

Governing Climate Change: Polycentricity in Action?

An International Spring School

When & Where: 28-31 March 2017, Heerlen, The Netherlands
Who: for early career researchers – i.e. PhD students, research masters' students and those who obtained their PhD degree < 7 years ago.

Organized by: COST Action INOGOV (Innovations in Climate Governance, IS 1309, www.inogov.eu)



The rapid entry into force of the climate treaty negotiated in Paris in 2015 has been widely interpreted as a breakthrough moment in over thirty years of international climate diplomacy. However, there remains a significant ‘gap’ between the non-binding emissions reduction pledges (INDCs) made in Paris and what is required to ensure that warming does not exceed the global target of two degrees. Yet ‘new’ and more dynamic forms of governing are appearing around, below and to the side of the UNFCCC, producing a much more complex, multi-centred or polycentric pattern. What is less clear is how and why these newer forms are emerging, how they interact and/or link with one another, and whether or not they will be sufficient to decarbonise society sufficiently fast enough, or adapt society to the impacts of change. These vital questions will be addressed from a plurality of theoretical and methodological perspectives in this spring school, which will be the first of two organized by the INOGOV network of excellence (the next in 2018).

The spring school will inform participants about many vital topics, including:

- the specific characteristics of polycentric climate governance
- the concepts of governance innovation, of transition and of transformation
- conceptual frameworks surrounding the notion of governance inventions (policy entrepreneurs, experiments and proof of principle, instrument constituencies etc.)
- conceptual frameworks to explain the diffusion of governance inventions (internal and external drivers, barriers, post adoption adaptations etc.)
- conceptual frameworks to evaluate governance innovations
- the availability and characteristics of data and research methods for studying polycentricity and innovations in climate governance
- role of political power and knowledge in climate governance
- systemic concerns: equity, legitimacy and accountability

Learning

During the spring school, 10-12 leading international scholars from a diversity of theoretical and methodological backgrounds will present the latest insights from their research. They will interact with participants who will have many opportunities to learn about cutting edge theoretical and empirical work. Generic skills connected to presenting and publishing research findings will also be covered.

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Tuesday 28th March	Wednesday 29th March	Thursday 30th March	Friday 31st March
9:00 Welcome and introduction Keynote lectures on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The concept of polycentricity • Innovation as invention and diffusion 	9:00 Keynote lectures on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluating the effectiveness of transnational climate governance • Orchestration 	9:00 Small groups on methods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualitative methods • Statistics/ comparative methods • Discourse • Meta-analysis • Case study method 	9:00 Small group work: Students present their papers and get feedback from senior scholars
12-13 lunch	12-13 lunch	12-13 lunch	12-13 lunch
Keynote lectures on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Power and knowledge in innovation • Accountability and legitimacy in innovation Panel discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theorising policy innovation 	Small groups on conceptual frameworks for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invention • Diffusion • Evaluation Reports from small groups	Open Space Session for free interaction between the participants in small groups Reports from small groups	Questions & Answers session with senior scholars on how to publish Introduction to the ECIN network Concluding plenary on learnings
19:00 dinner with senior scholars	19:00 dinner	19:00 dinner in downtown Heerlen	16:00 departure

How to apply

Please send a **letter of motivation** (maximum 400 words) and an **abstract** of a paper (maximum 400 words) to inogov@ou.nl by **13th November 2016**. The **letter of motivation** should explain how attending the spring school could benefit the attendees own research and next career steps. The **abstract** should describe the objective, background, theory and methods, expected insights and fit with INOGOV. Please list the title, the name and e-mail address of the participant. We understand that applicants will be at a range of career stages and may not yet have fully formed ideas ready to write a full paper. In this case, we request that applicants prepare their **abstract** based on their research activities with a view to further developing them at the spring school. Full papers should be 4000-7000 words long. They will need to be submitted to inogov@ou.nl by March 10th 2017. Participants are expected to give a 10-minute presentation of their paper using only 3-4 PPT slides.

No Fee

There is no conference fee and reasonable funding will be available to cover travel and accommodation expenses. We particularly encourage PhD students from COST inclusiveness target countries to apply (i.e. Bosnia-Herzegovina, Czech Republic, Estonia, Croatia, Hungary, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia, and Turkey). We will strive for a gender balance and actively encourage women to apply. The selection of participants will be made by 30th November 2016.

Organizing Committee

Dr. Angela Oels (NL Open University), Prof. Dave Huitema (NL Open University/VU Amsterdam), Dr. Raoul Beunen (NL Open University), Dr. James Patterson (VU Amsterdam), Prof. Andrew Jordan (University of East Anglia, UK), Dr. Johanna Forster (University of East Anglia)