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CIS News

TWO NEW PROFESSORS AT CIS

Fabrizio Gilardi and Stefanie Bailer joined the CIS professorial body in 2008 and 2009, respectively. Gilardi is professor for public policy on the UZH-side of CIS, Bailer is assistant professor for global governance at the ETH.



On the 1st of August 2008, Prof. Fabrizio Gilardi took over his new position at CIS as a professor for public policy. The chair, who was newly established at CIS, concentrates on the comparative analysis of public policies, both in Switzerland and cross-nationally. Teaching and research focus on health care, social and economic policies, regulatory policies and institutions, policy diffusion, and the application of advanced qualitative and quantitative methods to the analysis of public policies.

Before he came to Zurich, Gilardi was visiting scholar at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, at Harvard University (2007-2008), lecturer in political science, Institute of Political and International Studies, at the University of Lausanne (2004 -

2007) and teaching assistant at the same Institute since 1999. He holds a PhD in political science of the University of Lausanne (2004) and a MA in European studies and BA in political science of the University of Geneva (1997).

His current research includes projects on tax competition in Switzerland, on the effects of independent regulatory agencies' decisions on financial markets, and, in the context of the second phase of the NCCR, on how regulatory networks shape regulatory decision making and accountability.

To the day one year later, Stefanie Bailer became assistant professor for Global Governance at ETH. Her Chair of Global Governance was also newly established at CIS, and it will broaden the range of research into another important issue. Within the global governance group Stefanie Bailer and her colleagues investigate decision-making and negotiation processes at the European and the international level. In their most recently approved research pro-

ject, the research group of Stefanie Bailer, Katja Michaelowa and Axel Michaelowa deals with the current UNFCCC climate negotiations. Within this project, the decision making processes at the international level will be linked with the domestic level in order to analyze factors, e.g. partisan preferences of governments or interest groups that explain the behaviour of governments at the international arena and in international organizations.

Before Bailer took over her position, she worked as senior research assistant at University of Zurich (2005-2009), at the University of Konstanz (2001-2004), as Visiting Scholar at the Center for Political Studies, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (USA) (2001) and as Marie Curie Fellow at the Interuniversity Centre for Social Science Methodology at the Rijksuniversiteit Groningen (2000 - 2001). Stefanie Bailer holds a PhD from University of Konstanz (2004) and a Diploma in Administrative Sciences of the University of Konstanz.

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CIS WORKSHOP AT UN CLIMATE NEGOTIATIONS



Panel from left to right: Klein, Michaelowa, Bhadwal, and Yinlong

by **Yuri Okubo**

The workshop “Towards integrated adaptation and mitigation measures in agriculture” was organised by Axel Michaelowa and Yuri Okubi (both CIS) and was held as a side event during the 14th Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP14) of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Poznan, Poland, in December 2008. It was funded by the Asia-Europe Environment Forum and organized together by the University of Zurich/CIS, the Government of Slovenia and the Adam Mickiewicz University (Poland). Around 50 people from different countries and different research institutions, NGOs, and governments attended the event. There were three presentations followed by a panel discussion.

First, Yuri Okubo presented mitigation and adaptation measures in the agricultural sector and potential synergies and trade-offs between these measures. Until now, mitigation and adaptation strategies have been mostly considered separately. However, adaptation measures can have an impact on greenhouse gas emissions and at the same time, mitigation measures can have an impact on vulnerability. Therefore, an integrated approach of mitigation and adaptation could provide valuable incentives to implement effective climate measures

and enhance mitigation and adaptation in the agricultural sector.

Second, Zbigniew Kundzewicz and Andrzej Kedziora (Research Centre for Agricultural and Forest Environment, Polish Academy of Sciences) presented European examples of possible interlinkages between mitigation and adaptation. In Poland, one successful adaptation measure is to install shelter belts in the landscape, which improve the water storage of soil. This adaptation measure also has a positive mitigation effect, as it adds to carbon sequestration.

Third, Masanori Kobayashi (Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)) presented a case study from Asia to empirically assess synergies between adaptation and mitigation measures. In Bangladesh, a number of advanced agricultural techniques were introduced as a measure for adaptation to climate change. While these measures are successful in terms of creating alternatives and diversifying the sources of income for the local population, it is not easy to assess how effective these measures are and whether these contribute to mitigation.

In the panel discussion, chaired by Axel Michaelowa, Richard Klein from Stockholm Environment Institute, Xu Yinlong, Institute of Environment and Sustainable Development in Agriculture, Chinese

Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS), Suruchi Bhadwal (Centre for Global Environment Research, The Energy Research Institute (TERI)) discussed benefits and barriers of an integrated approach.

The discussion revealed a number of barriers to integration of mitigation and adaptation, but also interesting ideas on how the integrated approach may be possible. Difficulties arise from the fact that potential synergies and trade-offs are always location specific and what may work in one area might not work in another location. It was also mentioned that it would be important to consider the differences and consequences of either seeking both objectives together or separately. In either case the evaluation is difficult as there are no common performance indicators to evaluate adaptation. To overcome some of these difficulties, it was discussed that incentives to promote integrated measures should come from the national level that involves financial incentives. The importance to include local stakeholders was also raised as they have the greatest interest to adapt.

The lively and interesting discussion among the panellists and the floor unfortunately had to be closed much too soon.

Yuri Okubo
okubo@pw.uzh.ch

EXPERT INTERVIEWS IN THE ZAMBEZI RIVER BASIN

Lucas Beck, PhD student at the International Political Economy Chair of CIS, spent two months in Africa last summer in the quest for expert information to assist him in his research on water management. Here is his account of where his adventures took him.



