Conference Location

Hotel Bacchus Rodensteinstrasse 30 64625 Bensheim Germany info@hotel-bacchus.de

Directions to Hotel Bacchus

The Hotel Bacchus is located in the town center. Bensheim is an ICE station and there are direct connections to Frankfurt (Main) main station. It takes only 3 minutes to walk from the station to the hotel.



For a train connection from Frankfurt Airport or the main train station, see the following page: <u>https://www.bahn.de/p/view/index.shtml</u>

For detailed instructions how to get there by car, see the Hotel website: https://www.hotel-bacchus.de/en/contact/

Contact

Project Heads

Björn Egner (coordinator) Adjunct Professor of Research Methods and Philosophy of Science begner@pg.tu-darmstadt.de

Hubert Heinelt Professor Emeritus of Public Administration, Public Policy and Urban Research <u>heinelt@pg.tu-darmstadt.de</u>

Jens Steffek (project manager) Professor of Transnational Governance and Principle Investigator in Excellence Cluster 'Formation of Normative Orders' <u>steffek@pg.tu-darmstadt.de</u>

Project Assistants

Melina Lehning Research Associate melina.lehning@tu-darmstadt.de

Jared Sonnicksen Lecturer & Research Associate sonnicksen@pg.tu-darmstadt.de

Postal Address

Institut für Politikwissenschaft Technische Universität Darmstadt Dolivostr. 15 64293 Darmstadt Germany

Kick-off Workshop

How Europeans Understand Reciprocity, Fairness and Cohesion (HEUREC)

Institute of Political Science



September 28-29, 2021

Hotel Bacchus, Bensheim

Workshop Program

HEUREC Kick-Off

Perceptions of fairness and reciprocity are crucial for the cohesion and solidarity of modern societies and the legitimacy of governance. The HEUREC project takes this basic insight to the European level and studies citizens' conceptions of fairness and reciprocity in the European Union (EU). There are numerous relevant studies already, such as on patterns of Europeanpolitical attitudes, support and trust as well as identities, to gauge European cohesion, its levels and differences in various member states and socioeconomic groups. Our project can build upon this wealth of insights, but goes beyond previous research in several ways.

The focus lies on selected concepts pivotal to cohesion, i.e. fairness, reciprocity and solidarity, and how they are perceived and mediated in the EU. Moreover, these understandings are explored through focus group discussions, to be conducted in different EU member states: (a) three Northern European countries (Finland, Germany, the Netherlands); (b) three countries of the East (Latvia, Lithuania and Slovakia); and (c) three Southern European countries (Greece, Portugal and Spain). Our partners and research associates will organize focus groups in these nine countries to reconstruct the reasoning of different groups of people when they answer among themselves questions of (a) how fairness, reciprocity and solidarity can and should be achieved in the EU; and (b) which are, at the moment, the major problems for achieving them, with a particular view to political institutions.

Our kick-off workshop not only brings together the project research associates, coordinators and partners. Moreover, we are joined by a series of guest scholars who provide impulses for our exchange on the key concepts and approaches.

Tuesday, 28 September 2021 10:00 - 11:00Welcome and Introduction 11:00 - 11:30 Coffee break **Transnational solidarity in Europe** 11:30 - 13:00Christian Lahusen (Universität Siegen) Ben Crum (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam) 13:00 - 14:00Lunch break Narratives of European solidarity 14:00 - 16:00Hans-Jörg Trenz (Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa/Florence) Hubert Heinelt & Björn Egner (TU Darmstadt) Johanna Kuhlmann (Universität Bremen) & Sonja Blum (Fernuniversität Hagen) 16:00 - 16:30 Coffee break 16:30 - 17:30 **European solidarity:** Beliefs and attitudes Sofia Vasilopoulou (University of York) 17:30 - 18:00 Aperitif break 18:00 - 19:00 Keynote: Solidarity – Concept and Conceptions Rainer Forst (Goethe-Universität Frankfurt / Thomas-Mann-Haus, Pacific Palisades)

19:00 Workshop dinner

Wednesday, 29 September 2021	
9:00 – 10:30	Using focus groups to study solidarity in Europe
Tanja Pritzl	aff-Scheele (Universität Bremen)
Johannes K	iess (Universität Siegen)
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee break
11:00 – 12:00	Analyzing texts from focus groups
Sabine Bart	tsch (TU Darmstadt)
12:00 – 12:30	Preliminary summary
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch break
13:30 – 15:00 Finland	Country presentations (I) Jonas Schauman
Greece	Petros Karpathiou
Latvia	Inese Abolina
Lithuania	Inga Gaizauskaite
15:00 – 15:30	Coffee break
15:30 – 17:00 Netherlands	Country presentations (II) N.N.
Portugal	João Moniz
Slovakia	Jan Krotký
Spain	Ricardo Dacosta

17:00 End of workshop and walk through the vineyards