P02 / Advancing Thinking on Policy Tools: A Research Agenda

Topic : POLICY DESIGN, POLICY ANALYSIS, EXPERTISE AND EVALUATION

Chair : Michael Howlett (Simon Fraser University)

Second Chair : Giliberto Capano (Università di Bologna)

GENERAL OBJECTIVES, RESEARCH QUESTIONS AND SCIENTIFIC RELEVANCE

Thinking about policy tools has changed over the past few years as a new emphasis has been placed on tools such as nudging, co-production and a variety of digital tools such as crowd-sourcing and Big Data analysis. These developments have challenged existing models and practices and it is time to review theory and modelling around policy tools in light of these new efforts.

This set of panels will examine early models and modes of thinking about policy tools in light of case studies and comparative work dealing with a variety of new actions in this field. These include macro-level practices and analyses of tools including thinking about "meta tools" like The relationship between tools and “platforms”: that is, specific kinds of ‘meta-tools’ which are open-ended and multi-functional and provide the foundation for the use of other more directed tools, and presentation and analysis of existing and new empirical evidence on administrator, public and political behaviour around choices of policy tools. And they include meso-level studies of policy mixes including related issues in their evolution such as sequencing, layering, stretching and patching as well as studies focusing on the nature and uses of “procedural tools” and their role in policy designs and problems around tools like information provision and public participation. And they will also include papers dealing with more micro-level developments including problems and thinking around implementation such as tool calibrations, their design implications and how they affect policy change and Tool 'volatility' – that is, the likelihood and ease with which a tool can be gamed/violated by targets or implementors and its design implications, as well as studies focusing on the nature of the mechanisms that tools activate in order to affect target behaviour: that is, why tools actually 'work' and why they are complied with.

CALL FOR PAPERS

This set of panels will examine early models and modes of thinking about policy tools in light of case studies and comparative work dealing with a variety of new actions in this field. These include:

1. Macro-level practices and analyses of tools including thinking about "meta tools" like the relationship between tools and “platforms”: that is, specific kinds of ‘meta-tools’ which are open-ended and multi-functional and provide the foundation for the use of other more directed tools, and presentation and analysis of existing and new empirical evidence on administrator, public and political behaviour around choices of policy tools.

2. Meso-level studies of policy mixes focusing on a): issues related to their evolution (such as sequencing, layering, stretching and patching) and composition (specific mixes between different types of substantive instruments); b) analyzing the nature and uses of “procedural tools” and their role in policy designs and problems around tools like information provision and public participation.

3. Micro-level developments including: a) problems and thinking around implementation such as tool calibrations, their design implications and how they affect policy change and tool 'volatility' – that is, the likelihood and ease with which a tool can be gamed/violated by targets or implementors and its design implications; b) studies focusing on the nature of the mechanisms that tools activate in order to affect target behaviour: that is, why tools actually 'work' and why they are complied with.

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Session 1Advances in Policy Instrument Theory

Wednesday, June 26th 14:00 to 16:00 (MB 1.437)

Discussants

Karol Olejniczak (SWPS University)

The State of Policy Instrument Analysis: Knowns, Unknowns and the Current Research Agenda

Giliberto Capano (Università di Bologna)

Michael Howlett (Simon Fraser University)

Navigating the changing policy tool landscape: selection heuristics

Ine Steenmans (University College London, University of London)

Individual preferences of policy tools: towards empirically grounded theory

Arnost Veselý (Charles University Prague)

Volatility in Policy Mixes: A Research Agenda

Michael Howlett (Simon Fraser University)

The essence of policy instruments: moving beyond sectoral typology

Giliberto Capano (Università di Bologna)

Isabelle Engeli (University of Exeter)

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Session 2(Re)Examining Policy Instrument Behaviour

Wednesday, June 26th 16:30 to 18:30 (MB 1.437)

Discussants

Arnost Veselý (Charles University Prague)

Revisiting Behavioral Assumptions of Policy Instruments

Karol Olejniczak (SWPS University)

Pawel Sliwowski (University of Warsaw / Polish Economic Institute)

F.L. Leeuw (Maastricht University)

Mandatory Vaccination Policy Tools: Scope, Sanctions, Severity, Selectivity, and Salience

Katie Attwell (University of Western Australia)

Mark Navin (Oakland University)

Instruments for policy integration

Guillermo Cejudo (Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económica (CIDE))

Cynthia Michel (Center for Research and Teaching in Economics (CIDE))

A relational approach for policy tools´ investigations: the case of social policies integration through the Brazilian Single Register

Denise Direito (Instituto de Pesquisa Econômica Aplicada - IPEA)

Natalia Koga (National School of Public Administration (ENAP))

A meso-level analysis of the evolution of the environmental policy mix to accelerate low-carbon energy transitions: policy sequencing in China from 1980 to 2020

Lili Li (Auburn University)

Araz Taeihagh (National University of Singapore)

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Session 3Understanding Procedural and Information-Based Tools

Thursday, June 27th 08:00 to 10:00 (MB 1.437)

Discussants

Jeremy Rayner (University of Saskatchewan)

Procedural Tools in Healthcare

Azad Singh Bali (University of Melbourne)

Michael Howlett (Simon Fraser University)

M Ramesh (LKY School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore)

A bunch of rule-making tools: Mapping instruments across the European Union

Jonathan Kamkhaji (European University Institute)

Claudio Radaelli (European University Institute)

Claire Dunlop (University of Exeter)

Designing Transparency: Design Considerations and Policy Mixes for the Effective Use of Information Disclosure as a Policy Instrument

Luc Juillet (University of Ottawa)

Exchange of Information as a Public Policy Instrument Essential to Protecting the Tax Base and Canada's International Tax Cooperation

Marie-Thérèse Dugas (Université de Sherbrooke)