Lucas Beck meeting Chief Mukuni near Victoria Falls in his reception hut

by **Lucas Beck**

Christopher Chileshe, deputy director of the Ministry of Water Affairs in Zambia stares at me reluctantly: "You ask for thirty minutes interview? There is nothing to say. I'll give you maximum five minutes!"

One day before I have to leave Zambia and after two months fighting to have this interview, I feel something between disappointment, resignation and helplessness. Having been quite a while in Zambia, Zimbabwe and Mozambique I had been speaking to ministers, local leaders, experts and officials in the three countries. But official Zambia seems to be a hard nut to crack, at least when it comes to talks about transboundary water management in the area. They are in the middle of a very sensitive process related to a new agreement. As the biggest riparian country with a share of more than 42% of the entire Zambezi River Basin, Zambia wants to have a say according to their size among the other riparian countries. Fears about being

overrun by economically stronger actors and concerns of a future loss of potential benefits due to reduced water availability leads to a hard negotiation process and to the reluctance of Zambia. Talking to officials in this country is therefore a delicate task. As the only country that has not signed the actual agreement so far, they fear making wrong statements. My two-month trip to the area was in many respects very enriching, but also challenging. This report highlights some of my experiences during my field research for my PhD related to water use in southern Africa.

The preparation for my two-month trip to Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Mozambique started several months before I arrived. It included ascertaining my exact goals and fitting them within in the scope of my research, designing questionnaires for different types of interviewees, identification of possible interview partners and of course administrative organization of accommodation, trips, financing, and visas necessary to visit all the countries.

The goals when I arrived in September in Lusaka were manifold. Speaking to decision makers and experts in the basin, I wanted to get a better impression of present challenges in the Zambezi River Basin. As water use in the area is not at all fully developed and still reveals a big potential I wanted to identify why ongoing negotiations are so difficult and what people have to deal with in terms of water use in the area.

Besides getting a better feeling for what is going on in the basin, I needed to get more information about interactions between the different countries and stakeholders and to have more information about actual management practices implemented in the area of the Zambezi River.

One of the most difficult tasks was probably to identify possible interviewees and contact them. I wrote emails, asked around, and called to make appointments, trying to establish my own network of possible collaborators. The response I had before I started my trip was more than scanty. My goal to interview 50 people in two months seemed very hard to achieve and when I boarded the airplane in Zurich I had only one single willing person who told me to call him as soon as I got there.

With a voice recorder, paper and enough cash at hand, I arrived in Lusaka. The first interview I did was with Prof. Imasiku Nyambe from the School of Mines at the University of Zambia. Dedicated to supporting the Zambia national water policy, he is a leading opinion maker in the area and I knew he had many contacts who could refer me to other potential interviewees. I had to interview him on the same day that I arrived, after a fourteen-hour flight. I was quite tired,

but as he was leaving the next day I had to catch him, as he was my first and only predictable victim. He was very responsive to my questions and about the connections of water use and state sovereignty in his country including future plans and visions present in the basin. Most importantly, as the first contact I had, he gave me some contact telephone numbers of my next informants and of people who could be of interest to me. The first evening and the following Sunday I listened to the interview again, transcribing it and reviewing the setup of my questions. As I had the impression that some questions were definitely obsolete and some important ones missing, I worked intensively on revising my interview outline.

I decided not to write anymore emails to possible interviewees but just to call them directly on the phone. The response was much better, and even though no one is waiting around for a PhD student to ask questions, I immediately got two more interviews. No appointment necessary, just a "can you come just now?" happened more than once in the following two months.

This way I had the opportunity in the first week to meet decision makers in the ministry of agriculture, to visit one of the biggest sugar cane farms in the area, and to meet people from NGO's and from the national hydropower supply company.

It was my plan to continue to Zimbabwe, which is the second biggest riparian country in the Zambezi River Basin. Besides many other important actors in Harare, the seat of the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP) is there, too. This is the most important coordinating actor in terms of hydropower development in the whole of southern Africa and had been on my list too.

Being aware of the present difficult political situation in Zimbabwe and following the advice of several local people,

I decided to drive from Lusaka to Harare by car on my own. Taking food and enough fuel with me, I drove together with a local guide. This was because I knew that crossing the border between Zambia and Zimbabwe was pretty delicate and some areas were prone to robbery. Arriving late in a completely dark Harare (there was almost no electricity due to the current crisis), I said goodbye to my guide and headed to my hotel. In dire need of a beer, I was truly amazed when the bartender asked me for four trillion Zimbabwean dollars. I didn't yet know that the price, after only a week,



Lucas Beck in the Mopani Mine, one of the biggest copper-mines in N. Zambia

had already trebled; this meant I had to hand over 120 of these one-hundred-billion-dollar bills. Having to pay (illegally) two US dollars instead of the local currency, I asked myself how I would organize my journey through Zimbabwe with such tempestuous currency devaluation. In the end the problem was not too big because there was simply nothing to buy. Literally all the shops were completely empty. Only relying on some limited illegal commerce, it was difficult even for the hotel to get food. "Breakfast included" sometimes meant having only tea

or only bread or just improvised combinations of different dishes which were sold by all types of snake-oil salesmen who had popping up during this hyper-inflation period.

