

## Winter School on Federalism and Governance 2021

# Federalism and Local Self-Government

Innsbruck (A) and Bolzano/Bozen (I)  
1 February - 12 February 2021



### WHAT IS THE WINTER SCHOOL ABOUT?

The Winter School is a two-week international postgraduate programme on federalism, regionalism and multi-level governance. Through an interdisciplinary and comparative approach, it explores how federalism can contribute to multi-level, integrated and pluralistic decision-making.

A wide range of lectures gives participants the opportunity to broaden their knowledge of multilevel governance and government, especially from the perspectives of law and political science. The Winter School provides a cutting-edge international learning environment with world class scholars of various academic disciplines from around the globe running the courses and workshops.

The 2021 Winter School will focus on **federalism and local self-government**. The upcoming edition is organized in close cooperation with the European Union's H2020 Research and Innovation Staff E change project "LoGov – Local Government and the Changing Urban-Rural Interplay".

For one week at the University of Innsbruck, Austria, and one week at Eurac Research, Bolzano/Bozen, Italy, participants will analyze the status of local government within multilevel systems. They will examine the constitutional status and protection of local government and look at the powers that national and subnational constitutions confer upon local government. Their functioning in local government practice will be discussed as well as the changing interplay between urban and rural areas.

Participants will explore how states structure local government to be better able to face increasingly depopulated rural areas and rapidly growing metropolises and how local financial arrangements differ between local governments. The Winter School will consider a wide range of case studies, including examples from Europe, North America, Africa and Asia. In addition, the program will offer round table with practitioners discussing cooperation mechanisms for horizontal and vertical intergovernmental relations. Interactive workshops will provide insights into local participation, spatial planning, metropolitan governance and fiscal arrangements.

Besides numerous opportunities for discussion with experts lecturers on multilevel governance, a variety of interactive sessions will offer participants the chance to share their own knowledge and experience. Lectures, workshops, Q&A's and discussion groups will address the multifaceted roles local government play through the comparison of the various case studies.

### The Winter School will examine a series of issues:

- How do national and subnational constitutions deal with local government?
- What is the constitutional protection of local government?
- What are the dimensions of local autonomy?
- Are there asymmetries with regard to urban and rural local governments?
- What kind of financial resources can local governments rely upon?
- How can local governments meet current challenges like rural depopulation and rapid urban growth?
- Does the merging of local governments entail efficiency gain?
- How do local government differ between multilevel systems in North America, Europe, Africa and Asia?
- What can the various forms and tiers of local government learn from each other?

The 2021 Winter School examines these and other questions by combining theoretical expertise and relevant case studies. As such, the programme is a unique opportunity for young academics, postgraduate students, civil servants and practitioners to receive enhanced training on the theoretical and practical aspects of federalism.

### WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

The Winter School is designed for those who wish to increase their knowledge of federalism through an interdisciplinary and comparative approach, including:

- young researchers and academics
- post-docs, postgraduate and graduate students
- civil servants from local, regional or national government
- employees of international organisations or NGOs

*Please note that the programme requires previous basic knowledge of federalism and local government.*

Due to the recent Covid-19 pandemic, it is difficult at this stage to plan major events in advance. The organizers hope that the Winter School 2021 can take place in person. However, they reserve the right to make any changes to the programme. For further details, please refer to our website: [winterschool.eurac.edu](http://winterschool.eurac.edu)

## WHAT TO EXPECT IN INNSBRUCK AND BOLZANO/BOZEN?

The two-week programme is located in an exciting international learning environment in Austria (Innsbruck, Tyrol) and in Italy (Bolzano/Bozen, South Tyrol) and includes:

- lectures by distinguished academics;
- discussions and case studies with experts;
- study visits to political institutions;
- interactive workshops.

*The Winter School is held entirely in English.*

## SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

- **Univ.-Prof. Dr. Anna Gamper**  
Professor at the Department of Public Law, State and Administrative Theory, Faculty of Law, University of Innsbruck.
- **Prof. Dr. Francesco Palermo**  
Head of the Institute for Comparative Federalism of Eurac Research in Bolzano/Bozen and Professor of Comparative Public Law at the Faculty of Law, University of Verona.
- **Univ.-Prof. DDr. Günther Pallaver**  
Professor at the Department of Political Science, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, University of Innsbruck.



The *Institute for Comparative Federalism* carries out comparative legal studies and applied research on governance trends in federal, regional and supranational systems within Europe and around the world. The institute is part of Eurac Research, Bolzano/Bozen, an innovative centre for research and training based in South Tyrol, Italy. Founded in 1992 as a private institution, Eurac Research is composed of eleven research institutes and three centers.



The *Leopold-Franzens-Universität Innsbruck*, Austria, founded in 1669, has gained a long-standing reputation for studies on federalism. It serves as the main academic centre of Western Austria and its neighbouring regions. Its sixteen faculties, among them the Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, offer a wide range of studies. The University is situated in the heart of the Land Tyrol.

## LECTURERS

- **Dr. Elisabeth Alber** – Eurac Research, Bolzano/Bozen, Italy
- **Prof. Dr. Eva Maria Belser** – University of Fribourg, Switzerland
- **Dr. Silvia Bolgherini** – Eurac Research, Bolzano/Bozen, Italy
- **Univ.-Prof. Dr. Anna Gamper** – University of Innsbruck, Austria
- **Prof. Andrew Harding** – National University of Singapore
- **Prof. Martin Horak** – Western University, Canada
- **Univ.-Prof. Dr. Ferdinand Karlhofer** – University of Innsbruck, Austria
- **Dr. Andreas Kiefer** – Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe
- **Dr. Karl Kössler** – Eurac Research, Bolzano/Bozen, Italy
- **Prof. Dr. Angel Moreno Molina** – Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain
- **Prof. Dr. Francesco Palermo** – Eurac Research, Bolzano/Bozen and University of Verona, Italy
- **Dr. Sara Parolari** – Eurac Research, Bolzano/Bozen, Italy
- **Dr. Elton Stafa** – NALAS Network of Associations of Local Authorities of South-East Europe
- **Dr. Nicole Töpperwien** – Ximpulse GmbH, Switzerland
- **Dr. Martina Trettel** – Eurac Research, Bolzano/Bozen, Italy
- **Dr. Alice Valdesalici** – Eurac Research, Bolzano/Bozen, Italy
- **Prof. Dr. Francisco Velasco** – Autonomous University of Madrid, Spain
- **Prof. Dr. Jaap de Visser** – University of the Western Cape, South Africa
- **Prof. Dr. Jens Woelk** – University of Trento, Italy and Eurac Research, Bolzano/Bozen

## DATES AND VENUES: 1 February – 12 February 2021

The first week takes place at the Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, Leopold-Franzens-Universität, Innsbruck, Austria; the second week takes place at the Institute for Comparative Federalism, Eurac Research Bolzano/Bozen, Italy.

## Application deadline: 18 October 2020

For further information, a detailed programme, enrolment procedure, costs and scholarship opportunities, please visit: [winterschool.eurac.edu](http://winterschool.eurac.edu)

### Eurac Research

Institute for Comparative Federalism  
Viale Druso/Drususallee 1 - I-39100 Bolzano/Bozen  
T +39 0471 055 239 - F +39 0471 055 299  
email: [winterschool@eurac.edu](mailto:winterschool@eurac.edu) – [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/EuracFederalism) [Twitter](https://twitter.com/EuracFederalism) @EuracFederalism

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 823961