

LECTURE ABSTRACTS

Monday, July 4, 2022: Autonomy, law, and politics

11.00-12.30: Territorial and cultural diversity governance: an introduction with notes on the autonomy of the Åland Islands. Markku Suksi

Abstract:

Sub-state solutions of different kinds can be used to adapt the needs of a particular population in a state. Those solutions can be of a territorial or a non-territorial kind. The former encompass autonomy arrangements of different kinds, such as the Åland Islands in Finland, South Tyrol in Italy, and New Caledonia in France, while the latter include instances of cultural autonomies such as the Sami in the Nordic countries and the cultural autonomies of national minorities in Serbia. Territorial autonomies are often equipped with both legislative and administrative powers and constitute a jurisdiction of their own, while the non-territorial autonomies may have some measure of administrative powers. The Åland Islands is regarded the oldest functioning autonomy in the world and is celebrating its centennial. For that reason, the aim is to bring to the fore the Åland Islands situation but also to connect it to one of the newer autonomies, New Caledonia and thus also to discuss the relationship between self-determination and autonomy. Issues of distribution of legislative and administrative powers are in the core of any autonomy arrangement, so also the manner in which the autonomy arrangements are entrenched in the legal order of the state where the autonomy exists. The topic of the lecture is therefore mainly elaborated in a comparative manner at the level of national constitutional law and of ordinary legislation, but some observations in relation to public international law are also presented.

Markku Suksi is Professor of Public Law at the Department of Law, Åbo Akademi University, in Finland. His instruction contains courses within the areas of constitutional law, administrative law and comparative law. He has published, *inter alia*, the following books and edited volumes: *Autonomy: Applications and Implications* (Kluwer, 1998), *Finlands statsrätt* (Institute of Human Rights, 2002), *Ålands konstitution* (Åbo Akademi University Press, 2005), *Sub-State Governance through Territorial Autonomy* (Springer, 2011), and *Double Enumeration of Legislative Powers in a Sub-State Context: A Comparison between Canada, Denmark and Finland* (Springer, 2018). He has also authored a number of articles in the area of territorial and non-territorial autonomy, linguistic rights and minority rights.

Recommended readings:

Markku Suksi, 'Self-Determination through Autonomy or Independence? - On the Current and Future Position of New Caledonia', pp. 67-105 in *Vienna Journal on International Constitutional Law*, 2021, at [link](#)

Mariya Riekkinen & Markku Suksi, 'The Sámi Assembly in Finland', in *Autonomy Arrangements in the World*. Bozen/Bolzano, Italy: EURAC research/Institute for Minority Rights and Institute for Comparative Federalism, 2019, at [link](#) (published on 26 November 2019).

Markku Suksi, 'Explaining the Robustness and Longevity of the Åland Example in Comparison with Other Autonomy Solutions', pp. 51-66 in *International Journal on Minority and Group Rights* 20 (2013).

Markku Suksi, 'Non-Territorial Autonomy: The Meaning of '(Non-)Territoriality'', pp. 83-118 in Tove H.

Malloy and Francesco Palermo (eds), *Minority Accommodation through Territorial and Non-Territorial Autonomy*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015. ISBN13 9780198746669

Markku Suksi, 'Territorial autonomy: the Åland Islands in comparison with other sub-state entities', pp. 37-58 in Zoltán Kántor (ed.), *Territorial Autonomies in Europe: Solutions and Challenges*. Budapest: NPKE & L'Harmattan, 2014.

13.30-15.30: Roundtable discussion: Autonomy in times of conflict: between self-governance and self-determination. Esther Happacher, Joseph Marko, Francesco Palermo. Moderator: Günther Rautz

Esther Happacher is a full professor of Italian Constitutional Law with particular regard to South-Tyrolean autonomy, Faculty of Law, University of Innsbruck. She is a member of the Research group ASA-Autonomie speciali alpine and President of the Associazione Euroregionale di Diritto Pubblico Comparato ed Europeo / Euroregionale Vereinigung für Vergleichendes Öffentliches Recht und Europarecht (AEDPCE). She has been a member of: Südtiroler Autonomiekonvent, "12er/6er Kommission", EuregioLab 2021. Before joining Innsbruck University as a researcher in Italian Constitutional Law, she has worked for the Autonomous Province of Bolzano/Südtirol in the field of European Affairs. Her main research interests: Italian Constitutional Law and Italian Regional Law with a focus on South-Tyrolean autonomy and Minorities; Law of the European Union; Public Law; Comparative Public Law; Gender issues.

Joseph Marko is emeritus professor of public law and political sciences at the faculty of law of the University of Graz/Austria. He previously served as one of the three international judges at the Constitutional Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina 1997 – 2002, appointed by the President of the European Court of Human Rights, and as a member of the Council of Europe's Advisory Committee of the Council of Ministers, established under the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities, from 1998 - 2002 and 2006 - 2007. In 2006/07, he was seconded by the Austrian government to the High Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Christian Schwarz-Schilling, to work as politico-legal adviser for constitutional reform. From 1998 to 2020 he was scientific director of the Institute for Minority Rights at the European Academy Bozen/Bolzano, Italy. From 2011 to 2016 he served as dean of the faculty of law at Graz University. From July 2016 to January 2018 he worked as legal adviser for the UN-SASG, Espen Eide, in the Cyprus re-unification negotiations. His research focuses on comparative constitutional law and politics, in particular power sharing in ethnically divided societies and the role of constitutional courts, the study of nationalism, minority protection and ethnic conflict. He has published more than 15 books and more than 100 scholarly articles in German and English language. For his latest work entitled "Human and Minority Rights Protection by Multiple Diversity Governance. History, Law, Ideology and Politics in European Perspective" (Routledge 2019) he received the Research Prize of the Province of Styria 2020.

Francesco Palermo is professor for Comparative Public Law at the University of Verona and Director of the Institute for Comparative Federalism at Eurac Research in Bolzano/Bozen. He is president of the International Association of Centers for Federal Studies (IACFS), Constitutional Adviser to the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, member of the Scientific Committee of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights. Previously, he was senior legal adviser to the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities, president of the Advisory Committee under the Council of Europe's Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities and a non-party member of the Italian Senate. Full CV at: <http://www.eurac.edu/fpalermo>.

Günther Rautz was born in 1968 in German- and Slovene-speaking Carinthia — a region in Austria that illustrates the richness and the many-layered complexity of European diversity. For more than 2 decades,

he has lived in the trilingual region of South Tyrol (Italy). Since 1997 he has been a Senior Researcher at the European Academy Bolzano/Bozen where he is Head of the Institute for Minority Rights. The institute provides policy advice on minority issues, particularly in Europe but also around the globe, including in Asia, where Günther Rautz is coordinating Human Rights projects, such as advising Tibetans living in exile. He was also teaching at the University of Temeschwar/Timișoara (Romania) and until 2017 he was General Secretary of MIDAS, a European organisation bringing together over 30 dailies published in a regional or minority language. On the European level, he was the author of the Commentaries in German and English of the CoE-Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities, he drafted some recommendations of the European Citizen Initiative “Minority Safepack Initiative (MSPI)” presented to the European Commission by FUEN and covered the minority media sector of the OSCE-HCNM joint Report on “Mapping Integration Indicators. A Reference Tool for Evaluating the Implementation of Ljubljana Guidelines-based Policy”.

Tuesday, July 5, 2022: South Tyrol and its consociational democracy
(collaboration with the Centre for Autonomy Experience)

14.00-15.45: Roundtable: The South Tyrolean Autonomy. Alice Engl, Sergiu Constantin, Georg Grote, and Marc Röggl. Moderator: Greta Klotz.

Alice Engl is Senior Researcher and Leader of the Research Group “Autonomies, Boundaries and Identities” at the Institute for Minority Rights of Eurac Research in Bolzano/Bozen (Italy). She holds an MA and Ph.D. in political science (University of Innsbruck) and a postgraduate MA degree in European Studies (University of Vienna). Her research focuses on minorities in sub-state cross-border cooperation processes and inter-state relations and the EU integration processes, with a particular focus on the bordering and de-bordering processes of regions with minority identities. Further research interests are minorities and autonomies, especially the development of South Tyrolean autonomy. Engl has published peer-reviewed articles and book chapters as well as a monograph with well-established publishing houses such as Taylor & Francis, Springer, Brill, Nomos, University of New Orleans Press, Berliner Wissenschafts-Verlag. She co-leads and participated in various third-funded projects (e.g. FP7, Interreg Italy-Austria, and other international and local research grants) and has been a guest lecturer at the Universities of Innsbruck and Bozen/Bolzano. Engl is General Secretary of the South Tyrolean Political Science Association, where she co-edits the South Tyrolean Political Science Yearbook.

Sergiu Constantin is a Senior Researcher at the Institute for Minority Rights of Eurac Research. He holds a law degree from the University of Bucharest (Romania) and a Master in European Studies from the University of Graz (Austria). His research projects deal with diversity governance focusing mainly on language rights, political participation, and territorial/cultural autonomy arrangements in Europe and beyond. He has published several papers, articles, and book chapters on these topics. His most recent publications are included in the volumes *Litigating the Rights of Minorities and Indigenous Peoples in Domestic and International Courts* (edited by B. De Villiers, J. Marko, F. Palermo, and S. Constantin, Brill, 2021) and *Human and Minority Rights Protection by Multiple Diversity Governance. History, Law, Ideology, and Politics in European Perspective* (edited by J. Marko and S. Constantin, Routledge, 2019). His most recent consultancy activities regard projects undertaken by the Council of Europe and the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities in Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova. Besides his research and consultancy work, he is co-managing the annual Eurac Research Summer School on Human Rights, Minorities, and Diversity Governance and is coordinating the science communication activities of the Institute for Minority Rights.