As a result of some contacts I established before in Zambia, I had the opportunity to meet the director of the Department of Water Affairs who works for the present government as well as Mrs. Bangile Ndiweni, director of ZINWA, the para-governmental water supply company. Even though officially supporting the actual policy of "the Old Man", as they call President Mugabe, they were very skeptical about the happenings in their own country. It was obvious that support and loyalty towards the official state is modest, and they admitted there had been mismanagement in the state and a huge reduction in agricultural production due to the expulsion of the white farmers. Not even having the means to buy the most essential chemicals for water purification, they also raised concerns about water-related health and the danger of cholera, which was denied by the official government at this time.

To get the full picture of what is going on in Zimbabwe, I wanted to speak to one member of the MDC, the opposition party, which was currently threatened due to ongoing negotiations with Zanu PF, the governing party. I asked the Swiss Ambassador in Harare if such a meeting would be possible, and he encouragingly gave me a telephone number of Elias Mudzuri, the former mayor of Harare. He is a hydraulic engineer by training himself but was expelled from his office due to his political orientation. Now he was in the core team of Morgan Tsvangirai and I wanted to speak to him.

The telephone number given by the Swiss Embassy was disconnected but I found out about the possibility of at least contacting the MDC, the opposing party. After a James Bond-like investigation

consisting of telephone calls, callbacks, exchanges of small pieces of paper, more callbacks and meeting with someone from the MDC in their heavily guarded main seat – I all of a sudden received a call from Elias Mudzuri: "You have to be at my house in one hour. I can meet you." One hour later, taking a taxi and not my own car, I was sitting in the garden of a villa under a palm tree speaking to him about water use in Zimbabwe and also about the current situation in his country, plans of the MDC and the expulsion of the white farmers.

After one month being in the area, I was motivated by the previous success of meeting to establish more contacts with important decision-makers and experts in the area; going to offices and asking for the right person was in this context the appropriate strategy. To establish contacts, it helped a lot to mention other people I was in contact with. This led even some very reluctant people to at least give me the chance to meet them. The following three weeks, after leaving Zimbabwe, I spent in Mozambique where I visited the very impressive Cahora Bassa dam, places near the delta and people in the capital, Maputo. As a country situated mostly downstream, people were very collaborative as it was obviously in their interest to be best protected from upstream water diversion and to push for continuation of ongoing negotiations.

Because people mainly spoke Portuguese, it was not always easy to communicate. I traveled for days in the hot bus, squished between people and farm products. Towards the end of my last week I went back to Zambia and visited a huge copper mine. I met the head of the Zambezi River Authority and some other people I could not catch at the beginning when I was in Zambia.

My final challenge was to get hold of Chief Mukuni, the traditional owner of the Victoria Falls, which are part of the

Zambezi. As a highly influential traditional leader, with his kingdom covering areas from DRC, Zambia, Namibia and Zimbabwe, I could only get hold of him by driving to his village and asking for him. I had only two days left to drive to Livingstone, meet him by chance, and drive back. When I arrived in his village near the Victoria Falls, people told me he was just going to Lusaka to get a delegation of high Chinese officials. "But maybe," I was told, "you can meet him very early the next morning". So I post-



Victoria Falls

poned my drive back to Lusaka for a few hours and drove (at 6am) to Mukuni Village. Prepared for the traditional reception ceremony where you have to deliver some sugar or a symbolic present to the village, clap hands and bow, I eventually met the chief in front of his throne. Very impressed by his entrepreneurial spirit and the support he is giving to his people, the chief, a qualified economist, showed me around his village providing me with a lot of information and even introducing me to the Chinese delegation which had just arrived.

On my last day in Zambia I had my final and probably most difficult interview. It was with Christopher Chileshe, who

originally hadn't wanted to talk to me. Only through all the contacts I established so far, he probably felt obliged to meet me. Having given me five minutes, and after a very difficult start, I left his office a bit more than half an hour later. With a smile on his face, he reminded me to come back, if I needed anything. As it happened, I didn't get much information out of him. Nevertheless at least, I gained some confidence.

After two month traveling, emailing, phoning, and talking, I was happy to

get back to Switzerland. I was completely exhausted, but having had almost 50 interviews, I was satisfied with what I got.

Lucas Beck
beck@ir.gess.ethz.ch

NEW FACES, NEW PLACES



Dr. Petra Holtrup Mostert joined CIS in May 2009 where she is responsible for management and structuring of the new doctoral program. Before

she came to Zurich, she was program director at the department of Public Management & Governance at Zeppelin University/Friedrichshafen.

She holds a Master and PhD in Political Science from Bonn University.

Before she changed her focus more to management and administrative matters, she worked in academia. She wrote her doctoral thesis at Germany's Forschungszentrum Jülich and Bonn University, analyzing the effectiveness of international environmental regimes.

During her later employment at Bonn University and the German Council on Foreign Relations (Berlin) she worked as lecturer, policy advisor and managing editor for the "Yearbook of International Politics."

"It gives me the chance to work on scientific as well as humanities-related topics. In my professional activity, I try to link academic debates with empirical study and practical work."

Several stays abroad, she states, have made her sensitive to different cultures and modes of behavior, which are very important for understanding the dynamics of national and international politics. She is convinced that transatlantic cooperation cannot be fruitful without taking the specifics of national politics factors as well as historical, sociological and cultural factors into consideration.

Petra is married with two children.



Dunja Ewinger has held the position of Public Relations Manager at CIS since June 2009. Having joined CIS in 2008, she was initially an administrative assistant at the chair for International Relations at the IPZ.

She holds a Master's Degree in Political Science from the University of Munich.

After completing her studies, she worked as an assistant for an MP at the German Bundestag, where she could gain hands-on experience of everyday political life.

