

Dr. Matthias Freise
Hauptseminar / Masterkurs
Advanced Seminar / Master Seminar

Civil Society and Democracy in Europe

(zugleich Modul 4, Lehrveranstaltung 2 des Masterstudiengangs Politikwissenschaft zum Thema „Herausforderungen, Konzepte und Praktiken demokratischen Regierens“)

Time: Tuesday, 12-14 pm
Location: S124 (IfPol)
Start: 13.04.2010
Course Number: 065621

1. Outline

There are many reasons why social scientists and policy experts alike are increasingly turning to civil society in their search for reform concepts, new ideas and progressive initiatives. In times of globalization and Europeanization, nation-state based democracy has lost power and steering capacity. Civil society might provide avenues for getting closer to the people and for making public policy more efficient. However, civil society not unlike democracy constitutes a multi-faceted term with many notions and different meanings.

The seminar will take a closer look at the various concepts of democracy and civil society. We will discuss how and to what extent the two approaches are interrelated on the European level. There is no doubt that both, democratic theory as well as the civil society approach, stand for the normative turn in political science. Rooted in the tradition of political theory, currently both concepts are widely used for the analysis of empirical developments and trends. Particularly the civil society approach has gained momentum against the background of the ongoing governance debate in particular in the context of EU governance. Civil society organizations are supposed to enhance democratic governance and hence participatory democracy. However, is this indeed the case? The seminar will investigate chances and pitfalls of the civil society discussion in Brussels by going through and discussing carefully selected readings that summarize the ongoing debate.

2. Requirements

- Readings: Students are expected to read the assigned literature before each class meeting. The seminar papers are available at the Copy Shop M+M (Wilmergasse).
- Oral Presentations: For each class meeting, two students will make short (15 minutes) oral presentations summarizing and critically discussing further readings for the week.
- Papers: Students have to write a final paper (*Hausarbeit*) of 15 to 20 pages on a topic of their choice which, however, has to be either related to the current development of democratic theory or alternatively to the ongoing debate on civil society.

3. BSCW Server

Please, register for the BSCW server by sending an e-mail to ma.garbert@googlemail.com. It contains additional literature and the power point presentations of the course.

4. Schedule

Week	Topics
13.04.2010	<p>Introductory Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the aims of the course? • What has to be done? • Who will prepare which session?
20.04.2010	<p>Conceptions of Civil Society in Europe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why are social scientists increasingly turning to civil society? • Which strands of the civil society discourse can get differentiated? • How should we operationalize the term for the further course? <p><i>Compulsory Text:</i></p> <p>Kocka, Jürgen (2006): Civil Society in Historical Perspective. In: Keane, John (ed.): Civil Society. Berlin Perspectives. Oxford: Berghahn Books, 37-50.</p> <p><i>Presenter's Text:</i></p> <p>Zimmer, Annette/ Freise, Matthias (2008): Bringing Society Back In: Civil Society, Social Capital, and Third Sector. In: Maloney, William A./Deth, Jan van (eds.): Civil Society and Governance in Europe. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar, 19-42.</p>
27.04.2010	<p>Democracy and Legitimacy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is democratic legitimacy? • What's the difference between input-, throughput- and output legitimacy? • Is European governance legitimized? <p><i>Compulsory Text:</i></p> <p>Dogan, Mattei (2004): Conceptions of Legitimacy. In: Hawkesworth, Mary/Kogan, Maurice (eds.): Encyclopedia of Government and Politics. London: Routledge, 110-119.</p> <p><i>Presenter's Text:</i></p> <p>Eriksen, Erik/Fossum, John Erik (2004): Europe in Search of Legitimacy: Strategies of Legitimation Assessed. In: International Political Science Review. Vol. 24(4), 435-459.</p>
04.05.2010	<p>Democracy beyond the nation state</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can international organizations be as democratic as nation states? • If not: How can the democratic deficit get softened? • What role plays civil society in this context?