Georg Grote is a senior researcher in the Institute for Minority Rights in the European Research Academy (EURAC) in Bozen, South Tyrol. He is a trained historian and has in his academic work focussed on collective emancipation movements in Europe past and present and the role of history and historiography in peoples’ self-definition. He has published monographs, edited volumes, and articles on Irish cultural nationalism in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, on the German process of coming to terms with its Nazi past, and extensively on the South Tyrol question between historical nationalism and European regionalism. He is currently creating a social history archive comprising letters, postcards, diaries, and photographs from the late 19th and the 20th century in the geographical area of the historical Tyrol and is finalising a three-volume social history of the area. Georg Grote has previously taught both in Trinity College and in the School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures at University College Dublin from 1998 to 2016 and served in various administrative roles, such as Head of School. He is currently establishing a

postgraduate program in cooperation with the Donau University Krems, an MSc in Federalism and Minority Studies.

Marc Röggl is the Director of the Center for Autonomy Experience at Eurac Research. He graduated from the Faculty of Law at the University of Innsbruck, Austria. Since 2013, he has been a Researcher with the Institute for Minority Rights at EURAC research of Bolzano/Bozen. His research mainly focuses on South Tyrol's autonomy arrangement and minority media in Europe. 2018 he has been appointed General Secretary of the European Association of Daily Newspapers in Minority and Regional Languages.

Greta Klotz is a researcher and project manager at the Institute for Comparative Federalism at Eurac Research in Bolzano/Bozen (Italy). She holds a degree in Political Science and History from the University of Innsbruck (AT). Currently, she is a Ph.D. student of Legal Studies at the University of Fribourg (CH), where she conducts research on inter-municipal cooperation in the Alpine region. Her research interests are local governance, cross-border cooperation, and participatory democracy at the local level. She has been involved in several projects and consultancies on these topics. Since 2012 she is also coordinator of the annual "Winter School on Federalism and Governance," an international training program organized by Eurac Research and the University of Innsbruck.

Wednesday, July 6, 2022: History, cultural boundaries, and physical borders

09.30-11.00: *Autonomy and minority protection – a historical perspective.* Georg Grote

Abstract:

The South Tyrol autonomy is widely hailed as a success story in minority protection and conflict resolution. It is curious to note that this deep-rooted conflict could be resolved at a time when other minority scenarios, such as the Northern Ireland question, erupted in violence which was to last for three decades. In my contribution to the summer school, I will identify those factors that led to this success which has lasted for half a century. I will undertake a close analysis of the roots and transformations of what originated from a nationalist struggle between the Germanic and the Italian cultures in the 19th century, amplified by World War I and the troublesome period between the wars. Of particular significance for the fate of South Tyrol was the fascist period, both in Italy and in Germany, and the 1950s, which brought the province to the brink of a civil war. Both the internationalisation of the conflict and the shift in focus of the separatists in South Tyrol – from self-determination through separation to autonomy – as well as the emergence of the European project as a peace-creating endeavour were major aspects on South Tyrol's peaceful development since 1972.

Georg Grote is a senior researcher in the Institute for Minority Rights in the European Research Academy (EURAC) in Bozen, South Tyrol. He is a trained historian and has in his academic work focussed on collective emancipation movements in Europe past and present and the role of history and historiography in peoples' self-definition. He has published monographs, edited volumes, and articles on Irish cultural nationalism in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, on the German process of coming to terms with its Nazi past, and extensively on the South Tyrol question between historical nationalism and European regionalism. He is currently creating a social history archive comprising letters, postcards, diaries, and photographs from the late 19th and the 20th century in the geographical area of the historical Tyrol and is finalising a three-volume social history of the area. Georg Grote has previously taught both in Trinity College and in the School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures at University College Dublin from 1998 to 2016 and served in various administrative roles, such as Head of School. He is currently establishing a postgraduate program in cooperation with the Donau University Krems, an MSc in Federalism and Minority Studies.

Recommended reading:

Grote, Georg: *The South Tyrol Question. From National Rage to Regional State*, Lang, Oxford 2012, chapters 2: 'Tyrolean Nationalisms before 1918', 9: 'Explosions and Settlements 1961-1972'.

11.30-12.30: *Autonomies, Borders, and Crossborder Cooperation.* Alice Engl

Abstract:

While international activities can be strategic for any type of region, border regions – and especially border regions with minority communities – are particularly inclined to consider political questions when engaging in such actions. Paradiplomacy and cross-border cooperation allow border regions to take advantage of their geographical position at the margins of the respective states. They can turn this position into opportunities and develop political strategies to increase flows of people, goods, services and capital. At the same time, paradiplomacy can serve as an instrument to promote regional identity and autonomy, as, for example, in the cases of Catalonia and South Tyrol. This lecture will explain main drivers and challenges of cross-border cooperation of minority autonomous regions, looking at the Italian and

Spanish borderlands as specific examples. It will illustrate past tensions between the state and the regions with regard to regional cross-border cooperation and it will show how the European Union and its Regional Policy contributed to a “normalization” of cross-border cooperation in these contested borderlands, investigating the role of EU instruments of cross-border cooperation for minorities and autonomous regions.

Alice Engl is Senior Researcher and Leader of the Research Group “Autonomies, Boundaries and Identities” at the Institute for Minority Rights of Eurac Research in Bolzano/Bozen (Italy). She holds an MA and Ph.D. in political science (University of Innsbruck) and a postgraduate MA degree in European Studies (University of Vienna). Her research focuses on minorities in sub-state cross-border cooperation processes and inter-state relations and the EU integration processes, with a particular focus on the bordering and de-bordering processes of regions with minority identities. Further research interests are minorities and autonomies, especially the development of South Tyrolean autonomy. Engl has published peer-reviewed articles and book chapters as well as a monograph with well-established publishing houses such as Taylor & Francis, Springer, Brill, Nomos, University of New Orleans Press, Berliner Wissenschafts-Verlag. She co-leads and participated in various third-funded projects (e.g. FP7, Interreg Italy-Austria, and other international and local research grants) and has been a guest lecturer at the Universities of Innsbruck and Bozen/Bolzano. Engl is General Secretary of the South Tyrolean Political Science Association, where she co-edits the South Tyrolean Political Science Yearbook.

Recommended readings:

Alice Engl (2020), Europe’s culturally diverse borderscapes: The EGTC from the perspective of minority studies, in Ocskay, Gyula (ed), 15 years of the EGTCs. Lessons learnt and future perspectives, Central European Service for Cross-border Initiatives (CESCI), Budapest, 197-218.

Noé Cornago, ‘On the Normalization of Sub-State Diplomacy’, *The Hague Journal of Diplomacy* 5 (2010) 11-36

Alice Engl & Carlin Zwilling, ‘Cross-Border Cooperation between Historical Legacies and New Horizons’, in Jens Woelk, Joseph Marko, Francesco Palermo (eds.), *Tolerance through Law. Self Governance and Group Rights in South Tyrol* (Brill 2008) 161-176

Caterina García Segura, ‘Sub-state diplomacy: Catalonia's external action amidst the quest for state sovereignty’ (2017) *International Negotiation* 22:2 344–373

13.30-15.00: Borders, Othering and Border Ethics. Jussi P. Laine

Abstract:

An important characteristic of contemporary border studies is its increasingly prevalent ethical nature. While the field has been engaged with questions of justifiable state borders and the ethical concerns related to their definition already for long, the contemporary discussion assumes a broader perspective in questioning also the securitization of everyday life, discriminatory exploitations of borders, and the official regimes, regulations, policies that maintain them. The impacts of identity bordering, in particular, pose dilemmas where collective values, liberal ideas and ethics are put to a test. Far from being absolute, borders affect different people very differently, whereby this chapter proposes exploring the links between border and ethics ought to be given a more serious thought. Being unevenly transparent, borders carry considerable more weight and can be seen to manifest social injustice. This presentation makes a theoretical case for moving towards a global model for mobility that would allow the changing migration patterns to be better managed by looking into philosophical, legal, and moral arguments for borders. To better understand what motivates the actions of both states and individuals, it looks into the

justification for the state's alleged right to exclude and the underlying criteria based on which bordering is made, i.e. on which basis a person is considered welcome while another is not.

Jussi P. Laine is an associate professor of multidisciplinary border studies at the Karelian Institute of the University of Eastern Finland and holds the Title of Docent of Human Geography at the University of Oulu, Finland. He served as the Executive Secretary and then as the President of the Association for Borderlands Studies, and now serves as the President-Elect of the Western Social Science Association, on the Steering Committee of the International Geographical Union's Commission on Political Geography as well as on the Scientific Advisory Council of the Institute for Minority Rights of Eurac Research. By background, Laine is a human geographer, yet in his approach to borders he combines influences from international relations and geopolitics, political sociology, history, anthropology, and psychology. Within border studies he seeks to explore the multiscalar production of borders and bring a critical perspective to bear on the relationship between state, territory, citizenship, and identity construction. Most recently, Laine has published works on border mobility, migration, the ethics of borders and ontological (in)security. Currently, he acts as the Project Coordinator for the H2020 Research and Innovation Action "Migration Impact Assessment to Enhance Integration and Local Development in European Rural and Mountain Areas" (MATILDE).

Recommended readings:

Laine, J. P. (2021) Beyond Borders: Towards the Ethics of Unbounded Inclusiveness, *Journal of Borderlands Studies*, 36:5, 745-763, DOI: 10.1080/08865655.2021.1924073 Freely available at [link](#)

Heller, C., L. Pezzani, and M. Stierl (2019). Toward a Politics of Freedom of Movement. *In Open Borders: In Defense of Free Movement*, ed. R. Jones, 51–76. Athens: University of Georgia Press. Available at [link](#)

Mountz, A. (2020) The Death of Asylum. Preface and Introduction. Pp. XV-26. Available at [link](#)

Thursday, July 7, 2022: Autonomy arrangements in a comparative perspective

09.30-12.00: *Autonomy arrangements in law and practice: A comparative perspective.*

Eduardo Ruiz Vieytez & Sergiu Constantin

Abstract:

The aim of this session is to provide basic knowledge and reflection on how autonomy or self-government solutions are managed in different legal frameworks, mostly using a comparative approach. For that, we will start by contextualizing autonomy and its typology among other legal-political strategies to deal with cultural or identity diversity. After that, a selection and comparison of effective autonomy solutions will be presented and discussed with the students. This empirical and interactive part of the lecture will highlight the interplay between the political, legal and institutional dimensions of territorial autonomy arrangements. The establishment or reform of an autonomy system is the outcome of a hard-negotiated compromise between political elites of majority and minority groups at state and sub-state levels. International actors may play an important role in this political process. To function well, a territorial autonomy needs an effective legal entrenchment and amendment procedure, a clear and flexible division of powers, and legal protection by independent judiciary. Finally, in fully-fledged territorial autonomies function various institutions and mechanisms for conflict resolution, consultation and/or co-decision, cooperation, and coordination. These institutions and mechanisms deal not only with vertical relations (between the state and the autonomous region) but also with horizontal relations (between ethno-linguistic groups living in the autonomous region).

