

## **Workshop for next survey on ‘Societal actors interacting in institutionalized governance networks’**

For about 20 years a group of scholars organized in the European Urban Research Association (EURA) and/or the standing groups on Local Government and Politics (LOGOPOL) of the ECPR have carried out surveys in most European countries on actors performing different roles within local government. These survey offer valuable sources for comparative research in local government.

The first survey was focused on executive officers (CEOs) or the highest ranking appointed and non-elected civil servant or employee at the municipal level. As it was supported by UDITE (*Union des dirigeants territoriaux de l’Europe*) it has been called the UDITE survey. The next survey – named the POLLEADER (‘political leader’) survey – dealt with European mayors from municipalities with more than 10,000 inhabitants. It followed a survey on councillors from municipalities with more than 10,000 inhabitants – called the MAELG (‘Municipal Assemblies in European Local Governance’) survey. It was based on a stratified sample that took into account the regional distribution of the total number of municipal councillors in a country. The next survey concerned councillors and executive heads from the second tier of local government (i.e. counties, provinces etc.). As comparative studies on the second tier of local government in European countries did not exist, a study of the tasks and organisation of this level of government in European countries was carried out before as a precondition of the mentioned survey. The last survey focused again on European mayors (POLLEADER II).

In a next step a survey is planned on societal actors interacting in institutionalized governance networks with actors of local government in different European countries. For the preparation of this survey a workshop took place in Bensheim (Germany) from November 24-26, 2017. This workshop attended Oliver Dlabac (Univ. Zürich), Tom Verhelst (Univ. Ghent), Lluís Medir (Univ. Barcelona), Adam Gendzwill and Paweł Swianiewicz (University Warsaw), Annick Magnier (University Florence), Pieter Jan Klok (Twente University), Cristina Stanus (University Sibiu), Filipe Teles (University of Aveiro), Nikolaos Hlepas (National Univ. Athens), Anders Lidström and David Feltenius (Umeå University), Carmen Navarro (University Autónoma de Madrid), Jakub Lysek (Univerzity Palackého), Dubravka Jurlina

Alibegovic (Institute of Economics, Zagreb), Dario Cepo (University Zagreb), Detlef Sack (University Bielefeld), Björn Egner and Hubert Heinelt (TU Darmstadt). The following colleagues are part of the network but could not participate in this workshop: Colin Copus (De Montfort University), Bas Denters (Twente University), Daniel Kübler (University Zürich), Herwig Reynaert and Kristof Steyvers (University Ghent), Paula Russells (Univ. College Dublin), Jan Erling Klausen (Univ. Oslo) as well as Dan Ryšavý, Pavel Šaradín and Radomir Sztwiertnia (Univerzity Palackého).

All other EURA members are invited to participate! Those who are interested should contact Hubert Heinelt ([heinelt@pg.tu-darmstadt.de](mailto:heinelt@pg.tu-darmstadt.de)).

The next workshop of the network will take place on the Greek island of Hydra between May 10<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018.