

**NIG Annual Work Conference 2016,
24-25 November, Antwerp (Belgium)**

Panel 4: International and EU governance

Dr. Rik de Rooter (Leiden University)

Prof. Dr. Esther Versluis (Maastricht University)

With this panel we aim to bring together junior and senior scholars interested in the functioning of systems of multilevel governance, with a focus on the interaction between levels of regional, international and EU governance (including regulation). In an ever globalizing world, the importance of politics and policy beyond the nation state is growing rapidly, resulting in changes in the multi-level polity in which the traditional nation state is only one of many relevant actors. An illustration of this phenomenon is the impact of the global financial crisis on the regulation of the financial sector in the European Union. Because of the financial crisis – triggered by, among others, private rating agencies – the EU is now able to regulate a field on which competences were until recently shielded by nation states from the influence of European integration. At the same time, the EU cannot introduce regulation in isolation from other international actors, such as the World Bank and the IMF.

Problems policy makers need to deal with at the national level and beyond are increasingly transboundary in nature, as modern societies are consisting of a tightly woven web of critical infrastructures crossing geographical borders and policy boundaries. As a result, risks and uncertainties easily spread over very diverse policy fields and spread both within the EU system of multi-level governance and also globally. Such transboundary problems are particularly hard to manage due to the fragmentation of authority and thus a lack of clear ownership and responsibility for tackling the problems at hand.

This panel aims to bring together a network of colleagues working on questions related to this growing interconnectedness – and accompanying increasing levels of complexity and uncertainty – between levels of governance and government within and beyond the nation state. We would like to continue the cooperation after this panel in a NIG colloquium on the following topics:

- *Policy*: How and to what extent are complex, uncertain and transboundary policy issues regulated effectively and responsibly at various levels of governance?
- *Politics*: How are relations between elected and non-elected public officials at the various levels in the multi-level polity affected by the growing interconnectedness?
- *Polity*: What new institutional arrangements at the (sub)national, EU and international level emerge as a response to increasing globalization?

Next to presenting and discussing the individual papers, we will use the NIG conference to further discuss the future activities of this new NIG colloquium.

Panel chairs:

Dr. Rik de Ruiter (r.de.ruiter@fgga.leidenuniv.nl) & Prof.dr. Esther Versluis (e.versluis@maastrichtuniversity.nl).

PANEL PROGRAMME

Thursday, 24 November 2016

Building Hof van Liere, Room Tassis

14.30-14.45

Welcome and introduction NIG research colloquium on International and EU governance –
Esther Versluis and Rik de Ruiter

14.45-15.15

'David and Goliath of EU urban agenda: taking stock of EU and local government interaction'
– Elena Bondarouk

15.15-15.45

'The EU accountability index. Assessing the accountability powers of two EU watchdogs' –
Mark Bovens & Anchrit Wille

15.45-16.15

'Europe In turmoil: Economic governance in Europe and Weak Links' – Shawn Donnelly

16.15-16.45

'Bargaining and deliberation in decision-making on the EU's Visa Information System' –
Santino Lo Bianco & Sebastiaan Princen

16.45-17.15

'Treating "networks" as networks: The promises and pitfalls of a network-analytical approach to transnational collaboration' – Machiel van der Heijden & Jelmer Schalk

17.15-17.45

'Local Challenges in a rapidly changing world' – Rosa Groen

17.45-18.00

Concluding remarks – Esther Versluis and Rik de Ruiter

18.30 Drinks and dinner

Friday, 25 November 2016

Building A (Prinsstraat 13), Room A205

10.00-10.30

'Between Europe and a hard place: balancing different expectations on the delegation of EU plant health inspection tasks in the Netherlands' – Pieter Zwaan, Michelle Zonneveld & Sandra van Thiel

10.30-11.00

'The effect of issue salience on the relationship between multiple principals in the steering of agencies' – Michelle Zonneveld & Pieter Zwaan (only presentation, no paper)

11.00-11.30

'Is the bureaucratic implementer the better European? Explaining the willingness to implement EU migration law amongst Dutch migration law implementers' – Nora Dörrenbacher

11.30-12.00

'Why the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership is not (so) new, and why it is also not (so) bad' – Dirk de Bièvre & Arlo Poletti

12.00-12.30

Concluding remarks: programme NIG Research Colloquium – Esther Versluis and Rik de Ruiter

13.00 Lunch