Before coming to Zurich she lived and worked in Munich where she coordinated the technology transfer and PR activities for a European Network of Excellence for software technology dealing with the Semantic Web. Her work involved acting as liaison between more than 20 research institutions, companies and media partners.

During that time, she also obtained a certificate in Public Relations Consulting from the University of Management and Communication in Potsdam. In addition, she did freelance writing for a European online journal.

Apart from her professional work Dunja Ewinger continues to pursue her own academic activities. She is currently preparing for a PhD project on the dynamics of decision-making processes of nation-states at the intergovernmental level.

In her view, CIS must strive to strengthen the identity of its community and reposition itself as a competence center. To achieve this a substantiated and broadened strategy will be required.

She is married with one child.

ROUNDTABLE ON THE FINANCIAL CRISIS



roundtable from left to right: Friederich, Geer, and Gueye

by **Sheila Casey**

On May 29, 2009 a roundtable discussion focussing on the "The Financial and Economic Crisis and its Impacts on Environmental Organisations" was held as part of the Academic Council debate series organised by the Swiss Network for International Studies (SNIS). The session was chaired by Professor Thomas Bernauer of the Center for Comparative and International Studies (CIS) and ETH's Institute for Environmental Decisions (IED).

The speakers included Dr. Hans Friederich, Head of Strategic Partnerships at the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Dr. Moustapha Kamal Gueye, Economic Affairs Officer, Economics and Trade Branch, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and Dr. Timothy Geer, Director, Government & Aid Agency Relations, WWF International.

The current economic crisis is widely assumed to cast a shadow over national and international environmen-

HOW POLITICAL SCIENCE HAS CHANGED IN SWITZERLAND OVER THE LAST 25 YEARS

tal policy efforts. Representatives from UNEP, IUCN and WWF International discussed to what extent this assumption holds true, what areas of policy making are particularly affected, and what could be done about it.

The economic crisis is aggravating current negative environmental trends such as pressure on ecosystems, due to the return to rural areas of people affected by the crisis, and stagnation or even reduction of funding to organisations active in the field of environment. Governmental stimulus packages that have been put in place aim at supporting trade and demand, but often at the cost of the environment. For this reason, new initiatives - such as UNEP's "Green Economy Initiative" - have been launched to assist governments in stimulating and "greening" their economies by reshaping and refocusing policies, investments and spending towards a range of sectors, such as clean technologies, renewable energies, green transportation and sustainable agriculture. In this respect, the current crisis can become a catalyst for redirecting spending and investments as well as for prioritising result-oriented creative solutions.

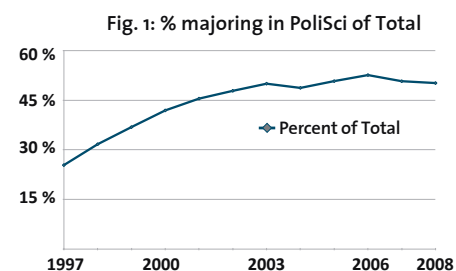
by **Hanspeter Kriesi**

When I became a professor of political science at the University of Amsterdam in fall 1984, it was not yet possible to graduate with a degree in political science at German-speaking Swiss universities. In fact, I was a political sociologist by training and I had never taken a course in political science. Although it is hard to believe today, in the German-speaking part of Switzerland, political science had only become an established discipline with its own degree in 1995/96. Before this it had only been offered as a minor subject which was introduced at the University of Berne in 1965 (in the form of the Research Center for the History and Sociology of Swiss Politics, under the direction by Prof. Erich Gruner), at the University of St. Gallen in 1970 (in the form of a chair for Political Science, occupied by Prof. Alois Riklin), and at the University of Zurich in 1971 (in the form of a chair for Political Science, which was supposed to focus on international relations in particular, and which was occupied by Prof. Daniel Frei). Since the mid-nineties, Swiss political science has institutionalized, professionalized, and has gained enormously in size.

Institutionalization

In the mid-nineties, political science not only became an established discipline at the German-speaking universities (it had already been established in the French-speaking part before that), but this was also the time when the Swiss association of political scientists replaced the venerable *Annuaire suisse de science politique* with the *Swiss Political Science Review*, which provided a much broader forum for publication by young (and established) Swiss political scientists. Since the mid-nineties, the most important development has been, however, the increase in

the number of chairs in political science, especially at the German-speaking universities. With this increase, the university departments were able to establish a structure resembling that of full-fledged political science departments abroad. The department of the University of Zurich is certainly the most striking example of this change. Before arriving in Zurich in fall 2002, there were just two chairs. As the successor of Daniel Frei, my colleague Dieter Ruloff was responsible for international relations and methods, while my colleague Ulrich Klöti had to assume responsibility for the rest of political science (Swiss politics, comparative politics, political behavior, public administration, and policy analysis). Political theory was delegated to the Department of Philosophy, which essentially interpreted it as the history of political thought. While political theory is still not part of the Department of Political Science, the department has grown in the meantime to include seven



chairs (international relations, comparative politics, Swiss politics, policy analysis, methods, political economy of developing countries, and democracy research and public governance). Moreover, the department is part of CIS, an umbrella for the cooperation between the political scientists from the University of Zurich and ETH Zurich, and which not only has become the leading house of a national centre for research on democracy, but also

