

1st JM-CETRO summer school 2009

August, 24th – 30th 2009, Oldenburg Germany



The Domestic Europeanization of Labour Market and Employment Policies

Effects, Mechanisms and Actors in the process of institutional change

For twenty years EU Member States have been facing severe challenges: Increasing global competition, demographic changes as well as changing family and gender patterns have rendered established employment policies ever less adequate to ensure jobs, prevent unemployment, and to cover new social risks. The European Union therefore has set up multiple programs, strategies and tools of policy coordination aiming to promote a concerted modernization of domestic employment policies. And indeed, in recent years, many European countries have experienced extensive – nonetheless diverse – reforms bringing about new employment policy paradigms, spreading new policy instruments and forming new institutional arrangements in the coordination of employment policies. While the European initiatives have attracted ample research, their effects on domestic institutional change, the underlying mechanisms, as well as their creative appropriation by national, regional and local actors are still not well understood.

We welcome papers providing answers to the 'how' and 'why' questions related to domestic employment policy reforms. We particularly encourage contributions using concepts of Europeanization and institutional change as a framework to explain reforms on the national, regional and local level, particularly in comparative perspective. How did the EU initiatives affect domestic reform processes? If 'Europe' had an effect, why then, are reforms so different between European countries? The latest research on Europeanization shows that to trace a direct European impact might be difficult – if not impossible. But it suggests that domestic actors and their creative appropriation of European resources within national, regional and local arenas might play a major role in explaining the processes by which 'Europe' becomes ever more relevant for the regulation and coordination of domestic employment policy.

The JM-CETRO summer school aims at bringing together advanced doctoral students in economics, law and social sciences who are in the final phase of their PhD or have completed most recently. The summer school will offer workshops in which the contributing papers are either commented by JM-CETRO members (Prof. Martin Heidenreich, Jun.-Prof. Susanne Pernicka, and Prof. Hans-Michael Trautwein) or one of three guest speakers:

- Dr. Daniel Clegg, Social Policy, School of Social and Political Science, University of Edinburgh
- Prof. Paolo Graziano, Department of Institutional Analysis and Public Management, Bocconi University
- Prof. Jonathan Zeitlin, Professor of Public Affairs, Sociology, Political Science, and History; founding director of the European Union Center of Excellence, University of Wisconsin-Madison

The summer school intends to be a platform for young researchers to start forming international research networks and initiate common, international and interdisciplinary research or publication projects. All papers will be published in the JM-CETRO working paper series. We also plan a joint international publication of the best contributions to the workshop, depending on the overall quality of the papers.

To facilitate participation in the summer school we will not charge any participation fee and JM-CETRO will provide the participants with accommodation. Additionally, we offer five scholarships for travel costs for participants from Central and Eastern European Countries (up to 400 Euro). Abstracts (not exceeding 500 words) should be sent to: Mr. Sascha Zirra, sascha.zirra@uni-oldenburg.de before April 15th 2009. Please indicate if you apply for one of the scholarships. Authors of accepted abstracts should send their paper not later than June 30th 2009.