

# Programme



# TRANS EUROPEAN TED DIALOGUE

24-25 February 2022

University of Bergen



# Bureaucratic Transformations: Longitudinal Perspectives on Local and (Supra)National Public Administration

## Wednesday 23th February

### 19.00 – 21.00h: Welcome drinks reception

Venue: Grand Hotel Terminus, Zander Kaaes gate 6, 5015 Bergen.

Welcome by *Lise H. Rykkja*, head of Department of Administration and Organization Theory, University of Bergen, Norway.

Welcome by *Zuzana Murdoch*, professor at Department of Administration and Organization Theory, University of Bergen, Norway.

Message by NISPAcee and EGPA Presidents.

## Thursday 24th February

Venue: University Aula, Museplassen 3, 5007 Bergen.

### 09.00-09.30: Registration

### 09.30-09.45: Welcome addresses by Prof. Calin Hintea (President of NISPAcee) and Prof. Jean-Michel Eymeri Douzans (President of EGPA)

### 9.45-11:00: Session 1: Administrative reforms: How do bureaucrats react to shifts in their organizational environment?

Keynote speaker: Hussein Kassim (University of East Anglia)

Discussants: Geert Bouckaert (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven)

Diana-Camelia Iancu (National University of Political Studies and Public Administration Bucharest)

Topic: A vast academic literature on public sector reforms studies reform strategies as well as reform consequences in terms of organizational outputs and performance. Staff attitudes toward public sector reforms and, particularly, the impact of reforms on staff attitudes have received much less attention. So how exactly do bureaucrats react to shifts in their organizational environment?

Issues for discussion: civil servants' attitudes; types of public sector reforms; temporal dynamics of bureaucratic representation.

### 11:00 -11:30 Coffee / Tea Break

### 11:30-12:45: Session 2: Public Administration in crisis: Perfect time to change the tune?

Keynote speaker: Vitalis Nakrošis (Vilnius University)

Discussants: Eva Sørensen (Roskilde University)

Paul Joyce (University of Birmingham)

Topic: Crisis events often pose grave challenges to public sector organizations as existing emergency plans may be insufficient, inappropriate or even inadequate. Given this 'game-changing' nature of wicked and turbulent problems, this session will examine whether, when and how major disruptive events call for new governance solutions, new forms of public administration leadership, and/or new forms of organizing public service delivery.

Issues for discussion: robust governance; temporal dimension of crisis episodes; citizen coproduction; temporary versus permanent organizing.

### 12:45- 13:45 Lunch

**13:45-15:00 Session 3: Time and leadership: What do we know about administrative leadership in and for an uncertain time?**

Keynote speaker: Katarína Staroňová (Comenius University Bratislava)

Discussants: Falk Ebinger (Wirtschaftsuniversität Wien)

Jean-Michel Eymeri-Douzans (Sciences-Po Toulouse)

Topic: In this session, we examine the key tasks of top-level bureaucratic leaders in times of change. Leadership in public organizations goes beyond the mobilization of personal support and the implementation of routine solutions to everyday problems, but should also focus on the development, legitimacy and survival of organizations. How do leaders develop new mental models of the organization and cultivate external supporting mechanisms for legitimacy?

Issues for discussion: top-level bureaucrats; politicization; legitimacy; hierarchy.

**15:00 -15:30 Coffee / Tea Break**

**15:30-16.45 Session 4: Bureaucrats as (quasi)politicians?**

Keynote speaker: Kenneth J. Meier (America University)

Discussants: Magali Gravier (Copenhagen Business School)

Gyorgy Gajduschek (Hungarian Academy of Sciences)

Topic: This session deals with the political representation of civil servants from both a positive and normative perspective. Should public sector employees be allowed to stand for election and enter elected assemblies? Should we worry about the potential substantive representation of policy self-interests by elected public employees?

Issues for discussion: active representation; eligibility rules; patronage; technopopulism; politicization of the bureaucracy...

**19:00 - ...: Conference dinner**

**Friday 25th February**

Venue: University Aula, Museplassen 3, 5007 Bergen.

**09:00-10:30: Session 5: Lobbying bureaucracies: Who lobbies whom, how and why?**

Keynote speaker: Cristina Corduneanu-Huci (Central European University Vienna)

Discussants: Hussein Kassim (University of East Anglia)

Jozsef Peter Martin (Transparency International Hungary)

Topic: While special interest groups address policy-makers, policy-makers may also depend on lobbyists for information and revolving doors may blur lines between lobbyists and policy-makers. This session addresses who lobbies whom, how and why. How do policymakers choose between lobbyists or address issues of reliability and bias? How do interest groups choose between lobbying venues and approaches to influence policy?

Issues for discussion: expertise/experts; revolving doors; transparency and corruption; clientelism; public procurement.

**10:30 -11:00 Coffee / Tea Break**

**11:00-12:30: Session 6: Studying bureaucrats over time: Temporal dynamics and longitudinal research designs in public administration**

Keynote speaker: Muiris MacCarthaigh (Queen's University Belfast)

Discussants: Gyorgy Hajnal (Corvinus University of Budapest)

Jarle Trondal (University of Agder)

Topic: While existing public administration scholarship continues to rely mainly on cross-sectional research designs, this session deals with new tools and

approaches that can help improve our understanding of individual- as well as organization-level temporal dynamics. Is it time to instigate a 'temporal turn' in public administration research?

Issues for discussion: Longitudinal public administration, technical tools; intertemporal data, temporal dynamics.



## Map of Bergen