Sheilas Casey

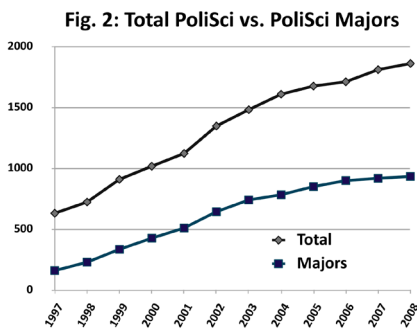
sheila.casey@ir.gess.ethz.ch

YES WE CAN! BUT CAN HE?

the home of a joint master's programme in political science of the two universities

Professionalization

Institutionalization has gone hand in hand with professionalization. It goes without saying that the increasing number of resources in terms of staff and research funds has contributed to the professionalization of our discipline. This has many aspects such as a greatly improved publication record of Swiss political science, as well as a greater diversification and specialization of the courses on offer



and of available degrees. I would like to point out just one particular aspect of the professionalization of our discipline which is often forgotten, although it has been very important in the Swiss context. Among other things, professionalization implies that political considerations no longer play a role in the nomination procedures in political science or in the subsidization procedures for research in our discipline. At the time when I went to the Netherlands, such considerations were still crucial, and even when I came back to Switzerland to become a professor of political science at the University of Geneva in 1988, such considerations almost prevented my nomination.

Size

Both institutionalization and professionalization were greatly facilitated by

an enormous growth in the number of the students enrolled in political science study programs. The department of the University of Zurich may serve again to illustrate this point (see Figure 1). In 1997, shortly after the introduction of the degree in political science, most of the 630 students in Zurich were still taking political science only as a minor subject. There were only 160 students who intended to pursue a full degree in political science. This figure rose to 933 by 2008. In addition, political science remained attractive as a minor subject, which means that overall the department comprised 1,860 students by 2008. These large numbers attest to the current popularity and the prestige of political science at Swiss universities. They explain in large measure why the discipline has become professionalized and institutionalized to a considerable extent in Switzerland. But they are, of course, not without their own problems, as the expansion of the resources in the discipline has not quite kept up with the enormous expansion of its student body. We are still nowhere near the situation I met in Amsterdam in 1984. Although also a small country, the Netherlands had already at that time full-fledged political science departments. The UvA, where I had a chair in Collective Political Behaviour, had no less than 70 full-time positions in political science, which were occupied by no fewer than 100 collaborators. Compared to the Dutch situation, we still have some way to go.

by **Sheila Casey**

On February 26, 2009 a podium discussion chaired by CIS Professor Thomas Bernauer was held to allow experts in US politics as well as the public to express opinions critically assess and ask burning questions about where exactly the Obama administration is headed. The discussion, jointly organized by CIS and the Swiss Foreign Policy Association (Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Aussenpolitik) comprised a stellar panel of experts and made for excellent debate. Apart from Thomas Bernauer, Katja Gantinetta of Avenir Suisse, Swiss National Councillor Dr. Kathy Riklin, ETH Zurich's Center for Security Studies Director Professor Andreas Wenger and Jan Atteslander of Economiesuisse were present on the panel. The discussion began with short statements from each of the four participants expressing what they believe to be the most important international problems facing the Obama administration, drawing on their respective knowledge and expertise as well as the questions that Switzerland should be asking itself. References were made to Obama's pop star-esque and Messiah-like public persona as well as his embodying the American dream, which he appears to maintain with a team-work rhetoric involving the full participation of the public. He strengthens this persona through the ubiquitous messages of the "yes, we can" and "in order to do this, we need you" variety which seem to transcend party political activities. Challenges he and his administration will face, according to what was brought up during the discussion, include concretely setting his priorities and concentrating on pressing policy issues such as getting the public finances in order; closing Guantanamo; as well as health, green technology, education and security issues.

Hans Peter Kriesi
hanspeter.kriesi@ipz.uzh.ch

IMPROVING QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH SKILLS THREE PHD METHODS COURSES AT CIS 2008/09

During the academic year 2008/09, a series of high-quality methods courses targeted at PhD students were hosted at CIS. Taught by distinguished experts, they provided CIS PhD students with great opportunities to add to their research skills set.

by **Dunja Ewinger**

CIS intensified the training of its doctoral students in political methodology in the academic year 2008/09 with a series of PhD courses. The series started with the two-day workshop "Incorporating Space: GIS and Spatial Data Analysis in Political Science", held in September 2008. A fast-growing body of academic literature reflects the strong interest and rapidly expanding expertise in integrating geographic space in political science research. The short course gave PhD students from CIS and from other institutions, the opportunity to broaden their theoretical knowledge and practical skills in using geographic information systems (GIS) and applying spatial econometrics.

The first course day was devoted to spatial econometrics, the course sessions being taught by Kristian S. Gleditsch (University of Essex) and Jude C. Hays (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign). On the second day, Jan K. Rød (Norwegian University of Science & Technology) and Nils B. Weidmann (ETHZ) introduced participants to basic GIS concepts and operations. Both course days began with inspiring keynote speeches given by Fabrizio Gilardi (UZH) and Heiri Leuthold (UZH). The workshop sessions combined presentations with hands-on exercises, offering an excellent introduction to the key principles and techniques of spatial analysis. Moreover, both the lecturers and keynote speakers outlined their approaches in dealing with the conceptual and methodological challenges of incorporating spatial effects into their own research designs, thereby providing participants with insights into cutting-

edge research on selected topics. Besides 25 CIS PhD students from Zurich, the audience included a dozen young political scientists affiliated with other academic institutions in England, France, Germany, Italy, Norway, and Switzerland. Financed by CIS funds and participation fees, this workshop was initiated and organized by Livia Schubiger at the chair for International Relations. Organizational backing had been provided by CIS professors Lars-Erik Cederman and Dieter Ruloff, as well as Markus Stierli and Nils B. Weidmann.

