WORKSHOP: Realist Biography and European Policy
16.04 – 18.04. 2010,
Centre for Sociological Research KU Leuven

Organisers:

- Centre for Sociological Research, Catholic University of Leuven

- UACES (University Association for Contemporary European Studies): Exchanging Ideas on Europe

- Scientific Research Centre
  of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts

- Realist Biography Working Group

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS AND TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

Realist social theory:

Margaret Archer, Department of Sociology, University of Warwick, Coventry

Robert Carter, Department of Sociology, University of Wawick, Coventry

Biographical methods:

Robert Miller, Queen's University School of Sociology, Social Policy and Social Work

Fritz Schütze, University of Magdeburg, Institute of Sociology

Tom Wengraf (Honorary Fellow of the Birkbeck Institute of Social Research) & Prue Chamberlayne (School of Health and Social Welfare, Open University, UK)

European policy studies and social dialogue

Valeria Pulignano, Centre for Sociological Research, Catholic University of Leuven

Miriam Kennet, Green Economics Institute, UK

Tentative programme of the workshop

16.04

15:30 –16:00 Registration starts

16:00 - 16:30 - Welcome word byJeffrey Turk and Valeria Pulignano

16:30 – 18:00 - Setting the goals of the workshop: introductory lecture 'Biographical research and European studies: Towards an integrated toolkit for the study of European policy formulation, negotiation and implementation' (Jeffrey Turk and Adam Mrozowicki), followed by discussion

17.04

9:30 – 13:00 - Realism and biographical research and European studies: key note speakers' presentations followed by discussions (I). Tentative topics:

- Margaret Archer: The theoretical relevance of life and work stories in a critical realist framework
- Robert Carter: Making realism work: realist social theory and empirical research

(11:00-11:30: cofee break).

- Fritz Schütze: Biographical narrative interviews: theoretical assumptions and empirical applications
- Tom Wengraf & Prue Chamberlayne: Experiences from the SOSTRIS project: using biographical methods in evaluating welfare policies in Europe
- Robert Miller: Experiences from the Euroidentites project: using biographical methods in the analysis of the evolution of European identies

13:00 – 14:30 - Lunch break

14:30 – 15:00 - European social dialogue: what goes into it and what comes out?

- Valeria Pulignano: European social dialogue: current debates and new methodological and theoretical perspectives
- Miriam Kennet: Green economics and social dialogue in Europe: an emerging field of multidisciplinary research?

15:00 – 15:30 - Coffee Break

15:30 – 17:30 -	Realist biographies and European social dialogue: applications in empirical research (Jeffrey Turk, Adam Mrozowicki, Markieta Domecka; invited panelist besides keynote speakers: Rudi Laermans (KU Leuven CESO), Raf Vanderstraeten (Universiteit Gent), Caroline Gijselinckx (KU Leuven HIVA)
19:00 -	Dinner at De Wiering restaurant in Leuven

18.04

09:30 - 12:00 -	Biographical analysis and European studies in critical realist framework: workshop and discussion on a transcript of an interview with a European-level activist (Tatiana Bajuk, Scientific Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Slovenia)
12:00 - 12:30 -	Coffee break
12:30 – 13:00 -	Setting up agenda for further cooperation: (1) book proposal, (2) project proposal (Jeffrey Turk, Adam Mrozowicki)
13:00 -	End of the workshop and lunch

Registration

- Limited to 40 participants, so register early to ensure your place. **The deadline for registration is extended to March 22nd, 2010.**
- Attendance fees: EUR 20 (regular), EUR 15 (students, PhD students), EUR 10 (UACES members) covers coffee breaks, lunches and workshop printed materials
- To reserve a place and get further information, contact: Jeffrey Turk: Jeffrey.turk@skynet.be or Adam Mrozowicki: adam.mrozowicki@wns.uni.wroc.pl

Webpage: http://soc.kuleuven.be/web/agendaitem/1/1/eng/583