Eduardo J. Ruiz Vieytez is professor at University of Deusto (Bilbao), where he acts as vice rector for university strategy. In the previous years he has been the dean of the Faculty of Social and Human Sciences, after being director of the Human Rights Institute. He served as legal adviser of the Basque Ombudsman and was the president of a Basque NGO for the promotion of migrants' rights. Among other responsibilities, Ruiz Vieytez has been a member of the Spanish Council for Integration of Migrants, the Spanish Observatory for Religious Pluralism, the Basque Culture Official Institute, the International Institute for the Sociology of Law, and other foundations and academic networks. He has also participated in several missions of the Council of Europe concerning national and linguistic minorities in countries like Moldova, Serbia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Ukraine, and Armenia. His fields of research are integration policies, national conflicts, minority rights, and the relation between human rights and religious, linguistic, and cultural diversity.

Sergiu Constantin is a Senior Researcher at the Institute for Minority Rights of Eurac Research. He holds a law degree from the University of Bucharest (Romania) and a Master in European Studies from the University of Graz (Austria). His research deals with diversity governance focusing mainly on language rights, political participation, and territorial/cultural autonomy arrangements in Europe and beyond. He has published several papers, articles, and book chapters on these topics. His most recent publications are included in the volumes *Litigating the Rights of Minorities and Indigenous Peoples in Domestic and International Courts* (B. De Villiers, J. Marko, F. Palermo, and S. Constantin (eds.), Brill, 2021) and *Human and Minority Rights Protection by Multiple Diversity Governance. History, Law, Ideology, and Politics in European Perspective* (J. Marko and S. Constantin (eds.), Routledge, 2019). His most recent consultancy activities regard projects undertaken by the Council of Europe and the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities in Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova. Besides his research and consultancy work, he is co-managing the annual Eurac Research Summer School on Human Rights, Minorities, and Diversity Governance and is coordinating the science communication activities of the Institute for Minority Rights.

Recommended readings:

- Online Compendium “Autonomy Arrangements in the World”. An open access collection of case studies available at <http://www.world-autonomies.info/>
- Akbulut, Olgun, and Elçin Aktoprak (eds). 2019. *Minority Self-Government in Europe and the Middle East: From Theory to Practice*. Leiden/Boston: Brill Nijhoff.
- Malloy, Tove H., and Francesco Palermo (eds). 2015. *Minority Accommodation through Territorial and Non-Territorial Autonomy*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Salat, Levente, Sergiu Constantin, Alexander Osipov and István Gergő Székely (eds). 2014. *Autonomy Arrangements around the World: A Collection of Well and Lesser Known Cases*. Cluj-Napoca: Romanian Institute for Research on National Minorities.
- Woodman, Sophia and Yash Ghai. 2013. “Comparative Perspectives on Institutional Frameworks for Autonomy.” In *Practising Self-Government: A Comparative Study of Autonomous Regions*, edited by Yash Ghai and Sophia Woodman, 449-486. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

13.30-15.00: Success and Failure of Territorial Autonomy. Felix Schulte

Abstract:

Territorial autonomy solutions continue to enjoy widespread support among policymakers and academics when it comes to improving democratic quality, managing cultural diversity, or resolving conflicts. However, not all autonomy solutions deliver on their promises. While autonomy reforms have indeed created a stable balance between “the common and the particular” (Ghai, 2000, p. 24) in some regions such as Åland, or South Tyrol, other agreements have been very unhappy compromises that fell apart shortly after they have been signed. The lecture takes an empirical-comparative view and evaluates existing autonomy arrangements. In a first step, we discuss how we can conceptualize and operationalize success and failure in a meaningful way. Which success factors, (un-)favorable contexts, or obstacles to the development and functioning of territorial autonomy solutions we can identify. Are there any implications for policymaking and “institutional engineering”?

Felix Schulte is Senior Researcher and head of the cluster “Conflict & Security” at the European Centre for Minority Issues (ECMI) in Flensburg, Germany. His research and teaching interests are situated at the intersection of empirical conflict studies and comparative politics and focus on three areas: the emergence of conflictive mass behavior in divided societies (conflict dynamics), institutional options for regulating such conflicts in a peaceful and sustainable way (territorial self-governance and power-sharing) as well as relationships between “old” and “new” minorities in different settings (inter-minority relations). Felix studied political science, sociology, and history in Eichstätt, Linköping and Heidelberg and obtained his doctorate from Heidelberg University in 2019. Previously, he held positions as research associate and post-doctoral researcher at Heidelberg University and Mannheim University.

Recommended readings:

- Cederman, Lars-Erik, et al. 2015. ‘Territorial Autonomy in the Shadow of Conflict: Too Little, Too Late?’ *American Political Science Review* 109(2): 354–70.
- Lecours, André. 2021. ‘Nationalism and Secessionism. Autonomy, Static and Dynamic’. In *Nationalism, Secessionism, and Autonomy*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 16–42.
- Schulte, Felix, & Christoph Trinn. 2022. ‘Self-Rule and Intrastate Conflict Risk in Divided Societies: A Configurational Analysis of Consociational Institutions’. *Swiss Political Science Review*: 12514.
- Siroky, David S., & John Cuffe. 2015. ‘Lost Autonomy, Nationalism and Separatism’. *Comparative Political Studies* 48(1): 3–34.

Friday, July 8, 2022. Autonomy as a tool of conflict resolution

09.30-11.00: Territorial autonomy as a conflict management tool: The role of international guarantees. Dawn Walsh

Abstract:

Territorial autonomy is at the heart of many current and proposed conflict resolution settlements. This provides territorially concentrated groups, usually those that are minorities within the wider state, with self-government in a range of matters. By designing institutions that seek to meet the needs of both groups - seeking autonomy and the central state which usually opposes such moves - mediators and negotiators run the risk of producing institutions that are inherently unstable. Examining the cases of Northern Ireland, Bosnia, Moldova, and Iraq this presentation highlights how territorial autonomy represents an unhappy compromise with some actors pursuing higher levels of autonomy, up to and including secession, and others seeking to limit the level of autonomy to retain power and protect against state break-up. It argues that without external intervention these arrangements can incentivise different conflict parties to unilaterally or duplicitously pursue these opposing desires and that newly established post-conflict domestic institutions are not strong enough to curb the parties' desires. It also underlines how changing international and regional dynamics can undermine the ability of external actors to provide these guarantees. It concludes by assessing the generalisability of these findings and what lessons they provided for those using TSG as a conflict management tool.

Dawn Walsh is an Assistant Professor in the School of Politics and International Relations and Director of the Institute for British-Irish Studies at University College Dublin. She is currently the lead researcher on an Irish Research Council-funded project which examines the role of independent commissions, such as electoral and human rights commissions, in peace processes. This project includes the creation of a dataset of such commissions from over six hundred intra-state peace agreements. She previously held an Irish Research Council-Marie Curie Career Development fellowship which funded her to carry out research on Northern Ireland, Iraq, Bosnia, North Macedonia, and Moldova while based at the University of Birmingham and Dublin City University. While at the University of Birmingham, Walsh was one of the contributors to the new Political Agreements in Intra-state Conflicts dataset. She is the author of two monographs: *Territorial Self-Government as a Conflict Management Tool* (Palgrave 2018) and *Independent Commissions and Contentious Issues in Post-Good Friday Agreement Northern Ireland* (Palgrave 2017), and the co-editor of *Unionisms in Times of Change Brexit, Britain and the Balkans* (Routledge 2022). Her work has also been published in academic journals including *Regional and Federal Studies*, *Conflict Management and Peace Science*, and *Ethnopolitics*.

Recommended readings:

- Fujikawa, K. (2021), Settling with Autonomy after Civil Wars: Lessons from Aceh, Indonesia. *Global Policy*, 12: 204-213. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1758-5899.12949>
- Walsh, D. (2020). The fragility of unions: the United Kingdom and Moldova, *Irish Political Studies*, 35:3, 451-472, DOI: [10.1080/07907184.2020.1816390](https://doi.org/10.1080/07907184.2020.1816390)
- Walsh, D. (2018). Introduction: Guaranteeing Territorial Self-Government as a Conflict Management Tool. In: *Territorial Self-Government as a Conflict Management Tool. Federalism and Internal Conflicts*. Palgrave Macmillan. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-77234-9_1

Wolff, S. (2013). Conflict Management in Divided Societies: The Many Uses of Territorial Self-Governance, *International Journal on Minority and Group Rights*, 20(1), 27-50.
doi: <https://doi.org/10.1163/15718115-02001003>

11.30-13.30: Presentations by participants

Gizem Günaydın
Susann Simolin
Jakub Stepaniuk
Isaure Vorstman
Bekim Lahi (TBC)

Monday, July 11, 2022. Autonomy, (de-) securitization and demilitarization

09.00-10.00: *Minority, security and (de)securitization: an introduction.* Andrea Carlà

Abstract:

In the last decades, security has become a relevant field of governments' action with repercussions in several policy areas. At the same time, following the broadening and deepening of the Security Studies agenda, many scholars have applied specific concepts from this academic field to investigate a variety of issues. In particular (de)securitization has become a popular word in academia. Facing one crisis after another, from 9/11 to the 2008 economic crisis to today's pandemic, scholars have employed it in a variety of political, economic, and social contexts, including both ethnic politics/conflicts and minority issues. This session discusses the interplay between security issues and the politics surrounding minorities and the governance of diversity, providing in particular an introduction to the concept of (de)securitization and how it has been applied to research on minority issues, reflecting on its theoretical underpinnings as well as strengths and weaknesses. Questions addressed in the session include: what do we mean with securitization of (old/new) minorities and what are its consequences? Where do such processes of securitization take place? Who are the securitizing actors? How is securitization put on the agenda and legitimized? When does it take place and what is its timing? Why and under what conditions does securitization happen? What about de-securitization? How do systems to deal with minorities, like autonomy arrangements and power-sharing, intersect with processes of (de)securitization? Addressing different scholarship approaches and debates on (de)securitization of minorities and exploring a variety of case studies at local, national and international level in Europe and beyond, from South Tyrol to the Baltic States, to Jammu and Kashmir, students will be invited to reflect on the theoretical integration of the minority and securitization fields and the applicability, efficacy and added value of such integration.