In April 2009, a second course, organized by CIS professor Fabrizio Gilardi and his PhD students, Fabio Servalli and Fabio Wasserfallen, provided a concise introduction to R - a programming language and environment for statistical computation and graphics. R is becoming increasingly influential in quantitative social science, and the aim of the two-day course was to familiarize CIS members with this powerful statistical software. About 20 PhD students and CIS researchers profited from this interactive workshop, which was taught by Martin Elff, lecturer at the University of Mannheim and distinguished expert on all things R. With its prime focus on practical exercises, the workshop offered a unique and excellent opportunity for CIS PhD students and faculty members to gain valuable first-time experience in using R as a tool for data organization, analysis and presentation.

The third course on statistical methods for evaluating causal effects took place in May 2009 and was organized by Michael Bechtel, senior researcher at CIS' own Professor Thomas Bernauer's

International Political Economy chair. Aimed at developing students' skills in understanding and applying methods for causal inference and program evaluation, this course was taught by Jens Hainmueller from Harvard University. Fifteen PhD students made use of the opportunity to learn about a variety of causal inference methods, ranging from randomized experiments to quasi-experimental methods such as matching, instrumental variables, difference-in-differences and regression discontinuity designs. The course not only offered a high-quality introduction to recent methodological developments in causal inference in a very accessible and concise fashion, but also made people think more rigorously about how to convincingly identify causal effects. Besides increasing awareness of the weaknesses inherent in those empirical methods which currently dominate applied research in political science, the focus of this course on practical examples helped students in reflecting on how to use causal inference methods in their own research.

Dunja Ewinger
ewinger@pw.uzh.ch

RECENTLY COMPLETED PHDs



Political Competition, Economic Reforms and Growth: Theory and Evidence from Transition Countries

(Supervisor: Rolf Kappel)

by **Ivan Pavletic**

The study shows that political competition has been a driving force in shaping the direction and success of economic reforms in transition countries. In a series of simulations based on data from 26 transition economies between 1991 and 2006, it is demonstrated that in countries with a sufficient degree of political competition, citizens respond to economic crises by calling for economic liberalization. Economic liberalization removes existing distortions, increases economic efficiency and raises public welfare. This activates a dynamic, self-enforcing reform cycle that encourages full political and economic liberalization. In the absence of political competition, such an endogenous simultaneous transition process fails to emerge. A comparative study on Bulgaria, Romania, Albania, and Bosnia corroborates these findings. In these countries, the initial level of political competition was not sufficient to trigger the process chain described above. As a result, they experienced a period of chronic political instability and a lack of economic reforms.



Critical Configurations: Settlement Patterns and Ethnic Violence

(Supervisor: Lars-Erik Cederman)

by **Nils B. Weidmann**

How do geographic settlement patterns of ethnic groups determine violent conflict? The dissertation studies this question at three levels. First, analyzing conflict involvement at the group level, I show that spatially concentrated groups show a higher risk of conflict because they have greater interaction opportunities and can more efficiently organize any collective action. Second, I examine how group geography affects the location of violence. My results suggest that the application of violence is driven by the groups' territorial ambitions to create larger, homogenous territories. Third, I attempt to explain how violence in turn changes the ethnic map by relating changes in the settlement pattern to the occurrence of violence at particular places. With the help of Geographic Information Systems (GIS), computational modeling and spatial statistics, the dissertation provides new insights into the role of group geography as a determinant for conflict.

Nils left CIS in September 2009 to pursue his research as a post-doc at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University. He also received a EU Marie Curie Career Development Fellowship for a two-year stay at the International Peace Research Institute Oslo (2010-12).



Urban Foreign Policy and Domestic Dilemmas in Swiss and European City Regions

(Supervisor: Daniel Kübler)

by **Nico van der Heiden**

My thesis looks at the international activities of city regions. Using the rescaling theory and incorporating the varieties of capitalism approach, I show that city regions "go global" in adherence to their respective local economic setting. The underlying strategies of the city regions are aimed to improve their position in inter-urban competition. This makes the city regions international activities part of the neo-liberal turn in urban politics. The thesis also shows the astonishing importance of the EU in city regions' international activities.

After a year as visiting fellow at the Institut national de la recherche scientifique Urbanisation, Culture et Société in Montréal, Nico van der Heiden joined the University of Lucerne as a post-doc in fall 2008. Since spring 2009, he is also senior research fellow at the Center for Democracy in Aarau.

CIS COMMENCEMENT

The 2009/2010 Academic Year has formally been opened at the Center for Comparative and International Studies (CIS).



Some of the new MACIS class



Michaelowa gives her opening speech



CIS Professors: Ruloff, Schimmelfennig, Cederman, and Kriesi



Romain Lachat and Thomas Widmer

CIS welcomes all 18 new MACIS students, coming to Zurich from 8 different countries. Regardless of whether they come from Germany, Poland, Israel, China or the United States of America, for the next two years they will be joined together in order to prepare themselves for a career in research institutions, the private sector or civil society.

The ambience of the UniTurm restaurant and the wonderful view over Zurich from the balcony made the evening a memorable event. CIS Director Katharina Michaelowa started her opening speech with a warm welcome to all new students and members at CIS. She strongly recommended to use the time at CIS, to build up a sustainable network and to contribute to lively debates and to keep in contact with each other.

