

About the PhD-Training School:

Local governments all over Europe are in a period of intense reform activity, not least of all because in some countries they have been the level of government most seriously affected by the still expanding global financial and economic crisis. They are simultaneously faced by a variety of – partly contradictory – reform pressures, often aimed at conflicting reform objectives (e.g. efficiency vs. participation). Against this background, the PhD-Training School is meant to discuss reforms, experiments and changes in local democracy and local public sector institutions.

The course is intended to provide training in theories and methods to be applied in the study of local public sector reforms and democracy, especially in comparative perspectives. The Training Schools overall topic is “innovation in local governance.” Therefore, issues/topics such as governance, networks, enabling authorities, collaborative arrangements and the urban environment (e.g. city-regions, metropolitan areas etc.) and all topics dealing with contemporary modes of decision- and policy-making are welcome. In addition, more “classical” topics dealing with reform themes such as participatory and direct democracy, territorial and functional reforms and (post-) New Public Management reforms are welcome.

About the COST Action:

‘LocRef’ is an EU funded network of researchers coming from 31 European countries who work in the field of local public sector reforms. The Action will provide a platform for establishing a new set of comparative knowledge on local public sector reforms and for integrating the fragmented research activities in this neglected area of investigation. It aims to enhance the scope of the conceptual foundations as well as the methodological rigor of comparative public administration. The research activities will yield policy relevant knowledge concerning local reform measures from a European perspective, which can then be utilized to improve policy making for future public sector modernization.

A major objective of the Action is to encourage young researchers in network building to promote their future careers. The aim is to strengthen their methodological skills as well as their conceptual and comparative knowledge on local public sector reforms. For more information, please refer to http://www.cost.eu/domains_actions/isch/Actions/IS1207; and <http://www.uni-potsdam.de/cost-locref/>

About the Anargyrion and Korgialenion School of Spetses

The Anargyrion and Korgialenion College Foundation has been entrusted with the implementation of the vision and the management of the bequest of national benefactor Sotirios Anargyros. The facilities of the Anargyrion and Korgialenion College near the historic township of Spetses and the unique pinewood forest of the Foundation – covering approximately half of the island’s surface and ensuring its sustainable development – have played a key role in the Foundation’s activities during the period of operation of the College (1928-1983) and during the period that followed. Indeed, with gradual improvements, the facilities have been a pole of attraction for national and international

education and research activities. Moreover, the facilities – and especially the ancient type 1100-seat theatre on the adjacent hill owned by the Foundation - have hosted numerous cultural activities.

For more information, please refer to http://www.spetsesschool.gr/?page_id=629

About the University of Athens

The idea of establishing a University in Greece as a "stronghold of enlightenment and freedom", emerged alongside with the Greek War of Independence, also known as the Greek Revolution. The National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, officially founded in April 14th, 1837, is the first University not only of Greece but both the Balkan peninsula and the Eastern Mediterranean region. Today, it is one of the largest universities in Europe and still perhaps the most prestigious university in the country. With a student body of about 125,000 undergraduate and postgraduate students, over 2,000 members of academic staff and approximately 1,300 assisting, administrative and secretarial staff, the University of Athens aims at excellence in both teaching and research in a significantly varied range of disciplines, reaching from medicine and physics to law and archeology.

For more information, please refer to <http://en.uoa.gr/>

About EUROLOC and EURA:

The Standing Group in Local Government Studies of the European Consortium of Political Research (LOGOPOL) has been holding Summer Schools in Local Government and Governance Studies since 1995. In 2012, the Standing Group in Local Government Studies and EURA (European Research Association) joined their forces to work together by organizing the EUROLOC and EURA Summer School in Local Government and Governance studies. This Summer School supports PhD students in their research activities by giving them the opportunity to present and discuss their work with others and inspire their research. The aim is to bring students up-to-date with ongoing research in the field of local government and governance, develop links between PhD students and experienced researchers in the field of local government and governance studies who work with the same kind of research questions. They want to stimulate scientific exchange among students of different backgrounds, foster cross-national working relations among the participants, contribute to the development of the comparative study of local politics and administration, but also discuss methodological questions of comparative local research either nationally or internationally, either quantitatively or qualitatively. In 2015, EUROLOC and EURA will not organize a separate summer school in local governance studies but participate in the organization of the common PhD training course with the COST Action and the University of Athens to promote the common aims. For more information about EUROLOC, EURA and the previous summer schools see http://www.uni-stuttgart.de/soz/avps/euroloc_neu/home/index.html

Organization

Who can participate: We encourage early stage researchers (PhD students and PhDs + 8 years) from disciplines such as administrative science, law, economics, public management, sociology, political science or history interested in the overall topic to participate. The number of participants is limited to 24.

Certificate of Attendance: Every participant receives a certificate of attendance. The certificate includes a brief course description, which may be sufficient for your home University to grant you some credit points for the attendance. We will suggest five credit points. Students are expected to give a brief presentation of their work (PhD topic, about 15-20 minutes) during the seminar, to shortly comment one assigned paper chosen among those presented by other PhD Students (about 5-10 minutes) and to deliver a written paper on their work (PhD or research) until 2 weeks before the start of the training School.

