

Call for Papers

Democratic citizenship in flux?

Workshop for junior researchers at University of Duisburg-Essen, 13-14 June 2019

Deadline for submission of paper proposals: 13 January 2019

Workshop conveners Markus Bayer, Oliver Schwarz and Toralf Stark cordially invite junior researchers (PhD candidates and post-docs) to submit paper abstracts dealing with aspects of “Democratic citizenship in flux?”. Selected papers will be discussed in an author’s workshop and published in a peer-reviewed and open access edited volume published by Transcript. Both workshop and the related publication seek to support early career researchers by promoting networking and providing a supportive environment for research and publication.

Aim of the workshop

Classically, citizenship has been defined as the legal and political link between individuals and their democratic political community. However, classical conceptions of democratic citizenship are currently challenged by various developments like migration, the rise of populism, increasing polarization, social fragmentation and the crisis of representative democracy as well as developments in digital communication technology. Against this background, the aim of the workshop is to think about recent conceptions of citizenship by bringing together insights from different disciplines as political science, sociology, economics, law and history. Particularly, it aims at:

- contributing to a better understanding of the multi-faceted issue of democratic citizenship in flux.
- examining citizenship from a multidisciplinary perspective;
- developing the outlines of an innovative research agenda;
- exploring the possibilities for further cooperation.

Key research interest

We invite contributions dealing with (but not limited to) the following research levels and questions:

- 1. Democratic citizenship on a global level:** During the last decades, international migration has more and more challenged the notion of citizenship as an exclusive national concept. At the same time, international civil society organizations like the World Social Forum and protest movements like Occupy further blurred the national boundaries of existing democracies. So far, current realities - like growing numbers of citizens with multiple identities and citizen statuses or the globalization of citizenship – have been reflected in concepts such as cosmopolitan, global, transnational or trans-border citizenship. However, these concepts are increasingly countered by the rise of nationalist populist movements which raises the question how democratic citizenship could be defined in future.
- 2. Democratic citizenship in the European Union:** For centuries, citizenship has been a distinct characteristic of the nation-state. However, subsequently, the European integration process has deeply affected the relationship between member states and their citizens. Today, concepts of local, national and EU citizenship exist side by side within the European Union. Consequently, this development has made democratic citizenship in the EU a multi-layered phenomenon. But which problems are caused by this multi-layered nature of citizenship? Can EU citizenship be a blueprint for other regions in the world? What are the prospects for European citizenship in the aftermath of the United Kingdom’s decision to leave the European Union?

- 3. Democratic citizenship on a (sub-) national level:** Recently, several countries have been witnessing an era of political polarization and social mobilization indicating a possible crisis of representational democracy. Extra-parliamentary popular resistance, refusing to adhere to the politics of the count on the one hand and populist movements disclosing their distrust against political elites on the other, challenge existing relations between representational democracy and its citizens. This raises questions about the essence of citizenship: Is representational democracy reaching a dead end? How much discontent is bearable in a democracy? Which forms of protest and resistance are acceptable or functional? How can new developments in digital communication technology underpin democratic citizenship on a (sub-) national level?

Workshop arrangement and schedule

The workshop is scheduled for 13-14 June 2019 at the University of Duisburg-Essen. During the workshop, all selected contributors will be asked to present their paper and to discuss the contributions of their peers. The presentation can be held in English or German. Papers are supposed to be written in English. The organizers will cover the costs of snacks, drinks and light meals during the workshop. All travel expenses have to be taken out by the contributors. In exceptional cases, the organizers will provide a travel subsidy to help a participant to attend the workshop (subject to agreement). All accepted papers will undergo a peer-review process and will be considered for publication in an edited volume. For accepted proposals, key dates and deadlines are the following:

13 January 2019	Submission of proposal abstracts
1 February 2019	Notification of acceptance for workshop
1 June 2019	Submission of full papers for the workshop
13-14 June 2019	Workshop at the University of Duisburg-Essen
31 July 2019	Submission of final book article

Submission

Each proposal abstract should contain no more than 500 words. Co-operations between researchers from different fields and different institutional backgrounds are highly welcome and will be treated preferentially.

Contact

Please send inquiries and proposals to Markus Bayer (markus.bayer@uni-due.de).