

Panel 9:

Description of the proposed theme for the panel (max 800 words)

Bypassing central government? Origins and impacts of direct EU involvement of national political and administrative actors

Rik de Ruiter (Leiden University)

Ellen Mastenbroek (Radboud University Nijmegen)

The scope of European integration broadened in the last decades due to several enlargement rounds and the inclusion of areas of public policy-making beyond the strict boundaries of the internal market project. This deepening and widening of the European integration project has activated a number of (non-)state actors at the domestic level, such as interest groups and policy entrepreneurs, which have turned to the European level to contribute to EU policy making, viewing Brussels as an additional venue to realize their policy objectives. In addition, a range of domestic politico-administrative actors have turned 'European', and become active players at the European stage. National parliaments actively try to influence EU law-making by using their newly acquired Lisbon instruments - seeking to end their role of 'losers of European integration'. Similarly, subnational governments have shifted attention to the European level, establishing regional lobbying offices and organizing in European lobby organizations. Finally, national agencies have organized themselves in European Regulatory Networks, playing an increasingly independent role in EU policy implementation than previously the case.

What has remained unclear so far is the effect of the ‘emancipation’ of these domestic actors vis-à-vis EU affairs on the room to maneuver for national governments in the preparation, negotiation and implementation of EU legislation. How do national governments keep control over the process? Do processes of bypassing by the governments of domestic actors take place and, if yes, under which circumstances? Are there differences between domestic actors with regard to their inclusion or exclusion by the national government in the preparation, negotiation or implementation phase of the EU legislative process? To what extent can we observe cross-national and cross-sectoral differences in bypassing strategies during the various phases of the EU legislative process?

Description of the linkage between the panel and a subtheme of the NIG research programme (max 200 words)

The topic of the panel is closely linked to the subtheme of *Multi-level governance and Europe*. The panel hopes to attract papers in which the interaction between state and non-state actors at the national and sub-national level in the preparation, negotiation and implementation of EU legislation is assessed. The role of EU institutions such as the European Parliament, European Commission and Council of Ministers is important to consider in each of the phases of the legislative process, but especially in the preparation and negotiation phase of EU legislation. In the implementation phase of EU legislation it is worthwhile to also zoom in on the role of actors at the national and sub-national level, i.e. national governments, agencies, provinces and municipalities. With the attention for domestic actors such as national parliaments, interest groups, and journalists the panel aims to attract

papers in which a link is established between European integration on the one hand, and representative democracy, civil society and the public sphere at the national level on the other.

Type of papers (and topics) you would expect to be submitted for your panel

- Conceptual and empirical papers on the behavior and strategies of national political and administrative actors like parliaments, agencies, and subnational governments, during the preparation, negotiation, and implementation of EU policies.
- Studies on the antecedents of this behavior and these strategies, as well as research on their effects on European governance.
- Studies on the responses of national governments to such direct involvement of domestic political and administrative actors in the EU policy process.
- We explicitly welcome research that compares countries, sectors, or the behavior/strategies of various types of domestic actors.

List of senior members who will be invited for submitting a paper:

Alons-Van der Kamp	Gerry	RU Nijmegen
Beyers	Jan	Antwerpen
Binnema	Harmen	Utrecht
Brandsma	Gijs-Jan	Utrecht
Braun	Caelesta	Utrecht
Bursens	Peter	Antwerpen
Dimitrova	Antoaneta	Leiden
Esch, van	Femke	Utrecht
Fraussen	Bert	Antwerpen
Geuijen	Karin	Utrecht
Groenleer	Martijn	Delft
Haverland	Markus	Rotterdam
Havinga	Tetty	RU Nijmegen
Hecke, van	Steven	KU Leuven
Liefferink	Duncan	RU Nijmegen
Meijerink	Sander	RU Nijmegen

Neuhold	Christine	Maastricht
Princen	Sebastiaan	Utrecht
Segers	Mathieu	Utrecht
Spendzharova	Aneta	Maastricht
Steunenberg	Bernard	Leiden
Stiller	Sabina	RU Nijmegen
Thiel, van	Sandra	RU Nijmegen
Toshkov	Dimiter	Leiden
Versluis	Esther	Maastricht
Vink	Maarten	Maastricht
Vis	Barbara	VU
Wiering	Mark	RU Nijmegen
Wille	Anchrit	Leiden
Yesilkagit	Kutsal	Leiden
Zwaan	Pieter	RU Nijmegen