Fee and Financing: The School of Spetses offers accommodation and half board (breakfast and lunch) plus two coffee breaks with light snacks each day (Sunday to Wednesday; Saturday only accommodation). The price is 57.-€/day (49.-€ accommodation for Saturday). The acceptance of the offer is mandatory. **The total price is 277.- €.**

Participants should apply for financial support from the COST project. The COST Action 'LocRef' can give a grant to 24 applicants coming from the participating countries of the Action (click here for eligible countries: http://www.cost.eu/domains_actions/isch/Actions/IS1207?parties).

The grant will be a **lump sum of 750.- €** for participants from **outside Greece**. The grant for participants **from Greece will be 450.- €**. Attendance on all four lecture days is mandatory. The selection will be based on the paper/abstract quality.

Registration procedure: Please submit an abstract that provides a brief outline of your current work (PhD topic/project outline, 300 words max., in English) accompanied by a short CV, electronically by **June 30, 2015**. To **apply for the PhD-grant** of the COST Action LocRef and to register, please send your abstract and CV to Sabine Kuhlmann (sabine.kuhlmann@uni-potsdam.de), Christian Schwab (chschwab@uni-potsdam.de), Nikos Hlepas (nhlepas@gmail.com), Panos Getimis (getimisp@gmail.com) and Kristof Steyvers (Kristof.Steyvers@ugent.be) and refer to 'PhD-Training School Grant' in the subject line.

Acceptance of participants and grantees will be notified within July.

“Innovation in Local Government”				
Provisional Programme (13.09. – 17.09. 2015)				
DATE	HOUR	SESSION	LECTURERS/DISCUSSANTS	TOPIC
13th Sept.	9:00	OPENING	Prof. G. BOUCKAERT, Prof. N. HLEPAS, Prof. P. GETIMIS	Welcoming & Course Objectives
Theme Day 1: Local Government Reforms and Innovation				
	9:30	Lecture 1	Prof. G. BOUCKAERT	“Sustainable Public Sector Innovation: ? or !”
	10:30	Student Presentations 1-2*	Prof. G. BOUCKAERT	
	11:50	Break		
	12:00	Student Presentations 3-4*	Prof. G. BOUCKAERT / Prof. B. DENTERS	
	13:20	Lunch		
	14:30	Lecture 2	Prof. B. DENTERS	“Invitational Governance: Exploiting the Innovative Capacity of Local Communities”
	15:30	Student Presentations 5-6*	Prof. B. DENTERS	
	16:50	Break		
	17:00	Summing Up		
Theme Day 2: Different Responses of Local Government Innovation				
14th Sept.	9:00	Lecture 3	Prof. H. HEINELT	“How to Explain That Some Cities are More Innovative Than Others?”
	10:00	Student Presentations 7-8*	Prof. H. HEINELT	

	11:20	Break		
	11:30	Student Presentations 9-10*	Prof. P. GETIMIS	
	12:50	Lunch		
	14:00	Lecture 4	Prof. P. GETIMIS / Prof. N. HLEPAS	"Why Cities Differently Respond to Fiscal Stress? Leadership and Legitimacy. The Greek Experience of Austerity Policies"
	15:00	Student Presentations 11-12*	Prof. P. GETIMIS / Prof. N. HLEPAS	
	16:20	Break		
	16:30	Student Presentations 13-14*	Prof. N. HLEPAS	
	17:50	Summing Up		
	20:00	Joint Dinner		
Theme Day 3: What's the Future of Local Government?				
15th Sep.	9:00	Lecture 5	Prof. A. LIDSTROEM	"Local Government Legitimacy and Democratic Innovation"
	10:00	Student Presentations 15-16*	Prof. A. LIDSTROEM	
	11:20	Break		
	11:30	Student Presentations 17-18*	Prof. A. LIDSTROEM	
	12:50	Lunch		
	14:00	Lecture 6	Prof. C. NAVARRO	"Policies, Strategies and Performances of 'Smart' Cities in Europe"
	15:00	Student Presentations 19-20*	Prof. C. NAVARRO	
	16:20	Break		
	16:30	Student Presentations 21-22*	Prof. C. NAVARRO	
	17:50	Summing Up		

Theme Day 4: Research Methods				
16th Sep.	9:00	Lecture 7	Prof. K. STEYVERS	„Doing Comparative Research on Local Politics: Between Inertia and Innovation”
	10:00	Student Presentations 23-24*	Prof. K. STEYVERS	
	11:20	Break		
	11:30	Methods Training (Part I)	Prof. H.V.D. KOLK	Research Questions
	12:30	Lunch		
	13:30	Methods Training (Part II)	Prof. H. V. D. KOLK	Theory and Hypothesis Testing
	14:50	Methods Training (Part III)	Prof. H.V.D. KOLK	Research Design and Case Selection
	15:50	Break		
	16:00	Methods Training (Part IV)	Prof. H.V.D. KOLK	Data Collection & Data Analysis
	17:00	Final Discussion	Prof. N. HLEPAS / Prof. K. STEYVERS / Prof. H.V.D. KOLK	
	18:00	Summing Up & Closing	Prof. N. HLEPAS	Looking Ahead
Day 5: Social Day (voluntarily)				
17th Sep.	10:00	Joint Breakfast		
	11:00	Beach		

* Students' presentation are organized as following (and in this order):

- 15-20 minutes for the presentation of the research project/PhD topic
- 5-10 minutes for comments by the junior discussant (PhD student)
- 10 minutes for comments by the assembly
- 5 minutes for comments by the senior discussant (Trainer)