majorities) within or across specific territories. And from such characteristics they may derive specific - universal human, i.e. territorially unbounded - rights and duties, e.g. the right of youngsters to education or of the sick and elderly to (medical) care. This notwithstanding that they do not have the rights and duties linked to bounded citizenship. What is more, they will have citizenship rights without – or perhaps even clashing with - the concomitant rights and duties of democratic participation. This development challenges the solidarity/identity basis of the bounded concept. Does a new type of unbounded citizenship constitute a *barrier towards EU citizenship* as democratic citizenship? Does a turn towards a more ‘cosmopolitan’ citizenship in the EU reinforce a tension between democracy and human rights and how can it be mediated?

Stream 2: EU citizenship rights in law and practice – comparative perspectives

Stream coordinators: Martin Seeleib-Kaiser and Sybe de Vries

The rights that citizens have on the basis of the free movement of workers, services and the freedom of establishment (capital?), as set out in the original Treaty of Rome, have been expanded and transformed through various rulings of the ECJ. This culminated in the Treaty of Maastricht, which formally introduced the concept of EU citizenship granting also non-economically active citizens’ rights.

EU citizenship is not only defined by the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and EU legislation, but also through the implementation, application and day-to-day practices in the Member States. A mapping of citizenship rights and practices in the Member States enables us to obtain a nuanced understanding of EU Citizenship.

The stream will address the following questions:

Has EU citizenship over the years developed into more than a bundle of economic, political, fundamental (civil) and social rights, into a coherent and holistic concept? Or are we witnessing increased segmentation? Are certain dimensions of citizenship, for instance economic rights, more developed than fundamental (civil) or social rights? Is the current citizenship regime in the EU strengthening a market-related model of citizenship? To what extent does the realization of citizenship rights vary in and among Member States? If the realization of citizenship rights varies, what are the causal mechanisms?

This panel invites papers that address the questions from historical, (socio-)legal, and political perspectives. Submissions are encouraged that have a comparative perspective, either by comparing different citizenship rights in one or more Member States or by comparing one right dimension in a number of Member States. However, papers focusing on a single country or specific rights dimension are also welcome.

Stream 3 – The European Union’s political citizens: rights, practices, challenges and alternative models of participation

Stream coordinators: Francis Cheneval and Uwe Puetter

European Union citizenship includes a number of political rights. Notably the right to stand and vote in local and European Parliamentary elections for all EU citizens regardless of where they reside within the Union. Yet, the question of the political rights of EU citizens goes far beyond this. As EU political decision-making affects virtually all areas of public policy, a narrow definition of European political citizenship as a small set of additional participatory rights would risk missing the wider dimension of political citizenship as a process of acquiring access to participation in EU-related decision-making at various levels of government and through a variety of different mechanisms. The euro crisis was the most recent episode in EU politics which revealed

severe contestation of the existing political rights dimension of EU citizenship as a legitimating device. What is the status of the explicit or implicit political rights of EU citizens in relation to EU-level and/or EU-influenced decision-making? What participatory practices exist and under what circumstance do they become challenged or may develop further? What alternative models of and challenges to participation and representation exist which could enhance the participatory dimension of EU policy-making? How can we learn from comparing participatory practices and routines in different EU member states and between the EU and other multi-level polities? Did the euro crisis negatively impact on the ability of EU citizens to exercise their political rights? How is the concept of EU political citizenship evolving beyond the notion of a set of limited additional political rights as defined by the Treaty?

Stream 4 - Linguistic diversity as a hindrance to the realization of European citizenship rights?

Stream coordinators: Elena Ioriatti and Frans van Waarden

If there is one thing that distinguishes the United States of America from the United States of Europe it is the linguistic diversity of the latter. While the USA has one widely shared dominant language – English - the USE lacks such a broadly shared language and now has to deal with 24 official EU languages, 6 semi-official ones, 39 minority languages, and 7+ main immigrant languages such as Turkish, Arabic, Chinese, Hindi and Russian. That is, overall 75+ languages.

Early on, the EU recognized and tried to regulate this linguistic diversity through a policy of multilingualism, which identified the official languages of the then still European Economic Community (Art. 217 of the E.C. Treaty and Council Regulation No 1 April 15, 1958) and the introduced at least one European linguistic right: the rule allowing citizens to write to the EU institutions in each of the EU's official languages.

While this linguistic diversity may certainly be a cultural enrichment for Europe, it is also likely to be a practical handicap. It could form a hindrance in common understanding among different residents in the various European territories, maintain linguistic identity segregation, and make for the absence of one common public discourse across Europe: shared mass media channels such as TV-stations and newspapers followed or read by citizens in all the nooks and crannies of Europe. It could also be a practical hindrance for the realization of European citizenship rights by Europeans living in another European country or region where a language is dominant which these mobile citizens cannot master (so well). Thus it is imaginable that linguistic misunderstandings may frustrate first of all the comprehension of relevant documents and secondly, produce misunderstandings in official contacts with administrative and legal authorities, which may be instrumental in providing access to citizenship rights in the country of residence. Furthermore, such alienation due to language barriers could affect some groups in society more than others, thus creating one more source of inequality in Europe.

This linguistic diversity could also be a hindrance to the equality of citizens before the European law. The same rule providing that EU regulations and other documents of general application shall be drafted in all the official languages (art. 4, Council Reg. 1/1958) might lead to different translations of the same rule in the various EU legal languages, hence to misinterpretations and consequently to a patchy application of European citizens' rights from state to state.

The United States of Europe is certainly not the first state that has had to deal with linguistic diversity. Other countries have had to do so before, notably Canada, India, Switzerland, and South Africa. What can be learned from their experiences? What alternative models of managing social, economic, political, and legal multilingualism have been developed elsewhere in time and space?

All in all, we invite papers that discuss the presence, importance, consequences, the problems identified, and the solutions attempted for such linguistic diversity and linguistic barriers to the realization of citizenship rights in European territories which are non-native to migrant European citizens.

Reimbursement possibility for PhD students

Ph.D students who have submitted the 10 best submissions based on their abstracts will receive a reimbursement of maximum 500€ for travel costs and hotel fees.

PhD students who want to apply for this bursary need to indicate this on the form when submitting their abstract. PhD students that will receive reimbursements will be informed about this latest June 1, 2015.

Important Dates

Feb. 28: Submission of Abstract

March 15: Communication of the accepted papers

April 10: Hotel reservations

May 4: Preliminary Programme

May 15: Submission of full paper

Accommodation



For the bEUcitizen 2015 Annual Conference in Zagreb, we have chosen Hotel Dubrovnik (<http://hotel-dubrovnik.hr/>), Ljudevit Gaja 1, PP 246, HR-10000 Zagreb.

An online reservation form will soon be available on the Conference website. If you wish to arrange your hotel prior to the form being available, please download it [here](#) and send it to:

- Hotel Dubrovnik mklemen@hotel-dubrovnik.hr
- CC: cedim@fpzg.hr; coordination.team@beucitizen.eu

We have blocked rooms from 28 June to 4 July 2015 and those registering before **April 10th, 2015** will be given special concessionary prices:

- Single room: 87€ per night per room
- Double room: 105€ per night per room

Prices include VAT, a buffet breakfast, wireless and wire high-speed Internet and the use of a mini fitness centre. City tax (1€ per person daily) is not included.

Reservation requests made after **April 10th, 2015** will be subject to availability.

Reservations can be cancelled up to 72 hours before arrival. If the reservation is cancelled after that period or in 'no show' situations, the Hotel will charge 100% of the amount of the first night.

Contact Details

For registration and Conference contact

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Local Conference organization and contact

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