Andrea Carlà (PhD in Politics, New School for Social Research, New York, USA - Postgraduate studies in Diplomacy and International Relations, University of Bologna, Italy) is Senior Researcher at the Institute for Minority Rights of Eurac Research in Bozen/Bolzano (South Tyrol – Italy). His research explores the interplay among ethnic politics/minority protection, migration studies and security issues, focusing in particular on the concepts of (de)securitization and human security and their application to minority issues. He is the co-editor of *Migration in Autonomous Territories. The Case of South Tyrol and Catalonia* (Brill-Nijhoff, 2015) and authors of articles in academic publications such as *Ethnopolitics*, *Nationalism and ethnic politics*, and *JEMS*. He is also a frequent contributor and author of editorials for the local South Tyrolean newspaper *Alto Adige*. Andrea served as the Principal Investigator of the Eurac Research team in the AMIF funded research project “Volunteer and Empower: Enhancing Community Building and Social Integration through Dialogue and Collaboration amongst Young Europeans and Third Country Nationals” (VOLPOWER) (12.2018-06.2021). Currently, he is Network Member and part of the Network Board of the Erasmus+ project “The Securitization of Migrants and Ethnic Minorities and the Rise of Xenophobia in the EU” (SECUREU) (11.2020-11.2023).

Recommended readings:

Ian Paterson and Georgios Karyotis, “‘We are by nature a tolerant people’: securitization and counter-securitization in UK migration politics,” *International Relations* 2020

Saloni Kapur, “From Compenhagen to Uri and across the Line of Control: India’s ‘surgical strikes’ as a case of securitization in two acts,” *Global Discourse* 8(1) 2018: 62-79

Andrea Carlà. 2020. “From Security Considerations to De-securitising the Discourse on ‘old’ and ‘new’ Minorities” In *Extending Protection to Migrant Populations in Europe Old and New Minorities*, edited by Roberta Medda-Windischer, Caitlin Boulter and Tove H. Malloy, 156-175. London: Routledge.

Ronnie Olesker, “National Identity and securitization in Israel,” *Ethnicities* 14, 3 (2014): 371-391

10.30-12.00: “The Russian Question” in the Baltic states – securitization, democratic agency, and integration. Kristina Kallas

Abstract:

Russian-speaking population outside of the Russian Federation has been in the focus of minority researchers for last three decades. The share number of the diaspora – 25 million – begs for research effort. The main question in recent decades, however, has been the issue of heavy securitization of Russian-speakers by historical homeland Russia building up a comprehensive framework of compatriot policy. However, in the shadows of the compatriot policy are Russia’s geopolitical strategies where Russian-speaking population plays a significant role. In this lecture we will look at the process of securitization of Russian-speakers in two Baltic states – Estonia and Latvia – where in each of them the minority makes up a third of population. We will analyse the impact of external historical homeland on the process of integration of Russian-speakers, their identification and feeling of belonging. The main questions for researchers and policy-makers alike are whether the de-securitization of the Russian question in the Baltics is possible and foreseeable.

Kristina Kallas is a research fellow at Tartu University Narva College. Her main research work focuses on the question of Russian-speaking population outside of Russian Federation after the collapse of the USSR, mainly in Estonia and Latvia. She has researched the questions of securitization of the minority, the issues of identity and belonging, of language, citizenship, and education of the Russian-speakers. She is expert consultant for OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities for Ukraine, Moldova, and Kyrgyzstan. She has PhD in political science from the University of Tartu and master’s degree in modern history from the Central European University in Budapest. She has worked as a researcher in the faculty of the political science at the University of Tartu and a director of Tartu University Narva College. She is currently also the leader of new liberal political party Eesti 200 in Estonia.

Recommended readings:

Cheskin, Ammon (2015). *Identity and Integration of Russian Speakers in the Baltic States: A Framework for Analysis*. In *Ethnopolitics*, Vol. 14, No. 1, pp. 72–93, (access through [link](#))

Kallas, Kristina (2016). *Claiming the diaspora: Russia’s compatriot policy and its reception by Estonian-Russian population*. In *Journal on Ethnopolitics and Minority Issues in Europe* Vol 15, No 3, pp. 1-25. (available through [link](#))

13.00-14.30: The weaponization of autonomy projects: territorial gains and losses of the ‘Russian world’ in Ukraine. Natalia Mirimanova

Abstract:

The fall of the Crimea autonomy and the [non]rise of the Donbas autonomy, both ideologically and militarily boosted by Russia, tell a story of how an autonomy project can be weaponized in the course of geopolitical struggle. International negotiations, including between Russia and Ukraine, and internal political compromise resulted in granting Crimea a status of an autonomous republic within Ukraine. This decision helped de-mobilize public protests in favor of joining Russia in the wake of the collapse of the Soviet Union. The autonomy remained a rootless, but accommodative project for all stakeholders. A quarter-century later, Russia and Ukraine diverged dramatically. The Maidan revolution in early 2014 marked the expiration of the previous geopolitical status quo. The autonomy project in Crimea has lost

its utility for Russia as means to exert military containment in the Black Sea area, and Russia abolished it by direct military assault and a staged referendum in spring 2014, legality and legitimacy thereof being void ab initio according to the Ukrainian and international law. In parallel with the failed Crimea autonomy project, Russian Federation launched a new autonomy project for the Donbas area in Eastern Ukraine. Russia attempted to localize socio-political discontent in parts of the Ukrainian society as a reaction to the change of power in Kyiv and give it a glare of the struggle for ethnolinguistic survival. To this end, a notion of “Donbas people” was constructed by the Kremlin ideologues. The extent to which the genuine grievances have been accommodated by the template of “People’s republics” engineered in Kremlin to create an autonomy in Ukraine is a matter of debate. The ongoing war of Russia against Ukraine has little to do with the seemingly abandoned Donbas rescue mission and suggests that the Donbas autonomy project has been a mere means to the ends to re-format its neighborhood.

Natalia Mirimanova is a conflict resolution scholar-practitioner. She has over twenty-five years of mediation, research, dialogue and peace process design, peacebuilding initiatives and advocacy experience in Russia, South Caucasus, Central Asia, Moldova, Ukraine, Western Balkans, Eastern Europe and Cyprus. Natalia received her Ph.D. from the Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution, George Mason University, USA. Natalia served as a consultant for various international, national and local organizations, including UN mission in Cyprus and Tajikistan, UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA), UNDP Eurasia Regional Hub, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and Conflict Prevention Centre, EU, Aga Khan Foundation, SIPRI, Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue and others. She is currently a Senior Political Adviser to the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities.

Recommended readings:

Mirimanova, Natalia. 2018. Ukraine’s Donbas region: how borderlands became battlefields and boundaries became frontiers. *Accord: An International Review of Peace Initiatives. Insights 4*. 64-71. <https://www.politicalsettlements.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Accord-Insight-4-Borderlands-WEB.pdf>

15.00-16.30: The Russia-Ukraine War: A Panel Discussion with Aisté Mickonytė, Natalia Mirimanova, Kristina Kallas. Moderator: Benedikt Harzl

Aisté Mickonytė, LL.M. is Senior Scientist at the Centre for East European Law and Eurasian Studies as well as at the Institute of the Foundations of Law, Department of Global Governance, both of which are based at the Faculty of Law of the University of Graz. She is also Managing Editor of the quarterly journal *Review of Central and East European Law* as well as the book series *Law in Eastern Europe* (Brill Nijhoff, Boston/Leiden). She has studied law at Mykolas Romeris University in Vilnius, Lithuania and in 2012, she acquired an LL.M. in European Business Law at Lund University in Sweden. Her doctoral thesis has been published in the book series *Nijhoff Studies in European Union Law*, under the title “Presumption of Innocence in EU Anti-Cartel Enforcement” (2019). Her fields of research encompass European constitutional law with a focus on EU fundamental rights and the rule of law. She has also participated in numerous projects and other academic endeavors dedicated to European integration and the Eastern Partnership, including teaching engagements at Ukrainian, Georgian and Armenian universities.

Natalia Mirimanova is a conflict resolution scholar-practitioner. She has over twenty-five years of mediation, research, dialogue and peace process design, peacebuilding initiatives and advocacy experience in Russia, South Caucasus, Central Asia, Moldova, Ukraine, Western Balkans, Eastern Europe

and Cyprus. Natalia received her Ph.D. from the Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution, George Mason University, USA. Natalia served as a consultant for various international, national and local organizations, including UN mission in Cyprus and Tajikistan, UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA), UNDP Eurasia Regional Hub, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and Conflict Prevention Centre, EU, Aga Khan Foundation, SIPRI, Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue and others. She is currently a Senior Political Adviser to the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities.

Kristina Kallas is a research fellow at Tartu University Narva College. Her main research work focuses on the question of Russian-speaking population outside of Russian Federation after the collapse of the USSR, mainly in Estonia and Latvia. She has researched the questions of securitization of the minority, the issues of identity and belonging, of language, citizenship and education of the Russian-speakers. She is expert consultant for OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities for Ukraine, Moldova, and Kyrgyzstan. She has PhD in political science from the University of Tartu and masters degree in modern history from the Central European University in Budapest. She has worked as a researcher in the faculty of the political science at the University of Tartu and a director of Tartu University Narva College. She is currently also the leader of new liberal political party Eesti 200 in Estonia.