She said this due to the fact that the two main CIS bodies (ETH and UZH) will be located in separate locations from next spring on. The Department of Political Science at the University of Zurich will have to move to Oerlikon in January, while the ETH chairs remain in the Centre of Zurich.

Besides Katharina Michaelowa introduced Stefanie Bailer, former senior assistant at the chair of Comparative Politics, who is now a new assistant professor for global governance at ETH. Altogether CIS now consists of 12 chairs, and is hence the leading competence centre for political science in Switzerland.

The event ended with a relaxed get together, wonderful food and nice talks.

SYMPOSIUM AT CIS

"Hot Models & Hard Conflicts" - in honour of Hanspeter Kriesi



Some of the experts and long-lasting friends of Kriesi

In June this year a major international symposium on perspectives of political science in the 21st century took place in Zurich. The symposium was organised in honour of Hanspeter Kriesi, professor of comparative politics at the Institute for Political Science and the CIS, in occasion of his 60th birthday. The symposium aimed to promote an exchange among senior and junior scholars on achievements and perspectives in some of professor Kriesi's main fields of research, such as comparative politics, party systems and cleavages,



Hanspeter Kriesi

social movements, welfare state, and Swiss politics. On the initiative of his assistants (Stefanie Bailer, Simon Bornschier, Tim Frey, Silja Häusermann, Marc Helbling and Nenad Stojanovic), together with a number of volunteers, and supported by CIS, the Zentrum für Demokratie Aarau (ZDA) and the Swiss National Science Foundation organised this event which gathered more than 100 participants, including many students.

Outstanding scholars in the field of comparative politics could be won over to participate. Experts like Stefano Bartolini, Evelyne Huber, Herbert Kitschelt, Ruud Koopmans, Philippe C. Schmitter, Jürg Steiner and Sidney Tarrow accepted the invitation with enthusiasm and contributed to a very stimulating debate.

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GUEST SPEAKERS AT CIS TEACHING AT CIS: MACIS

26 February

Mike Ward, University of Washington, Seattle: *International Networks and International Commerce*

4 March

Matthijs Bogaards, Jacob's University, Bremen, *Democratization and War: A Re-examination of the Evidence*

19 March

Jean-Louis Arcand, Graduate Institute, Geneva, *Households in a Time of War: Evidence for Angola*

2 April

Xun Cao, University of Essex, Colchester *Trade Competition, National Political Institutions, and Domestic Water and Air Pollution*

30 April

Rebecca Morton, New York University, *Let the Experts Decide? Assymmetric Information, Underconfidence and Coordination in Voting*

7 May

Arjun Bedi, Institute of Social Studies, *The Hague: Tackling Daughter Deficits in Tamil Nadu, India*

8 May

John A. Vasquez, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, *Analyzing the Risk Propensity of War from a Peace Science Perspective*

14 May

Eric Dickson, *Enforcement and Compliance in an Uncertain World: An Experimental Investigation*

15 May

Farzana Shaikh, The Royal Institute of International Affairs, London, *Making Sense of Pakistan, The Roots of Islamic Militancy*

28 May

Jens Hainmueller, Harvard University, *The Value of Political Power: Estimating Returns to Political Office*

The Master of Arts in Comparative and International Studies (MACIS) is a joint Master program of the University of Zurich and ETH Zurich run in the framework of the CIS. It is a research oriented, English language program attracting students from all parts of the world. To get a feel of the "real world" of scientific activities, second year students present their own research at a special workshop also attended by CIS professors and senior researchers. This usually leads to a lively academic debate which is intended to provide useful input for the completion of students' master theses. Nine student papers were presented at this year's workshop in spring 2009.

Valentine Offenloch, Taking Child Soldiers Seriously: Explaining Recruitment Patterns of Rebel Groups

Joanne Richards, Taking Implementation Seriously: Selective Incentives and the Implementation of Peace Agreements

Bianca Sarbu, Drivers of the UN Humanitarian Interventions

Alrik Thiem, Taking Government Action Seriously: An Eclectic Approach to Explaining Security and Defence Cooperation in the EU

Marjorie Buchser, Taking the European Integration of Switzerland Seriously: The Bilateral Sectoral Approach as an Alternative Process of Integration

Hannah Strohmeier, Taking HIV Seriously: A Quantitative Analysis on the Impact of Conflict and Forced Migration on HIV in Africa

Elina Weber, Taking Food Aid Seriously: A Quantitative Analysis of the Effect of Food Aid on Imports in Sub-Saharan Africa

Christian de Chenu, Negative Reciprocity: Intentions and Fairness

Carolin Hilpert, Taking Energy Markets Seriously: EU External Governance in the Field of Energy

ANNOUNCEMENT: PEIO III CONFERENCE

3rd Annual Conference on the Political Economy of International Organizations, 28-30 January 2010.

The PEIO conference that was first launched in 2007 by Katharina Michaelowa (CIS) and Axel Dreher (former ETH, now University of Goettingen) has evolved into a regular event.

Next year's conference (PEIO III) will take place in Washington DC at Georgetown University with James Raymond Vreeland being the local organiser. PEIO III will bring together economists, political scientists and other scholars to address political-economy issues related to any international organization, including the UN, the IMF, the World Bank, the WTO, and the EU, as well as other regional organizations and non-governmental organizations. Questions that are to address include how IOs are organized and governed, what are the incentives of governments dealing with IOs as well as the incentives of the bureaucrats who staff them, and what are the effects of IOs on policy outcomes. The interaction of IOs with transnational actors such as commercial lobbies and NGOs will also be considered. Finally, a particular emphasis will be laid on the interaction of the international political economy with the domestic political economy of IOs members.

