

## Summer School *Local Democracy, Decentralization and Multilevel Governance*

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The summer school of the research chair “Territories and mutations of public action» (TMAP) organised jointly by the Institute of Political Studies (Sciences Po) Rennes, the Paris Institute of Territorial Governance (IGT), and the International Political Science Association (IPSA) with the support of the French Association of Political Science (AFSP) was held from July 4<sup>th</sup> to July 6<sup>th</sup> 2016 in Rennes, France. It gathered 40 participants, mostly from the francophone countries: France, Canada (Québec), Switzerland, Belgium, but also from Croatia, Germany, and Kirgizstan. The programme of the summer school was designed for master and PhD students, public sector managers and elected local officials who wish to benefit from teaching on emerging issues in contemporary public sector governance.

The three-day programme was bilingual, held in English and French. It was structured in three thematic units (local democracy, decentralisation, and multi-level governance) with one morning and one afternoon session, during which a keynote speaker would present a topic in two hours, followed by one-hour audience discussion, and a closing round table with local professionals at the end of each day. Questions raised during the first day by Professor Leonardo Morlino, University LUISS, Rome included the construction of local democracy from multi-institutional perspective, an analysis of the relationship between local identity in Northern Europe, Central Europe, Southern Europe and Eastern Europe, and the quality of democracy. New trends in local participatory democracy (participatory budget, public debates, social networks, citizens' juries, participatory journalism), its advantages and disadvantages were assessed by Professor Lođc Blondiaux, University of Paris 1 (Sorbonne). The round table “An experience of participatory democracy: The Citizen's factory in Rennes»

was held at the Rennes Town Hall, hosted by the mayor of Rennes Nathalie Appéré and the representatives of the town administration. The city officials presented the process of participatory budget decision-making that kicked off in 2014. As of 2016, each year 5 per cent of the local budget for investments (€3,5 million) is to be allocated for the projects of the so called citizen's factory, based at sub-municipal level of thirteen neighbourhoods, which has so far produced a total of 992 project ideas with more than 7,000 local participants (individuals, non-profits, businesses) in six policy areas. So far, 54 projects have been accepted by the town council and are in implementation phase.

The second day started with a morning session on contemporary state reforms from a historic institutionalist perspective and Europeanisation effects (territorial, financial, regulatory policy) in France and Europe by Professor Romain Pasquier, research director at the CNRS, Sciences Po Rennes. Professor Guy Lachapelle, Secretary General of IPSA and professor at Concordia University, Montreal presented a comparative analysis of the division of powers and functions in ten federal regimes around the world, showing that centralisation of power (exclusive federal power or shared power with federal states) is still strong in almost every federal country analysed, except for social services which are lower level competences. Closing round table was held on the nature of relationship between regions and metropolitan areas in France (competition for resources, *mille-feuille/status quo* or freedom to cooperate in a system of "variable geometry"), hosted by Laurence Lemouzy, co-director of IGT Paris and speakers Laurence Fortin, vice-president of the Regional Council of Brittany, André Crocq, vice-president of Rennes Métropole, Benjamin Grebot, director of the Agency for Urbanism of Brest-Brittany.

The final topic of the last day dealt with the instruments of contemporary multi-level territorial governance. Patrick Le Galès, research director at the CNRS, Sciences Po Paris, discussed the neo-institutional categorical apparatus of governance: actors (who governs whom, ungovernability of complex societies), instruments (regulation, public policy, networks, technology ...), methods (coercion, negotiation, deliberation), goals and results (decentralisation, fragmentation and inequalities, dark side of the governance such as corruption and clientelism). Alistair Cole, professor of political science at Cardiff University and visiting scholar at Sciences Po Lyon, closed the programme with a presentation of his cross-national empirical research on effects of budgetary constraints and normative Europeanisation on the territorial political capacity of governments in four social-democratic European regions: Brittany (France), Andalusia

(Spain), Wallonia (Belgium), and Wales (United Kingdom), using mixed research methods and comparative case study. His analytical framework was based upon intergovernmentalism and regional authority index created by Hooghe, Marks and Schakel, but he moved further by including into his research new variables, indicators, scales and sources.

*Daria Dubajić\**

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\* Daria Dubajić, Research Assistant, Chair of Administrative Science, Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb (znanstveni novak na Katedri za upravnu znanost Pravnog fakulteta Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, e-mail: ddubajic@pravo.hr)