Tuesday, July 12, 2022. Autonomy, sovereignty, and secession

09.30-11.00: *The Symbolic State: Minority Recognition, Majority Backlash, and Secession in Multinational Countries*. Karlo Basta

Abstract:

The lecture advances a symbolic theory of the multinational state and is based on an eponymous monograph. Its starting point is the distinction between the instrumental and symbolic understandings of institutions in nationally plural states. Most existing social science literature sees institutions (including federalism) as political tools with which political actors pursue their interests. By contrast, this lecture foregrounds conflicting institutional meaning. Institutions are symbols expressing different identities to different national communities. The lecture then proceeds to demonstrate how attempts to change institutional symbolism through the reform of the formal aspects federal institutions may lead to secessionist crises. The empirical material is based on a comparative study of four current and former multinational states: Canada (with Quebec), Spain (with Catalonia), Yugoslavia (with Croatia), and Czechoslovakia (with Slovakia). The lecture will finish with a brief discussion of the generalizability (notably the limits to it) of the project's findings.

Karlo Basta is a lecturer in Politics and International Relations at the University of Edinburgh, and the co-director of the Centre on Constitutional Change. He is a scholar of comparative politics of nationalism with a focus on multinational states. Basta has written on institutional formation and change in multinational systems, the consequence of that change for political stability, and the politics of nationalist conflict and secession. His work has been published in *Comparative Political Studies*, *Political Psychology*, *Publius*, *Nations and Nationalism*, and other journals. He is the author of *The Symbolic State: Minority Recognition, Majority Backlash, and Secession in Multinational Countries* (McGill-Queen's University Press, 2021).

Recommended readings:

- Karlo Basta. 2020. "Performing Canadian State Nationalism through Federal Symmetry." *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics* 26 (1): 66–84.
- Alan Hamlin and Colin Jennings. 2011. "Expressive Political Behaviour: Foundations, Scope and Implications." *British Journal of Political Science* 41 (3): 645–70.
- John W. Meyer and Brian Rowan. 1977. "Institutionalized Organizations: Formal Structure as Myth and Ceremony." *American Journal of Sociology* 83 (2): 340–63.

11.30-12.30: *Autonomy and Conflicts in Overseas France*. Elisabeth Alber

Abstract:

Overseas France, termed as seen from metropolitan France, speaks to global debates on autonomy, sovereignty, and secession. Since the 18th century, metropolitan France has used the notion of legislative specialty to manage the recognition of diversities in its twelve overseas territories. They, as remains of the French colonial empire, are characterized by growing statutory diversity revealing historical and socio-cultural heterogeneity. Such heterogeneity affects the relations of each overseas territory with metropolitan France, the European Union (EU), supranational bodies, and actors in the respective geographic world region. Reflecting on Overseas France thus requires us to think globally and regionally at the same time. The lecture first explains the essence of "Islandian sovereignty" in Overseas France. It then focuses on New Caledonia. New Caledonia enjoys a special status within Overseas France. The

Nouméa Accord of 1998 provides the island in the Melanesian part of the Pacific with a *sui generis* degree of autonomy and federal-like relation to metropolitan France, as well as with the possibility to hold a series of referendums of independence. By now, the Islanders rejected full independence in all three referendums (2018, 2020 and 2021). However, tense relations continue between New Caledonia's communities on the one side, and New Caledonia and national authorities on the other. These tensions revolve around the questions of how sovereignty should be shared and of how New Caledonia's power-sharing system should look like in future.

Elisabeth Alber, leader of the research group 'Participation and Innovations', is senior researcher and program head (Federal Scholar in Residence) at the Eurac Research Institute for Comparative Federalism. Her work examines law and politics in federal and regional States, with a focus on territorial autonomies and minority rights, democratic innovations, and participatory governance. Her recent publications include Federalism and Ethnic Relations (forthcoming in: Encyclopedia of Contemporary Constitutionalism, Springer), South Tyrol's Model of Conflict Resolution: Territorial Autonomy and Power-Sharing (in: Power-Sharing in Europe, edited by S. Keil and A. McCulloch, Palgrave, 2021), Von Government zu Governance. Direkte und Deliberative Demokratie in europäischen Mehrebenensystemen (co-editor, Nomos, 2021), Federalism as a Tool of Conflict Resolution (co-editor, Ethnopolitics special issue, 2020). Among her professional affiliations, she co-convenes the IACL-Research Group Constitutionalism and Societal Pluralism and is part of the editorial team of the paper series Diversity Governance Papers (DiGoP). As visiting scholar or consultant, she has worked in Germany, the USA, Spain, Myanmar, Australia, Overseas France, North Macedonia, Ukraine, and Moldova. Elisabeth can be contacted at ealber@eurac.edu

Recommended readings:

Gerard Prinsen and Séverine Blaise, An emerging "Islandian" sovereignty of non-self-governing islands, International Journal, 2017, Vol. 71(1), 56-78

IACL Blog entry: New Caledonia Rejects Once Again Full Independence, but the Die is Not Yet Entirely Cast. Access through [link](#) (6 October 2020, Elisabeth Alber)

Blog Constitutionalism and Pluralism in Overseas France, on the Blog of the International Association of Constitutional Law (IACL), November 2020:

1. Guest Editor's Introduction: Squaring the Circle – Constitutionalism and Pluralism in Overseas France (3 November, Elisabeth Alber)
2. World-Wide France and (Colonial) EU Law Today (5 November, Dimitry Kochenov)
3. French Overseas Territories: Constitutional Status and Issues (10 November, Carine David)
4. One Island, Two Nations and a European Union: St Martin (12 November, Gerhard Hoogers and Gohar Karapetian)
5. Situating New Caledonia within French Republican Traditions (17 November, Eoin Daly) optional (for those who read French):
6. Les résultats du 4 octobre 2020 sur la pleine souveraineté de la Nouvelle-Calédonie projettent une société divisée dans « le jour d'après » (19 November, Mathias Chauchat)

13.30-15.00: Secessionist Entities and International Law. Benedikt Harzl

Abstract:

As of today, the number of territorial entities that have risen out of secessionist warfare, and consequently proclaimed to qualify as States is virtually replete. Places such as Abkhazia, the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, South Ossetia, Nagorno-Karabakh, and Transnistria, are all too familiar to generations of scholars and practitioners alike and lay bare that only few opportunities exist in the toolbox of international law and politics to profoundly solve secessionist conflicts. The lecture will start from the assumption that the current legal framework, perpetuated by scholarship in international law and international relations theory, tends to ignore the question of agency of these entities as traditional scholarly approaches are deeply rooted in addressing these secessionist situations along the territorial integrity vs. self-determination prism, which in itself is arguably originating from substantialist thinking. The lecture will problematize the extent to which this very traditional binary prism in precisely determining the legal consequences that follow from the existence of secessionist entities is both too uncertain and imprecise as well as inadequate. This lecture will thus not only elaborate the applicable law in addressing these territorial entities, it will also attempt to interrogate innovative avenues of interaction such as engagement without recognition.

Benedikt Harzl is Professor of International Law, Political Sciences and East European Legal Development with a particular emphasis on comparative law at the University of Graz. Between 2016 and 2017 he was an Austrian Marshall Plan Foundation Fellow in Central European Studies at Johns Hopkins University SAIS. Prior to his engagement at SAIS, he was based as Head of Research at the Austrian Study Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution (ASPR) in Stadtschlaining. Since September 2016, he is based at the University of Graz, where he has worked since 2012 as a university researcher at the Russian East European Eurasian Studies Centre (REEES) in the Law Faculty of the University of Graz. Before coming to the University of Graz, Harzl worked in various research institutions across Europe: in 2006, he worked at the Institute for European Studies in Minsk (Belarus), at the German Council on Foreign Relations in Berlin in 2007, and at the European Academy in Bolzano/Bozen (Italy) in 2007-2012. While the University of Graz is Harzl's alma mater (law), in 2010 he completed the MA program in East European Studies at the Free University of Berlin. His principal research interests include post-Soviet state engineering, ethnic conflicts in the post-Soviet space, Russian foreign policy and the EU's engagement in Eastern Europe. He focuses on the conflict dynamics of ethnic tension in the South Caucasus with emphasis on the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict. This was also the subject of his Ph.D. thesis which he has completed at the Law Faculty of the University of Frankfurt.

Recommended readings:

- Benedikt Harzl, "The EU and the De Facto States of the East European Periphery: Constraints in International and European Law", in Fabienne Bossuyt and Peter Van Elsuwege (eds.) *Principled Pragmatism in Practice: The EU's Policy towards Russia after Crimea* (Brill Nijhoff: Leiden and Boston, 2021), 163-179
- Benedikt Harzl, "Passportizatsiya revisited: Extraterritorial naturalization in the cases of Abkhazia and South Ossetia", in *Archiv des Völkerrechts* (58, 2020), 73-101
- Benedikt Harzl and Roman Petrov (eds.), *Unrecognized Entities: Perspectives in International, European and Constitutional Law* (Brill Nijhoff: Leiden and Boston). Free open access at [link](#)
- Rein Müllerson, "Precedents in the Mountains: On the Parallels and Uniqueness of the Cases of Kosovo, South Ossetia and Abkhazia," in *Chinese Journal of International Law* (8, n.1, 2009), 2-25. Free open access at [link](#)

Wednesday, July 13, 2022. Indigenous autonomies

09.30-11.00: Indigenous (forms of) Autonomies or Self-governments in Europe and beyond. Alexandra Tomaselli

Abstract:

Several States across different continents have recognized and established forms of both non-territorial and territorial Indigenous autonomies or self-governments at domestic level. Furthermore, there are a variety of *de facto* autonomy arrangements of Indigenous Peoples living in urban, rural or forest areas. However, autonomies of and for Indigenous Peoples cannot be discussed without tackling their rights to self-determination, land, and self-government – the former two broadly considered as prerequisites for the exercise of their other rights. In this frame, this lecture aims to discuss with students the recognition and the concepts of the three above-mentioned Indigenous rights, and to evaluate the achievements and the failures of selected case studies of Indigenous forms of non-territorial and territorial autonomies or self-governments in Europe and beyond (e.g., Sami peoples’ Parliaments in Northern Europe; Chittagong Hill Tracts in Bangladesh, and Indigenous Native Peasant Autonomies in Bolivia). In the afternoon, the students will be engaged in a role play on Indigenous Peoples’ cultural practices and access to subsistence means as a potential exercise of autonomy or self-government.