	<p><i>Compulsory Texts:</i></p> <p>Dahl, Robert (1999): Can international organizations be democratic? A sceptic's view. In: Sharpio, Ian/Hacker-Cordon, Casanio (eds.): Democracy's Edges. Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Press, 19-36.</p> <p>Tobin, James (1999): A comment on Dahl's scepticism. In: Sharpio, Ian/Hacker-Cordon, Casanio (eds.): Democracy's Edges. Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Press, 37-40.</p> <p><i>Presenter's Text:</i></p> <p>Steffek, Jens/Nanz, Patrizia (2007): Emergent Patterns of Civil Society Participation in Global and European Governance. In: Steffek, Jens et al. (eds.): Civil Society Participation in European and Global Governance A Cure for the Democratic Deficit? London: Palgrave, 1-29.</p>
11.05.2010	<p>Is there a democratic deficit of the European Union?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the challenges of democratic EU governance? • How do advocates support the thesis of the democratic deficit? • How do disputants argue in their refutations? <p><i>Compulsory Text:</i></p> <p>Moravcsik, Andrew (2002): In Defence of the 'Democratic Deficit': Reassessing Legitimacy in the European Union. In: Journal of Common Market Studies. Vol. 40(4), 603-624.</p> <p><i>Presenter's Text:</i></p> <p>Follesdal, Andreas/Hix, Simon (2005): Why There is a Democratic Deficit in the EU: A Response to Majone and Moravcsik. European Governance Paper Nr. C-05-02. Brussels.</p>
18.05.2010	<p>Problems of Democratic Governance in Europe Guest lecture by Anne-Dörte Balks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can the EU be described as a system of democratic governance? • Where are the limits of current governance initiatives? • Does media reporting enable citizens to adequately inform themselves about the European Union? <p><i>Compulsory Text:</i></p> <p>Tsakatika, Myrto (2007): The European Union and the democratic limits of governance. In: Ruzza, Carlo/Della Sala, Vincent (eds.): Governance and Civil Society in the European Union. Vol. 1: Normative Perspectives. Manchester: Manchester Univ. Press, 30-54.</p>
25.05.2010	<p>Pentecost Holidays</p>

01.06.2010	<p>Measuring European Civil Society</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do researchers empirically operationalize civil society? • Which methods are used? • What are their findings? <p><i>Compulsory Text:</i></p> <p>Deth, Jan van (2008): European Civil Society: The Empirical Reality in the Multi-Level System of the EU. In: Kohler-Koch, Beate et al. (eds.): Opening EU-Governance to Civil Society. Gains and Challenges. Mannheim: CONNEX, 325-348.</p> <p><i>Presenter's Text:</i></p> <p>Heinrich, Volkhart Finn (2008): Assessing Civil Society in Europe: Comparative Findings of the CIVICUS Civil Society Index. In: Freise, Matthias (ed.): European Civil Society on the Road to Success? Baden-Baden: Nomos, 45-63.</p>
08.06.2010	<p>The Civil Society discourse in Brussels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do the EU institutions have in mind when talking about civil society? • Which normative strands of the discourse can get identified? • Which associations qualify as civil society organisations in Brussels? <p><i>Compulsory Text:</i></p> <p>Kohler-Koch, Beate (2009): The three worlds of European civil society. What role for civil society for what kind of Europe? In: Policy & Society. Vol. 28(1), 47-57.</p> <p><i>Presenter's Text:</i></p> <p>Kohler-Koch, Beate/Quittkat, Christine (2009): What is civil society and who represents civil society in the EU? Results of an online survey among civil society experts. In: Policy & Society. Vol. 28(1), 11-22.</p>
15.06.2010	<p>What future for parliamentary democracy in Europe?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can representative democracy work in decentered polity structure? • Is the EU on the way towards a substitute parliamentarism? • What does this mean for the development of EU governance after the ratification of the Lisbon Reform Treaty? <p><i>Compulsory Text:</i></p> <p>Lord, Christopher (2007): Parliamentary Representation in a Decentered Polity. In: Kohler-Koch, Beate/Rittberger, Berthold (eds.): Debating the Democratic Legitimacy of the European Union. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield, 139-156.</p>

