

## Call for papers / Seminar

### THEORIZING 'THE LOCAL TURN' IN IMMIGRANT POLICIES: A MULTI-LEVEL APPROACH

**Date:** Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2013

**Place:** Universitat Pompeu Fabra (Barcelona/Spain)

**Academic Coordinators:**

Ricard Zapata-Barrero, Director of GRITIM-UPF, Universitat Pompeu Fabra

Peter Scholten, Associate Prof. of Public Policy & Politics, Erasmus U. Rotterdam

Tiziana Caponio, Senior Researcher, U. of Turin, FIERI & Collegio Carlo Alberto

**Technical Coordinator:**

Gema Rubio Carbonero, GRITIM-UPF, Universitat Pompeu Fabra

This is a joint-initiative of the [GRITIM-UPF](#) - Interdisciplinary Research Group on Immigration of the University Pompeu Fabra, the [Erasmus University of Rotterdam](#) and the [IMISCOE Network](#).

### Framework

In Europe, but also elsewhere, policy and academic debates are experiencing a increasing interest in local-level migration and integration policies. There is a notable move from a state-centered framework to a more city- and regional-centered framework. As a complement to this multi-level approach, the EU is also taking this 'local turn' into consideration, and actively promoting municipal networks and research programs, thus creating a strong EU-municipal relationship

Cities and regions are increasingly becoming active agents drawing up their own key-questions/answer to challenges related to reception and diversity accommodation. Based on a multi-level research framework, this "local turn" can contribute to a better understanding of why and how cities behave differently to the same challenges, and why/how this behavior can also politicize immigration and affect the relationship with other level of governments (regional, state and EU) (external dimension) and with their own local diverse society (internal dimension).

The aim of this Call for Papers is to bring together research that is now scattered throughout Europe (and possibly beyond) to theorize this "local turn" from a multi-level governance perspective. In this respect, we distinguish a 'vertical' and a 'horizontal' dimension. The 'vertical' dimension refers to relations between cities and higher levels of government: either regional, state or EU. The 'horizontal' dimension refers to level-specific studies, such as comparative studies of cities (preferably in different countries) and their policies in various migration (admission, reception), diversity (intercultural

and diversity policies, religion and linguistic policies, citizenship issues), social and sectoral issues (urban/education concentration, integration in housing, education, work, social services and welfare). Bringing together work on the vertical and horizontal dimensions will contribute to a better theoretical understanding of the local turn in migrant integration policies and by academics.

## Research Questions

Cities have developed thanks to the influence of diverse people and cultures that have arrived and settled in their territories throughout the centuries. This is especially true for European cities that have been more reachable for different cultures.

Nowadays, globalization and the growing disparities between rich and poor countries provoke human mobility with the consequence of placing migration at the centre of the cities' political agenda. The latest migratory waves are rich in cultures, religions, languages and traditions. In the same way that past migrations changed cities' landscapes, current migrations give new shapes to urban settings throughout Europe. This *Workshop* proposes a framework of reflection on how cities can focus their policies institutionally in a multi-level context and normatively in contexts of growing diversity, paying special attention to two main dimensions: Structure (related to how cities play the role of actor in a multi-level structure of governance) and Policies (related to how cities develop differentiated policies, or have their own way to develop shared policies with other level governments)

Given this contextual framework, the key starting question is *How do European cities focus their policies in contexts of diversity?* Sharing experiences among European cities can give room to the exchange of ideas. Good practices can be pinpointed and applied by other cities. Innovation and creativity emanate from the references we have and establishing contacts among cities can definitely help in this matter. Moreover, we should be aware that what is a source of diversity related conflict in one city, might be a natural characteristic in another city.

The Workshop seeks to contribute to develop a heuristic model of City Governance highlighting the differentiated issues of this local turn. Three main trends of the analysis are implied:

- 1) Governance of integration in local society: issues related to integration in specific sectors at the local or regional level (reception, housing, work, education, welfare programmes and urban distinctive issues such as territorial and education concentration).
- 2) Governance of diversity: intercultural programmes, religion and linguistic policies.
- 3) Governance of the multi-level relationship: divergences or convergences between local and national policies, coordination of policy implementation between national and local level, EU-local relations, strategic interaction between policy levels ('vertical venue shopping').

To summarize, we invite Workshop contributions to address the normative framework of a theory of local turn, taking into account the different approaches of local governance in various European states.

*Key-issues of interest: migration, migrant integration, local policies, regional policies, multi-level governance*

## Applications

Proposals should be sent to [gema.rubio@upf.edu](mailto:gema.rubio@upf.edu) with cc to [ricard.zapata@upf.edu](mailto:ricard.zapata@upf.edu), to [p.w.a.scholten@fsw.eur.nl](mailto:p.w.a.scholten@fsw.eur.nl) and to [tiziana.caponio@unito.it](mailto:tiziana.caponio@unito.it) specifying “SEMINAR LOCAL TURN APPROACH” as a subject.

The papers submitted have to be original and drafted especially for this seminar. The papers that are selected for presentation will also be considered for a special issue project on the multi-level governance of migration and integration. Proposals should be in English and should include:

- Short CV (max. 200 words)
- Institution and area of research
- Title (max. 10 words)
- Abstract (max. 400 words)

## Deadlines

Proposals must be sent by the **1<sup>st</sup> February 2013 at the very latest**. Notification of acceptance will be given by **18<sup>th</sup> February 2013**. The final list and programme will be disseminated in **July 2013**. Papers should be circulated to everybody before **6<sup>th</sup> September 2013**.

The workshop will be organized on 20th September 2013 in Barcelona to discuss first full drafts of all papers (papers not in first full draft are not admitted). Please note that a selection of papers will be taken into consideration for potential publication. We therefore recommend participants to hand in relatively advanced work. **English** will be the working language.

## Funding

The IMISCOE Standing Committee on the multi-level governance of migration and integration hopes to be able to subsidize travel and/or accommodation for those participants who do not have any other funds and could not attend the conference if their costs were not covered by us.

This seminar is a complementary action of the project DIVERSIDAD, funded by the Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness (CSO2011-28885), whose main researcher is Ricard Zapata-Barrero.

Collegio Carlo Alberto (Turin) will also provide financial support for the coordination tasks.