Alexandra Tomaselli (PhD in Law) is a Senior Researcher at the Institute for Minority Rights of Eurac Research (Italy), and a Visiting Researcher at the Faculty of Legal Sciences, Universitat Rovira i Virgili, Tarragona (Spain). Since 2004, she has been working in various socio-legal research and international cooperation projects in Europe, Latin America and South Asia. Her publications include the single-authored book *Indigenous Peoples and their Right to Political Participation. International Law Standards and their Application in Latin America* (Nomos, Baden-Baden, 2016) and the co-edited collection titled *The Prior Consultation of Indigenous Peoples in Latin America: Inside the Implementation Gap* (Routledge, London, 2019). Alexandra also acted as a member of the Committee on the Implementation of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples of the International Law Association (ILA) from 2014 to 2020.

Recommended readings:

- Castellino Joshua, “Territorial Integrity and the ‘Right’ to Self-determination: An Examination of the Conceptual Tools”, 33(2) *Brooklyn Journal of International Law* (2008) 503-568.
- Gilbert Jeremie, “Land Rights as Human Rights: The Case for a Specific Right to Land”, 10(18) *SUR Journal on Human Rights* (2014), 114-135, free open access at [link](#).
- Spitzer Aaron John & Selle Per, “Is Nonterritorial Autonomy Wrong for Indigenous Rights? Examining the ‘Territorialisation’ of Sami Power in Norway”, 28(3) *International Journal on Minority and Group Rights* (2020), 1-24, free open access at [link](#).
- Tomaselli Alexandra, “Exploring Indigenous Self-governments and Forms of Autonomies”, in Corinne Lennox and Damien Short (eds.), *Handbook of Indigenous Peoples’ Rights* (Routledge, London, New York, 2016) 83-100.

11.30-12.30: Self-determination for Aboriginal People: going beyond the territorial perspective? Bertus de Villiers

Abstract:

The Noongar Settlement in the southwest part of Australia is a ground-breaking agreement due to the nature and scope of the Settlement. The Settlement lays the groundwork for self-government of an Aboriginal community on a personal, non-territorial basis. It is arguably one of the most innovative land claim settlements in recent time in the world. The Noongar Settlement has been described as akin to a modern-day treaty that fills the vacuum that had been left when Australia at settlement was regarded as *terra nullius* (no-persons land). This lecture will consider the detailed arrangements and show how the settlement not only recognises the traditional rights of the Noongar to a massive area, it also sets in place a compensation package; ongoing support; and financial incentives to assist the Noongar with self-government and self-administration. Although the rights giving rise to the Settlement relate to a specific area, the jurisdiction exercised by the Noongar corporate bodies apply to their members on a personal, non-territorial basis regardless of where they reside. The corporate structure on which the Settlement is founded is akin to a constitutional instrument which establishes a basis for self-determination of the Noongar people and their respective sub-family groupings within the regions of the settlement area. The Noongar people can, by means of the Corporations created pursuant to the Settlement, develop policies; make decisions; elect leaders; hold them accountable; advocate for the community interests; and take on service delivery on behalf of government departments. The Settlement finds itself in the company of recent non-territorial autonomy arrangements in the world such as Hungary where the delivery of a service – be it of a cultural or socio-economic nature - is not determined by territorial demarcation but rather by community interaction and the cultural identity of the person to whom the service is provided.

Prof. Bertus de Villiers is an Adjunct Professor of the Law School of Curtin University and Distinguished Visiting Professor of the Law School of the University of Johannesburg. He is also a Member of the State Administrative Tribunal of Western Australia. He is admitted as a legal practitioner in South Africa and Australia. He is a Fellow of the Alexander von Humboldt Stiftung (Germany). Prior to emigrating to Australia, Prof De Villiers had close involvement with the constitutional drafting process of South Africa. He also was a member of the committee that demarcated the federal provinces. From 1999 to 2005 he was principal legal advisor to the Goldfields Land and Sea Council where he assisted Aboriginal people with the preparation of their land claims and other demands for social justice. Prof De Villiers has travelled widely and has undertaken research and lectured on constitutional and political developments in various countries. In recent years he has been invited to Ethiopia, Sudan, Pakistan, the Philippines, Indonesia, and South Sudan to give lectures on constitutional topics, for example federalism, human rights, minority protection, indigenous rights, and administrative law. Most recently he has been co-editor of *Litigating the Rights of Minorities and Indigenous Peoples in Domestic and International Courts* Brill (Leiden).

Recommended readings by:

- De Villiers, Bertus (2014) "Self-determination for Aboriginal People – is the answer outside the territorial square?" *The University of Notre Dame Australia Law Review* (16) 74-106.
- De Villiers, Bertus (2016) "Community Government for Minority Groups: Revisiting the ideas Renner and Bauer towards developing a model for self-government by minority groups under public law" *Heidelberg Journal of International Law* (76) 1-40
- De Villiers, Bertus (2018) "Community Government for cultural minorities – thinking beyond "territory" as a prerequisite for self-government" *International Journal on Minority and Group Rights* (25) 1-30.
- De Villiers, Bertus (2020) "Chasing the dream – self-determination on a non-territorial basis for the

Noongar traditional owners in the South West of Australia” *International Journal on Minority and Group Rights* (27) 171-193.

De Villiers, Bertus (2021) “From community autonomy Hungary to the Outback of Australia: can non-territorial autonomy find traction *Down Under?*” *Journal on Ethnopolitics and Minority Issues in Europe* (20) 1-3.

Thursday, July 14, 2022. Migration in autonomies

09.30-11.00: *Old and new minorities in autonomous territories: main challenges, new perspectives.* Roberta Medda-Windischer

Abstract:

Migration is an important reality for many sub-national autonomous territories where traditional-historical groups (so-called ‘old minorities’) live, such as Flanders, Catalonia, South Tyrol, Scotland, Basque Country, and Quebec. Some of these territories have attracted migrants for decades, while others have only recently experienced significant migration inflow. The presence of old minorities brings complexities to the management of migration issues. Indeed, it is acknowledged that the relationship between ‘old’ communities and the ‘new’ minority groups originating from migration (so-called ‘new minorities’) can be rather complicated. On the one hand, interests and needs of historical groups can be in contrast with those of the migrant population. On the other hand, the presence of new minorities can interfere with the relationship between the old minorities and the majority groups at the state level and also with the relationship between old minorities and the central state as well as with the policies enacted to protect the diversity of traditional groups and the way old minorities understand and define themselves. Using South Tyrol as a case study, this lecture analyses whether it is possible to reconcile the claims of historical minorities and of new groups originating from migration, and whether policies that accommodate traditional minorities and migrants are allies in the pursuit of a pluralist and tolerant society.

Roberta Medda-Windischer (LL.M, PhD), Senior Researcher and Group Leader for Equality and Diversity in Integrated Societies at Eurac Research Institute for Minority Rights (Bolzano/Bozen – Italy), is an international lawyer specialised in minority issues, human rights, diversity management and minority protection. Medda-Windischer worked as Legal Officer for various international organisations, including the European Court of Human Rights (CoE/ECHR, Strasbourg), the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR, BiH), the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE/ODIHR, Albania), and the UN Centre for Human Rights (OHCHR, Geneva). At Eurac Research, her research focuses on the protection of minorities in international law and on new minorities stemming from migration, on which she has authored and edited monographs and multi-authored volumes and published numerous articles and chapters in edited volumes in Italy and abroad. Her latest publications include *Extending Protection to Migrant Populations in Europe. Old and New Minorities* (co-edited with C. Boulter and T.H. Malloy), Routledge, 2019.

Recommended readings:

- Medda-Windischer, Roberta–Kössler, Karl (2017) Regional Citizenship: A Tool for the Inclusion of New Minorities in Subnational Entities? *European Yearbook of Minority Issues* 13(1): 61-78. Leiden: Koninklijke Brill.
- Medda-Windischer, Roberta–Popelier, Patricia (Eds.) (2016) *Pro-independence Movements and Immigration: Discourse, Policy and Practice*. Leiden: Koninklijke Brill.
- Medda-Windischer, Roberta-Carlà, Andrea. (Eds.) (2015) *Migration in Autonomous Territories. The Case of South Tyrol and Catalonia*. Leiden: Koninklijke Brill – Martinus Nijhoff Publishers.
- Jeram, Sanjay, A. van der Zwet, V. Wisthaler (2015) Friends or Foes? Migrants and Sub-State Nationalists in Europe. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* 42(8): 1229-1241.
- Zapata-Barrero, Ricard (Ed.) (2009) *Immigration and Self-government of Minority Nations*, Brussels: Peter Lang.

11.30-12.30: *Old and New Minorities: regional synergies, differences, and perspectives.* Katharina Crepaz

Abstract:

Accommodating religious, linguistic, and cultural diversity while at the same time ensuring cohesion and shared standards of living together are some of the biggest challenges that modern societies face. Due to a history of minority persecution and assimilation, most European states have nowadays implemented minority protection policies for historic minority communities, also referred to as “old” minorities. However, no stable system for integrating diversity originating from the most recent migratory flows (“new” minorities) has been established yet. Minorities and migrant groups are regarded as a dichotomy, and largely studied in isolation from each other, when in fact migrant integration frameworks could benefit from the vast experience of minority protection policy and research. The research project “MinMig” aimed to bridge this gap, by investigating the under-researched field of claims made by migrants and comparing them to those of historic minority groups in three regions in Italy and Austria (South Tyrol, Trentino, Tyrol), which are distinguished by the presence or absence of “old” minorities and by migrant populations from different countries of origin. First, international documents and standards for the protection of “old” minorities were categorized according to thematic areas, such as language, religion, and respect for diversity. The identified issue areas then served as basis for drafting a questionnaire, and a quantitative non-representative interviewer-based survey was carried out until in all three case studies until June 2021, supported also by qualitative expert interviews conducted with leaders and representatives of migrant organizations. My presentation will give an overview of the project’s results and discuss potential future research on the topic of “old” and “new” minorities in regions.

