

De-territorialized Diversity: Global and Transnational Dimensions

RECODE Workshop to be organised at the University of Oslo, June 7-8; Blindern Campus, Harriet Holters Hus, room 201.

Abstract

The workshop will explore a central issue of RECODE, namely the role of diversity with particular emphasis on the notion of transnational communities. Politics has traditionally been conceptualized and organized along territorial lines but the confluence of globalization, cosmopolitanisation and Europeanisation have given new impetus to the development of transnational communities. The workshop seeks to understand the nature of this phenomenon; how prevalent it is in the EU and Canada; what the implications are on minorities and systems of governing; and the nature and strength of nationalist reactions. The workshop is thematically organized to address these themes.

Scientific summary

Conceptualising transnational communities

It is widely held that the dual processes of European integration and globalisation usher in profound changes in communal organisation and existence. One important development is the emergence of *transnational communities*. With *transnational communities*, we understand communities that are structured by individuals or groups, who are settled in different national societies, but who share some common references (less territorially bounded). What is the scope and extent of this phenomenon and how does it shape the political and cultural realms across Europe and Canada?

How does cosmopolitanism capture the transnational community phenomenon? The development of transnational communities raises questions for democracy (conventionally understood as anchored in a territorially delimited community). How, then, to conceive of transnational communities from the perspective of democratic theory?

We will start by focusing on the conceptual/normative issues involved. How, and in what sense, does the transnational communities phenomenon challenge our modern social imaginaries (cf. Charles Taylor)? Thereafter we will illustrate this with reference to the two cases of the EU and Canada.

A new power relationship between minorities and states?

This second section considers the transnational community phenomenon with more focus on relations within the minorities, and how this plays out in their relations to their respective states. This includes attention to how transnationalism manifests itself in various groups, and what the similarities and differences are across region, country, and group.

The New Nationalism

This third and final second section focuses on reactions to or possible countervailing forces to transnational communities. In this sense it is interesting to focus on what we may label as 'the new nationalism', which takes several forms and shapes. On the one hand, we have the rise of populism. It has taken shape at least partly as a reaction - hostile as it is to non-Western immigration, globalization and Europeanisation. Is this part of the broader phenomenon of what Douglas Holmes has labeled as 'integralism', which is basically steeped in romanticism and is hostile to modernity and modernization? On the other hand, we also see a more general process of reaction to Europeanisation and globalization that draws on a more liberal form of nationalism (one more social-democratic version that is particularly skeptical of neo-liberalism)

An extreme example of what appears to be a version of populist reaction is the July 22, 2011 terrorism/massacre in Oslo. This heinous act was motivated by the alleged need to 'rescue Europe' from the Muslim threat. The perpetrator claimed to be part of a transnational movement. Is this suggestive of a broader trend of trans-nationalization of nationalist-populist reaction?

Is the populist reaction mainly to be understood as a statist-communitarian reaction (defense of an ethnic-communitarian conception of the nation-state), or does it also, assume transnational features?

This section will include four papers, two more conceptual and two more focused on actual developments in the EU and Canada. In the EU nationalist reactions span the entire specter, from anti-immigration to liberal-national defenses, whereas in Canada the nationalist reaction to globalization does not have much of an anti-immigration component. What accounts for these differences?

RECODE Workshop programme The University of Oslo, June 7-8

Workshop Day 1

Session 1: Conceptualising transnational communities

09.00-09.15:	Opening remarks Riva Kastoryano, John Erik Fossum and Peter Kraus
09.15-10.15:	Norway and reflections on July 22 Thomas Hylland Eriksen
10.15-11.15	Cosmopolitanism and the question of borders Chris Rumford
11.15-11.30	Coffee
11.30-12.30	A transnational nationalism Riva Kastoryano
12.30-13.30	Lunch
13.30-14.30	Diversity, transnational practices and intercultural policies Ricard Zapata
14.30-15.30	Challenging Nationalisms --Long Distance, Methodological, and State: The Agency of Migrants and Cities Nina Glick Schiller
15.30-16.00	Coffee
16.00-17.00	Transnationalism and immigrant integration Christian Joppke
17.00-18.00	Discussants and general discussion: Keith Banting, João Manuel Cardoso Rosas and Alexandra Ålund



This workshop is part of the project RECODE - Responding to Complex Diversity in Europe and Canada, which is sponsored by the European Science Foundation (ESF). The ESF provides a platform for its Member Organisations to advance science and explore new directions for research at the European level. Established in 1974 as an independent non-governmental organisation, the ESF currently serves 78 Member Organisations across 30 countries.

Workshop Day 2

Session 2: A new power relationship between minorities and states?

09.00-10.00	The Roots of Diversity in Contemporary Liberal-Democratic States: A Global Normative Account Phil Triadafilopoulos
10.00-11.00	Membership and internal democracy. Immigrant organisations in the City of Oslo Marianne Takle
11.00-11.15	Coffee
11.15-12.15	Minority political participation Jon Rogstad
12.15-13.00	Discussants and discussion Veit Bader Birte Siim
13.00-14.00	Lunch

Session 3: The New Nationalism

14.00-15.00	Reflections on the new nationalism in the EU Hans-Jörg Trenz
15.00-16.00	The new nationalism and its relationship to Islam Sindre Bangstad
16.00-16.15	Coffee
16.15-17.15	Wither the Canadian model? Evaluating the new Canadian nationalism Patti Lenard
17.15-18.00	Discussants and discussion Francisco Colom Peter Kraus



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