

6th International Conference in Interpretive Policy Analysis:
Discursive Spaces. Politics, Practices and Power
(IPA, Cardiff, 23-25 june 2011)

Panel 34: The appropriations of public policies by citizens

Beyond the common dichotomy between «top down» and «bottom up» approaches of public action (Sabatier, 1986), investigations questioning the appropriations of policies by their publics, that is to say the "nationals" (Warin, 1999), "constituents" or "ordinary citizens" (Rose, 1989), have been scarce. The publics of institutions do not constitute a homogeneous group and we can differentiate the attitudes of social actors faced with the implementation of policies in a wide range of social spheres (police, social, schooling, health, environment, justice, taxation, immigration, etc). We can make hypothesize that trajectories, resources and social characteristics of the constituents have an influence on the appropriation of public action. What produces a public policy at its publics? Can we observe recurrent individual and/or collective behaviors in the "usual" appropriations of public policies? To what extend do the differentiated relations to politics (Gaxie, 1978) have an influence on the reception (Le Grignou, 2003) of public programs? May the reactions of these publics (support/indifference/resistance, etc.) redirect the policies? Do they strengthen the possibilities of the ordinary citizens' participation in the democratic debate (Verhoeven, 2009)? While collective mobilizations have been widely studied (Mayntz, 1993; Giugni, 2002), individual practices have largely been unexplored. To what extent do ordinary people adapt to, or divert from, public policies, in their interactions with the institutional protagonists (Lipsky, 1980; Dubois, 1999) or through strategies of avoidance and resistance (Scott, 1990)? This frame of analysis leads to explore the meanings people attribute to policies and to their (no) resort to institutions. This panel will privilege papers inquiring about various social spheres across national contexts using preferably a comparative framework. We encourage researchers to mobilize a wide range of theoretical perspectives. Proposals will have to expose hypotheses and the empirical data used in the research.

Session 1 : Perceptions and “participation” to public action (24 june, 14:15-15:45)

Chair : Nazli Nozarian, University Paris 1 Pantheon Sorbonne, CESSP-CRPS

Discutant : Vincent Dubois, University of Strasbourg, GSPE

- Margit van Wessel, Wageningen University, Communication Science

What people mean when they talk about government (not) listening: citizens' perspectives on government responsiveness in the Netherlands

- Dorothée Prud'homme, Université Paris 1 Pantheon Sorbonne, CESSP-CRPS

Ethnicisation as a perceived strategy of appropriation of healthcare public services by Roma patients

- Cristian Nitou, Loughborough University

Where are the people in EU foreign policy ?

- Simona Davidescu, University of Southampton, Teaching Fellow in Public Policy and Governance, School of Social Sciences

Climate Change and public participation in Eastern Europe

Session 2 : Strategies of adaptation to policies (24 june, 14:15-16:15-17:45)

Chair : Lorenzo Barrault, University Paris 1 Pantheon Sorbonne, CESSP-CRPS

Discutant : Helena Leino, University Of Tampere, Departement of Regional Studies

- Pierre Renno, University Paris 1 Pantheon Sorbonne, CESSP-CRPS

"We didn't come to judaize the Galilee, we were looking for quality of life" - Avoidance of National Issues among the Mitzpim Inhabitants

- Ellen A. Stewart, University of Edinburgh

'Everyday creativity' in the Scottish NHS: problematising public involvement through young adults' accounts

- Céline Borelle, IEP Grenoble, PACTE

When public policy relies on parentality. The case of autism

- Pierre-Edouard Weill, University of Strasbourg, GSPE

The Popular Appropriations of Administrative Justice. The French Case of the Enforceable Right to Housing

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