Katharina Crepaz is a Senior Researcher at the Institute for Minority Rights, Eurac Research and Privatdozentin (senior lecturer with habilitation) at the Department of Sport and Health Sciences, Technical University of Munich. She holds a PhD in Political Science from the University of Innsbruck and a Habilitation in Health Sciences with Special Focus on Diversity Governance from the Technical University of Munich. Her research and teaching activities focus on minorities, migration, gender, diversity, marginalized groups and political participation, social determinants of health and health inequalities.

Recommended readings:

Crepaz, Katharina. (2021). *"Old" and "new" minorities – Regional synergies, differences and perspectives.* Project report. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5656645>

Friday, July 15, 2022. Looking back, looking ahead

10.00-11.30: *Autonomy: achievements, failures, future perspectives.* Jens Woelk

Abstract:

In this wrap-up discussion we will take stock of the many issues treated during the Summer School. Starting from Yoram Dinstein's well known remark ("Autonomy is usually unwillingly offered and ungratefully received."), we will discuss various models and experiences of the self-government of diversity, focusing on territorial forms of autonomy. "Autonomy and Integration" (Joseph Marko) will be the frame. Thus, one focus will be on the distinction between the origins in local self-government, as the general model of territorial governance, and forms of minority-protection and the law of diversity will be discussed. The European approach is actually characterized by a combination of both dimensions.

Bio: Jens Woelk is Full Professor of Comparative Constitutional Law at the Faculty of Law of the University of Trento (Italy) and at the multidisciplinary School of International Studies. He is also Vice Head of the Institute for Comparative Federalism at EURAC Research in Bolzano/Bozen. Woelk's research focus is on comparative federalism, constitutional law of the EU, legal management of diversity and constitutional transformation in South-Eastern Europe. In the Western Balkans he has been engaged in projects and expert missions for the EU and the Council of Europe. From July 2018-February 2020 Woelk was on leave working as senior international legal advisor for the EU at the Bosnian Council of the Judiciary.

PARTICIPANT BIOS

Jack Gill

I am from Oxford, England. I currently live in southern Styria in Austria, not too far from Graz. Two years ago, I received my joint masters in Central and East European, Russian and Eurasian Studies from the Universities of Glasgow, Tartu, and Ilia State University in Tbilisi, Georgia. My thesis analysed foreign policymaking in the South Caucasus. Previously, I obtained a BA in Russian Studies at the University of Birmingham (UK), where my dissertation examined the integration of the Russian-speaking minorities in Estonia and Latvia. I currently work remotely as a Research Assistant at the Institute for the Danube Region and Central Europe (IDM) in Vienna. Over the last few years, I have been developing my knowledge and understanding of sub-state systems of regional government, including federalism, autonomy, and devolution in the contexts of the UK and Europe more broadly. I am trying to build my career in the direction of research into regionhood and regionalism in Europe, with an emphasis on regional identities, languages, and governance. This is why I found the Eurac Summer School so appealing, and I'm looking forward to connecting with like-minded individuals.

Gizem Günaydın

I am a human rights lawyer with a LL.M degree (Maastricht University/Netherlands) and PhD student (Marmara University/Istanbul-Turkey) in the field of Human Rights and Constitutional Law. I specialised on immigration and refugee law in the beginning of my career as providing legal aid service to irregular immigrants and asylum seekers in association with a project conducted by UNCHR and Bar Associations. During my PhD studies, I have been focused on constitutional law matters. I worked in the Venice Commission as a trainer for a period of five months in 2019. During my work in the Commission, I have been focused on mainly electoral law, political participation, and minority rights. Moreover, I am assistant secretary general at the Human Rights Centre of Istanbul Bar Association. As a member of the Human Rights Centre, I have cooperated with other NGOs to enhance human rights protection. Regarding that I have attended workshops and do research about minority rights in Turkey focused on religious minorities. Currently I continue my PhD studies, my work in the Centre and assisting clients on human rights issues as a lawyer.

Thijs Korsten

I am graduating from the Department of International Relations at Central European University (CEU) in Vienna. I will soon be a Junior Fellow at the Institute for Caucasus Studies at Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena. Combining security studies and political sociology, my research interests centre around issues of war, expertise and state-building in the Caucasus and post-communist Eurasia. From time to time, I also work as an Associate Features Editor for E-International Relations.

Joanna Kurowska-Pysz

I am an associate professor at the WSB University in Dabrowa Gornicza (Poland) and work as the Director of the Research Institute on Territorial and Inter-Organizational Cooperation. I am a doctor of economic sciences with a habilitation. Key research topics: public governance, inter-organizational cooperation, and

territorial cooperation, including the involvement of minorities in cross-border cooperation. I am the author or co-author of more than 150 papers, chapters, and monographs. I have participated in many international research projects funded mainly by INTERREG, Erasmus Plus, and Horizon 2020. I am a member of ERSA, AMA, Polish Academy of Sciences, and international research groups: ARAM (Spain), VALORIZA (Portugal) and LABOTER (Brazil). I was an expert in the EC REGIO (2019-2021). Since 2022 I have been an expert in the EC REGGIO program: b-Solutions. I am interested in the roles minorities can play in cross-border relations between the country of origin and the host country. As a member of COST Action CA18114 (European Non-Territorial Autonomy Network), I have developed several research on this topic, e.g., J. Kurowska-Pysz, A. Puksas. "National Minorities and Organizing Cross-border Cultural Cooperation: Evidence from the Polish-Lithuanian Borderland," *Cultural Management: Science & Education* 4.2 (2020), and "Policy paper for ENTAN Cost Action: The national minority as a driver of cultural cross-border cooperation and local development: Evidence from the Polish-Lithuanian borderland." In cooperation with the University of California, I have developed research on Polish minorities in the Czech Republic regarding bilingual and bicultural education.

Bekim Lahi

I am currently enrolled in the Interdisciplinary Master's Programme in South-Eastern European Studies at the Faculty of Political Sciences of the University of Belgrade, Serbia. Before moving to Serbia three years ago, I grew up and finished my undergraduate studies in Germany mainly focusing on European Studies. During my Bachelor studies in Germany, I already started focusing on minority issues in South-Eastern Europe, taking part in workshops covering minority rights issues in Kosovo organised by the University of Pristina. After arriving in Serbia, I initially volunteered in organisations working on minority issues in Serbia and the region and as well on inter-ethnic dialogue. Now at the faculty, I came back to the topic by participating in a minority rights and protection seminar, covering the more formal elements of minority protection schemes through instruments like the FCNM Framework Convention. Currently writing a seminar paper about autonomy models for the Serbian community in Kosovo, I am looking forward to getting more insights about comparable autonomy models in other regions of the world during the Summer School.

Christopher Lam Cham Kee

I am from Canada, but my parents are Chinese Mauritian. I hold a Bachelor's degree in political science at McGill University, Canada. I have also completed a Master's degree in global studies at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden. I am currently a PhD student at the University of Graz. The focus of my doctoral project is the construction of ethnic categories in Montenegro. As such, I am interested in subjects overlapping with this topic, which includes citizenship issues, as well as minorities discussions and boundary making processes. While I mainly work with these themes for my project, I am also interested in the studies of the Western Balkans in general. Elsewhere, social phenomena associated to football are also part of my research interests. For my Master's thesis, I combined all of these subjects, writing about nationalist symbols around football in Croatia.

Ivan Madzarevic

I am a master's student of Southeastern Europe studies at the University of Belgrade Faculty of Political Sciences in Belgrade, Serbia. I was born in the United States to a Serb family from Belgrade, and I have been living in Belgrade for 3 years now. I earned my bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of California, Riverside, in 2017. I am interested in researching the Serb-Kosovar conflict, as well

as post-Yugoslav political and economic developments, nationalism in the region, and regional security studies.

Paul Maritz

I am from South Africa. I hold master's degrees in political science and moral philosophy, and I am currently studying towards a Ph.D. at the University of Leiden in the Netherlands. Additionally, I host an Afrikaans news analysis podcast and I work as book editor. My study broadly focuses on the political philosophy surrounding minority groups in plural societies.

Krekar Mustafa

I am from Iraqi Kurdistan. I have a bachelor's in international studies from the American University of Iraqi Sulaimani. I studied my master's at the Free University of Berlin. I am currently writing my PhD thesis on state-building in Iraq and Syria and the Kurdish response at the University of Hamburg in Germany. I have previously written on Syria and Iraq with my work published for different outlets. My main area of focus is minority and Kurdish studies. The Eurac Summer School "Human Rights, Minorities and Diversity Governance" is theoretically and practically of relevance to me since I am from Iraq with many minorities and governance issues and my PhD thesis is related to the topic on a theoretical level. I look forward to building new contacts and get the best out of this summer school.

Victoria Nemerenco

I completed a BA degree in International Relations and International Organisation at the University of Groningen, and I am currently finalizing a MSc degree in Political and Electoral Management, combining it with a full-time job as a project manager and junior expert at a CSO in Moldova – the Institute for European Policies and Reforms (IPRE). The main areas of my interest include local development, international peace and security, European Integration, Good Governance, elections, and the influence of the media. For the past 3 years, as part of a IPRE project, I have been working on the analysis of the local budgets, preparation of action plans for several city halls to raise the level of transparency of the decision-making process. Last year I launched an initiative "Youth for Good Governance" promoting participation in budgetary processes and contributing to building a constructive dialogue between a City Hall in Moldova and the local youth.

András Petrusinec

I was born in Transcarpathia, Ukraine. Currently, I am a graduate student at the Philology Department of the Ferenc Rákóczi II Transcarpathian Hungarian College. I have also been working as an assistant at the Philology Department for a year now. As a philologist, my field of research is different from the Summer School, as I am more interested in translation studies. So far, I have investigated transfer operations between Hungarian-Ukrainian-English languages, mainly on a pragmatic basis. I examined these operations in Transcarpathian newspaper articles. In the near future, I would like to apply to a doctoral school in Hungary, so that I could teach as many young people as possible in Transcarpathia the tricks of translation. Apart from that, I believe that the experience I will gain at the summer university will provide me with new perspectives, which I hope to be able to adapt at home.

