

Migration, Ethnicisation
and the Challenge of Diversity:

The “Others” in Europe and Beyond

International conference, Université Libre de Bruxelles,
28–29 April 2011

In contemporary Europe, the social tensions and political debates produced by immigration are increasingly linked to issues of belonging and identity. The representation of the foreigner is no longer solely defined by his or her place on the labour market or in the social hierarchy. In light of EU enlargement and due to immigration flows, European societies are increasingly questioning their “cultural and ethnic identity”. As a consequence, boundaries between “insiders” and “outsiders” are being redefined. The “others” in Europe are no longer merely those who do not have state citizenship of one of the member states of the Union. In the new European migration context, “otherness” increasingly refers to ethno-cultural minority groups, regardless of their EU citizenship status.

This conference aims to address the construction of identity classifications underlying new forms of inclusion and exclusion that are to be found in contemporary Europe, and beyond. Its scope covers practices of categorization and of resistance, both by majority and minority groups. Anthropologists, social psychologists, sociologists, political scientists and law scholars will meet to discuss the categorization of identity groups through legal and social norms, public policies, institutional practices, social interactions and representations, as well as actors' mobilizations.

This is the closing conference of the research project entitled *Outsiders in Europe. The Foreigner and the ‘Other’ in the Process of Changing Rules and Identities* conducted by the center for transdisciplinary research Migration, Asylum and Multiculturalism (MAM) of the Université Libre de Bruxelles. This research project is funded by the *Ministère de la Communauté française de Belgique, Direction de la recherche scientifique* as a *Action de Recherche Concertée*.

Informations

Location :

Room Dupréel (second floor)
Université Libre de Bruxelles
Institut de Sociologie (Building S)
Avenue Jeanne 44
1050 Brussels

Registration is obligatory, also for students.

Registration fee | 20€ per day – to be paid upon arrival at the conference. Registration is free for students. To register, kindly send an e-mail specifying your name, institutional affiliation and contact details to germe@ulb.ac.be.

More information:

Website | <http://is.ulb.ac.be> (“Séminaires”)
Contact | Isabelle Renneson
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Thursday 28 April 2011

9h00 | **Words of welcome**

Didier Viviers

(Rector of the Université Libre de Bruxelles)

Jean-Michel De Waele (Dean of the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences)

Key notes:

9h30 | **John Berry** (Queen's University, Kingston)
Intercultural relations in plural societies: a comparative perspective

10h45 | **coffee break**

11h15 | **David B. Oppenheimer** (University of California, Berkeley)
The relationship between resistance to immigration and racial, ethnic and religious prejudice in the United States

12h30 | **lunch break**

Afternoon session | round table:

Ethnic Minorities Engaging in Collective Action and the Fight against Discrimination

14h00 | **Pap Ndiaye** (EHESS, Paris) *Title to be confirmed*

14h25 | **Nicole Grégoire** (ULB)
African diasporas in Belgium : associational life, collective action and identity politics

14h45 | **discussion**

15h00 | **coffee break**

15h30 | **Dirk Jacobs** (ULB)
Associational involvement and political participation of ethnic minority groups

15h50 | **Bernd Simon** (Christian-Albrechts-University, Kiel)
Politicized collective identity among migrants in Germany

16h15 | **Alejandra Alarcon** (ULB)
File a discrimination complaint? Ethnic minorities' struggle against inequality by means of the law

16h35-17h30 | **discussion**

17h30 | **reception**

Friday 29 April 2011

9h00 | **Key note:**

Alejandro Portes (Princeton University, Princeton)
Diversity, social capital, and cohesion

10h15 | **coffee break**

Morning session | round table:

Cultural Diversity and Anti-Discrimination Policies

10h45 | **Emmanuelle Bribosia and Isabelle Rorive** (ULB)
Reasonable accommodation: a legal tool to manage religious diversity in Europe

11h05 | **Virginie Guiraudon** (Sciences Po Paris)
Europe between ethnic nationalism and diversity management: analyzing recent controversies involving the EU and member states

11h30 | **Francois Crépeau** (McGill University, Montréal)
Canadian multiculturalism in question: diversity or citizenship?

11h55 | **discussion**

12h30 | **lunch break**

Afternoon session | round table:

Compulsory Introduction and Language Courses for Migrants in Europe

14h00 | **Christian Joppke** (American University of Paris)
How 'liberal' or 'illiberal' is civic integration?

14h25 | **Kees Groenendijk** (Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen)
International norms restricting the use of language and integration tests as instruments for the selection and exclusion of migrants

14h50 | **Yves Pascouau** (ULB)
Mandatory integration measures and conditions in EU member states

15h10 | **discussion**

15h40 | **coffee break**

16h10 | **Rinus Penninx** (Universiteit van Amsterdam)
Civic integration courses in the Netherlands, 1993 - 2009. How a toolkit for early reception and integration became an instrument for assimilation policy

16h35 | **Saskia Bonjour** (ULB)
Governing convictions and intimate life in the age of the shrinking state? French and Dutch civic integration policies

16h55 | **discussion**

Closing comments:

17h30 | **Andrea Rea** (ULB)