The 2010 Program committee includes Thomas Bernauer (CIS), Lawrence Broz (Univ. of California, San Diego), Axel Dreher (Univ. of Goettingen), Simon Hug (Univ. of Geneva), Christopher Kilby (Villanova Univ.), Carol Lancaster (Georgetown Univ.), Helen Milner (Princeton Univ.), Katharina Michaelowa (CIS), Randall Stone (Univ. of Rochester), Michael J. Tierney (College of William and Mary), James Raymond Vreeland (Georgetown Univ.), and Eric Werker (Harvard Business School).

<http://www.cis.ethz.ch/events/PEIO3>

RECENTLY PUBLISHED BOOKS



Bechtel, Michael M. (2009): *Regierung, Rendite, Risiko. Die politische Ökonomie des Aktienmarktes in Deutschland.* Wiesbaden: VS Verlag.

ISBN 978-3-531-16522-6

This book offers the first systematic analysis of how government partisanship and elections affect stock market performance in Germany. It studies the redistributive effects of electoral expectations on industrial sectors as well as the political and institutional determinants of systematic capital risk. The findings suggest that investors anticipate the redistributive effects of government partisanship and that these effects can vary strongly across industries. Moreover, partisan politics and institutional factors, e.g. divided government, seem to be important for the uncertainty associated with stock market investments.

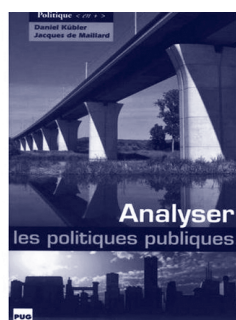
sion on and the Swiss experience with direct democracy. In Germany, particularly left-wing parties are in favour of more participation and often raise the discussion on direct democracy. Conservative parties on the right, such as the Christian Democrats, are skeptical and afraid that popular votes will weaken parliament. In contrast, the Swiss experience with direct democracy indicates that the outcome of popular votes is rather conservative. Christmann's book looks at this mismatch and presents surveys with German and Swiss MPs which show that in Switzerland, the left-wing parties are more critical towards direct democracy than those on the right. Moreover, an analysis of Swiss popular votes of the last twenty years supports the observation that direct democracy rather leads to right-conservative policy outcomes. Additionally the book provides a theoretical discussion of the effects of direct democracy and a brief overview of direct democratic institutions in Switzerland, several other EU countries, and the U.S. state of California.



Christmann, Anna (2009): *In welche politische Richtung wirkt die Direkte Demokratie? "Linke" Hoffnungen und "rechte" Ängste in Deutschland im Vergleich zur direkt-demokratischen Praxis in der Schweiz.* Baden-Baden: Nomos. Studien zur Sachunmittelbaren Demokratie, Band 6.

ISBN 978-3-8329-4204-5

German politicians have been discussing direct democracy for many decades now and still they cannot decide whether to introduce direct democratic institutions on the federal level. This ongoing debate has led to several publications on direct democracy in Germany, but none of them has looked at the discrepancy between the German discus-

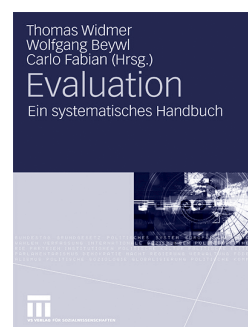


Kübler, Daniel and J. de Maillard (2009): *"Analyser les politiques publiques"* Grenoble: Presses universitaires de Grenoble.

ISBN : 978-2-7061-539-4

Public Policy-making is at the very heart of government activities, e.g. allocating funds, collecting taxes, defining foreign policy strategies, communicating political strategies, or regulating public administration in general. Public policy analysis helps for a better understanding of these processes and defines key tools to explain government activities. It also helps to understand the role of the state in modern societies.

This textbook presents the basic elements, fundamental theories and current debates in public policy analysis. Referring to a wide variety of empirical case studies, the authors show how institutions and the public administration interact with public and private actors, and how these interactions shape the development of public policies.



Widmer, Thomas, W. Beywl and C. Fabian (Hrsg.) (2009): *Evaluation. Ein systematisches Handbuch.* Wiesbaden: VS Verlag für Sozialwissenschaften.

ISBN 978-3-531-15741-2

As an instrument for the systematic and transparent assessment of projects, measures, programs, laws and other objects of study, evaluation has gained considerably in importance in continental Europe during the last two decades. Evaluation has become increasingly professionalized both in terms of supply and demand. This has meant the establishing of professional evaluation associations, formulating and promulgating professional standards, and offering specific training in evaluation. This edited volume reflects the current state of the field in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. The authors are well-versed in the respective countries and their specificities, and address ten thematic areas: agricultural policy; labor market policy; education; energy and environmental policy; international development policy; research and technology; health, institutional policy, regional planning policy, and social work. Comparative contributions analyze commonalities and differences with respect to specific topic areas. The forty chapters are augmented by cross-sectional analyses that focus on the institutionalization and utilization of evaluation in these three countries.

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CIS Working Papers

The CIS also publishes a working paper series, which allows CIS members to publish interim results of their ongoing research in comparative and politics and international relations.

They can be accessed via the CIS website at:

<http://www.cis.ethz.ch/publications/publications>



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Center for Comparative and International Studies (CIS)

Director: Prof. Katherina Michaelowa

ETH Zurich, SEI

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Dunja Ewinger

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