Rinchen

I am from Tibet and in 2003, at the age of seven, I escaped to India. I received my BA in Humanities from St. Joseph's College, Bangalore. I also pursued my MA in International Relations from Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi. Currently, I am working as a public servant at the Department of Information and International Relations of the Central Tibetan Administration in Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh, India. My main interest is doing social work.

Alice Scaioli

My name is Alice, I am 26 and I currently live and work in Cesena, where I manage a human resources company. I attended the Master in "European and International Studies" at Trento University. I loved Trento and its mountains, and there I discovered that I am passionate about human rights, international law, sustainable development, public affairs, public policy, ethics and moral philosophy. For me it is important to contribute in some way to making the world a better place. I enjoy connections and relationships with others, travelling and discovering new cultures and places. I love philosophy, it has always encouraged me to engage in dialogue, even with actors with a totally different point of view from my own and to challenge my own ideas. I can describe myself as an enthusiastic and curious person, intrigued by the world and stimulated by many passions.

Srishtee Sethi

I largely work within the ambit of Borderlands and Migration and completed my PhD research on the same in 2019 with an Erasmus plus fellowship at University of Tampere, Finland, while carrying out work with Pakistani-Hindu refugees at the western borders of India and Pakistan. My master's in international relations is from the University of Leicester, United Kingdom. I attended Lady Shri Ram College, University of Delhi for Sociology (honours). I remain academically committed to the field of refugee communities in South Asia with extensive ethnographic fieldwork conducted since 2012 in the Indian borderlands. I have conducted independent and collaborative research on implications of the 1947 Partition of India and Pakistan. More recently, I am working on a monograph on border management and its impact on borderland communities, and my book proposal is under review with Routledge Taylor Francis Group. As a Sociologist and policy specialist, my teaching and research interests include trans-border identities, mobility, and migration along with border management and advanced qualitative research methods.

Ilaria Signori

I have a background in Translation and Interpreting from the University of Trieste, as well as an MA in European and International Studies from the University of Trento, where I have analysed the legal integration of long-term resident third-country nationals into the European Union's polity. My research interests include cross-border and trans-scalar governance in the field of migration rights, migrant integration and how they intersect with other factors, such as gender, sexual orientation, or ethnicity. As a trainee for the Institute for Minority Rights at Eurac Research, I have worked on the reception and integration of immigrant at the subnational level, with a particular focus on regions with a strong presence of linguistic and national minorities. I have contributed to the REGIN Project, aimed at the development of indicators for the assessment of regional policies dealing with refugee integration and social cohesion.

Susann Simolin

I am a Doctoral Student in Political Science at Åbo Akademi University in Finland since 2020, Researcher at the Åland Islands Peace Institute on the Åland Islands in Finland since 2017, Head of Information at the same institute since 2008, and before that I worked as a journalist in Sweden. Åland is the location where I grew up and currently reside. My research focuses on territorial autonomies; relations with the core state, international relations, and how they are used as examples in international conflict resolution efforts. The latter is the theme of my dissertation. I will analyze how concrete examples (of territorial autonomy) have been used in practice in specific conflict/peace arenas, the processes in which it happened; and what functions and purposes the use of examples does fill according to actors involved. The use of examples will be conceptualized as a dimension of lesson-drawing in peace processes, which is in turn seen as a dimension of a diffusion process – i.e., the spread of policies and norms from one social system to another. It will be assessed how can insights and analytical tools from diffusion studies help to deepen the understanding of how examples are used in conflict/peace arenas.

Anna Stepanian

I am an Erasmus Mundus Master's student at the Jagiellonian University (Poland), University of Glasgow (UK) and University of Tartu (Estonia). My programme focuses on the Central and East European, Russian, and Eurasian regions. I have already completed a master's programme in Foreign regional studies. The EU Common Foreign and Security Policy in the South Caucasus was the focus of my thesis. As territorial and ethnic conflicts in the Caucasus constitute a significant area of study for me, I treat this Summer School as an opportunity to contribute to the discussions about ensuring regional security and peace through effective diversity governance. This academic year I did an internship at the Multicultural Centre in Krakow, Poland. The Centre deals with issues that newcomers face in Krakow and facilitates international students' stay in the city. Issues of integration and migration policy are part of my research interests; therefore, I was particularly interested in seeing how integration policy instruments are applied.

Jakub Stepaniuk

I am a young researcher, student and social activist. After graduating from the University College London in summer 2021 where I studied Social Sciences of the Eastern Europe marked by my dissertation about third identities in post-conflict Mitrovica and Mostar, I commenced my double degree in International Relations, Law and Politics of the Southeast Europe in Graz and Ljubljana. Currently, I work as a research assistant at the Centre for Southeast European Studies in Graz where I focus on non-discrimination policies and monitoring of the implementation of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. So far, I have lived, studied or worked for various NGOs in Poland, England, Serbia, Kazakhstan, Turkey and Austria. I am a huge enthusiast of foreign languages (speaking between 8 and 15 of them depending on language definitions), long distance cycling trips, studies of identity, Europeanisation, nationalisms, migrations, regional geopolitics and human rights.

Inna Supac

I work at the Institute for Strategic Initiatives from the Republic of Moldova. I have extensive experience in implementing projects focusing on human rights, interethnic relations, public policy, conflict resolution. As a civil society activist, I co-hosted a weekly talk show analyzing policy reforms and promoting social cohesion. Prior to this, I was involved in politics as a member of parliament for ten years. At various stages

of my parliamentary activity, I have chaired a parliamentary group, and have been a member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and Vice-chair of the European Union – Moldova Parliamentary Cooperation Committee. I participated in the European Union Visitors Programme designed for young leaders and opinion-formers. I am a Licentiate in International Relations (Free International University of Moldova) and hold master's degree in History of European Culture and Civilization (University of High Anthropological School, Moldova).

Tenzin Tsultrim

I am a research Fellow at the Tibet Policy Institute (TPI), a think-tank and research centre of the Central Tibetan Administration (CTA), Dharamshala, India. I earned my PhD in History on India-China Relations (1963-2010): A Study from the University of Madras, Chennai, India. I have published research papers and commentaries in different journals and online media outlets, including Tibet Policy Journal, Strategic analysis Journal, Think India Quarterly Journal, World Focus Journal, the Diplomat, Hong Kong Free press, Asia Times, Modern Diplomacy, Bitter Winter magazine, the Quint and the Pioneer (India National Newspaper). I have also contributed a chapter titled 'The Internal Situation in China and its impact on China's foreign Policy: An Analysis' in the book 'China's Foreign Relations and Security Dimensions' (Routledge publisher, India) and a paper in the Proceedings of the Institute of Oriental Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences Vol. 1 on 'Tibetology and Buddhology at the junction of science and religion', edited by Tatyana Lvovna Shaumyan, and Sergey Lvovich Kuzmin.

Marco Vallada Lemonte

I have a BA in Social Sciences, and an MA in History from the University of Sao Paulo (Brazil). I am currently pursuing a PhD degree in International Politics and Conflict Resolution at the University of Coimbra (Portugal). In my M.A. Dissertation, I worked on the issue of how Nationalism was generally downplayed by Western Sovietologists. My primary research interests focus on narratives of national identity and their intersection with citizenship acquisition policies from top-down and bottom-up perspectives, particularly in Central and Eastern Europe, while my secondary research interest lies in the area of far-right populism (I have articles published on Dugin and Bolsonaro). I have previously worked as a journalist and as a lecturer in Brazil and in Portugal.

Imola Vass

I am an ethnic Hungarian born and raised in Timisoara, Romania. I moved to Budapest, Hungary when I started studying at Eötvös Loránd University (ELTE). I studied Political Science during my bachelor's and currently I am pursuing a master's degree in International Relations with a human rights specialization, having only one semester left until graduation. In the past year, I have been living in Paris, studying at Sciences Po with an Erasmus+ scholarship, which has been one of the most exciting and challenging years of my life. Regarding my academic career, I have always been interested in the protection and promotion of rule of law and human rights, with a special emphasis on minority protection in Europe. Besides, I am also interested in theories of democracy and democratic governance.

Hunor Veres-Kupán

I grew up in a city in the western part of Romania called Satu Mare, as a member of the Hungarian ethnic minority. Currently I am studying law at Cluj-Napoca in Romania. My main professional goal is to become a judge or a lawyer, however I still have not decided yet. I consider myself an extraverted, outgoing person, I am really looking forward to meeting the other participants of the Summer School and visiting the country for the first time. I am generally interested in legal, historical, political, and social questions. In my free time I like to hang out with my friends and have interesting debates with them. I also like to play airsoft, basketball, and strategy board games and to read books. I like to spend time with pets, especially dogs. I have some legal experience on the field of minority rights, but I am really grateful for the opportunity to expand my knowledge.

Isaure Vorstman

I grew up in the Netherlands but moved to Canada in 2017, where I began my bachelor's in history at the University of Toronto. I am now completing my MA at the Centre for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy at the University of Toronto. My interests include nation-building and the role of territory, language, and diversity in shaping national identities. I have done research on the education of the Azerbaijani population in Georgia, on the role of Russian colonialism in Azerbaijani and Armenian identity formation, and, most recently, on the evolution of Pontian Greek identity in light of Greek and Turkish nation-building projects. I am currently interning at Eurac where I hope to gain practical research skills and expand my knowledge of minority rights across the world. I speak French, English, and Dutch, can understand German, and am a learner of Russian.

John Weston

I completed my undergraduate degree in comparative politics at McGill University in Montreal, Canada and I am now completing my MA at the Centre for European and Eurasian studies at the University of Toronto. As part of said programme, I am on an internship within the Centre for Minority Rights at EURAC, assisting on EU-level deradicalization research. My academic interests are contentious politics, migration, minority rights, and securitization – my primary research involves minority experiences under the Soviet Union and Turkey, as well as the Prague Spring and social movements in the former Warsaw Pact. I'm eager to take part in EURAC's summer school as governance, autonomy, and border-setting underpin many other issues in my work.

Any questions? Contact us!

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