	<p><i>Presenter's Text:</i></p> <p>Rittberger, Berthold (2009): The historical origins of the EU's system of representation. In: Journal of European Public Policy. Vol. 16(1), 43-61.</p>
22.06.2010	<p>What future of Civil Society Participation in Europe?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is an organized civil society? • How is organized civil society involved in European policy making? • Which role will they play after the ratification of the Lisbon Reform Treaty? <p><i>Compulsory Text:</i></p> <p>Coen, David (2007): Empirical and theoretical studies in European lobbying. In: Journal of European Public Policy. Vol. 14(3), 333-345.</p> <p><i>Presenter's Text:</i></p> <p>Berkhout, Joost/Lowery, David (2008): Counting organized interests in the European Union: a comparison of data sources. In: Journal of European Public Policy. Vol. 15(4), 498-513.</p>
29.06.2010	<p>Problems of Civil Society Participation in EU Governance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which democratic problems arise from the consultancy system in Brussels? • How are new interests getting involved in EU policy making? • What are the challenges of the accession of new member states? <p><i>Compulsory Text:</i></p> <p>Quittkat, Christine/Finke, Barbara (2008): The EU Commission Consultation Regime. In: Kohler-Koch, Beate et al. (Hg.): Opening EU-Governance to Civil Society. Gains and Challenges. Mannheim: CONNEX, 184-222.</p> <p><i>Presenter's Text:</i></p> <p>Charrad, Kristina (2008): Lobbying and European Civil Society: Problems and Perspectives of Civil Society Actors from Visegrád Countries. In: Freise, Matthias (ed.): European Civil Society on the Road to Success? Baden-Baden: Nomos, 109-128.</p>
06.07.2010	<p>Guest Lecture by Freya Brune: Running for Europe: EU Sport Policy and the Role of Civil Society</p>
13.07.2010	<p>What Future for Deliberative Democracy in Europe?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How is deliberative democracy discussed in the EU context? • Which lessons can be drawn from former initiatives? • What are the limits of deliberative democracy in the EU context? <p><i>Compulsory Text:</i></p> <p>Schmalz-Bruns, Rainer (2007): The Euro-Polity in Perspective: Some Normative Lessons from Deliberative Democracy. In: Kohler-Koch, Beate/Rittberger,</p>

	<p>Berthold (eds.): Debating the Democratic Legitimacy of the European Union. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield, 281-303.</p> <p><i>Presenter's Text:</i></p> <p>Warleigh-Lack, Alex (2007): On the path to legitimacy? A critical deliberativist perspective on the right to the citizen's initiative. In: Ruzza, Carlo/Della Sala, Vincent (eds.): Governance and civil society in the European Union. Vol. 1: Normative Perspectives. Manchester: Manchester Univ. Press, 55-72.</p>
20.07.2010	<p>A Panacea for all Seasons? Civil Society and Democracy in Europe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What can we conclude from the seminar for the development of democracy in Europe? • Which role will civil society play in future? • What do I have to do in my seminar work and when do I have to hand it in? <p><i>Compulsory Text:</i></p> <p>Smismans, Stijn (2007): How political theory could deal with the role of civil society organisations in European governance: reflexive deliberative polyarchy. In: Ruzza, Carlo/Della Sala, Vincent (eds.): Governance and civil society in the European Union. Vol. 1: Normative Perspectives. Manchester: Manchester Univ. Press, 73-88.</p>

5. Further Reading

- Armstrong, Kenneth (2002): Rediscovering Civil Society: The European Union and the White Paper on Governance. In: European Law Journal. Vol. 8(1), 102-132.
- Freise, Matthias (ed.) (2008): European Civil Society on the Road to Success? Baden-Baden: Nomos.
- Glasius, Marlies et al. (ed.) (2004): Exploring Civil Society. Political and Cultural Contexts. London: Routledge.
- Holzhaecker, Ronald (2007): Democratic Legitimacy and the European Union. In: Journal of European Integration. Vol. 29(3), 257-269.
- Kohler-Koch, Beate/Rittberger, Berthold (ed.) (2007): Debating the democratic legitimacy of the European Union. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield.
- Kohler-Koch, Beate et al. (ed.) (2008): Opening EU-Governance to Civil Society. Gains and Challenges. Mannheim: CONNEX.
- Liebert, Ulrike (2009): The contentious role of civil society in reconstituting democracy in the European Union. In: Policy & Society. Vol 28(1), 71-86.
- Ruzza, Carlo/Bozzini, Emanuela (2008): Organised Civil Society and European Governance: Routes of Contestation. In: European Political Science. Jg. 7, Heft 3, S. 296-303.
- Saurugger, Sabine (2005): Europeanization as a Methodological Challenge: The Case of Interest Groups. In: Journal of Comparative Policy Analysis. Vol. 7(4), 291-312.
- Scharpf, Fritz (1999): Governing in Europe - Effective and Democratic? Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Smismans, Stijn (Hg.) (2006): Civil Society and Legitimate European Governance. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar.
- Trenz, Hans-Jörg (2009): European civil society: Between participation, representation and discourse. In: Policy & Society. Vol. 28(1), 35-46.