

Section 3 – Politica Comparata

Chairs: Gianfranco Baldini, Elisabetta de Giorgi

Elenco e descrizione di tutti i panels

Panel 3.13 The Politicization of Migration in Europe: Effects and Dynamics

Conflicts over immigration have become very salient in public debates and evidently impacted on the political agendas of governments in Europe. Conventional explanations of the politicization of migration (Grande et al., 2018; Zurn, 2012; Van der Brug et al. 2015) emphasize that it is the result of the interplay between a number of objective and measurable factors: increase in migration flows; increase in issue salience, social mobilisations, and the agenda-setting influence of the populist radical right (Castelli Gattinara, 2017); as well as the reactive responses to anti-migrant attitudes by mainstream parties and governments. While most of the existing literature on the politicisation of migration has focused on these objective and measurable drivers of the politicisation process, and on its impacts on policy outputs, this panel aims to look, more specifically, at its consequences on political parties and other political actors, policy processes, and decision-making dynamics. It thus addresses the following research questions: how do actors within the migration (multi-level) governance system adapt or react to increased levels of politicisation of migration? Can we observe differences between actors of different types and with different positions in the governance system, or across different levels of governance, countries, or regional settings e.g. depending on the presence of radical right parties in government?

The panel, therefore, aims to analyse governance processes and dynamics in contexts characterised by high levels of (rather than raising) politicisation of migration, on the aftermath of the refugee crisis. It thus proposes to analyse shifts (vs continuation) of previous dynamics in the wake of the 2015 migration crisis, the translation of restrictive rhetoric into policy making (vs existing gaps between discourse and actual policy measures), the interlinks between public attitudes on immigration, political contestation and parties' positions on immigration, or the impact of politicisation on the existing structure of party competition or actors' positions on the supranational and global regulation of immigration. Whilst we welcome single case studies, contributions with a comparative focus comparing different actors, or applying a comparative lens across different governance levels, regional settings or EU member states are particularly encouraged to apply.

Chairs: Andrea Pettrachin, Leila Hadj-Abdou