

T02P12 / Analysing Knowledge Policy Coordination for the 21st Century

Topic : T02 / Comparative Public Policy sponsored by Journal of Comparative Policy Analysis

Chair : Martina Vukasovic (University of Bergen)

Second Chair : Jens Jungblut (Department of Political Science, University of Oslo)

Third Chair : Meng Hsuan Chou (Nanyang Technological University)

GENERAL OBJECTIVES, RESEARCH QUESTIONS AND SCIENTIFIC RELEVANCE

Achieving effective and efficient coordination is at the heart of good public policymaking. This panel proposes to examine the multi-faceted coordination challenges and opportunities by looking at the case of knowledge policy domain through an explicit framework emphasising its multi-issue, multi-actor, and multi-level nature. The global shift towards knowledge-based societies has placed knowledge at the core of contemporary public policy. However, the governance of knowledge requires collaboration across multiple policy sectors, e.g. higher education, research, and trade. While this brings forward the multi-issue aspect of policy coordination, it also points to the presence of state actors (e.g. different ministries and agencies), businesses, as well as non-state actors (interest groups and stakeholder organizations), adding a multi-actor aspect. Extant research has revealed how these two features already contribute to several coordination challenges – duplication, inconsistencies, clashing priorities, and potential bureaucratic and political conflict (Braun, 2008; Peters, 2015). So far largely missing from these analyses of policy coordination is a consideration of multi-level governance aspects. This includes ‘new’ actors increasingly involved in the design, implementation, and/or evaluation of policy which are operating across governance levels (Gornitzka & Maassen, 2000; Olsen, 1988), but also transnational and sub-national governance layers, given that devolution to regions—both supranational and subnational—is an important feature of contemporary governance (Chou & Ravinet, 2015; Jayasuriya & Robertson, 2010; Piattoni, 2010). So far, these multi-issue, multi-level and multi-actor dimensions have largely been studied in isolation from each other, preventing a full(er) understanding of the nuances and complexities of policy coordination. This panel invites researchers from diverse disciplines interested in knowledge policies to examine “the three multi’s” in a systematic and explicit manner, including explorations of interactions between them. All accepted papers must have a clear conceptual approach, supported by empirical examples, preferably beyond a single case study. We propose three sections, each giving primacy to one of the three multi’s, while at the same time highlighting interactions with the other two.

References

- Braun, D. (2008). Organising the political coordination of knowledge and innovation policies. *Science and Public Policy*, 35(4), 227-239. doi:10.3152/030234208x287056
- Chou, M.-H., & Ravinet, P. (2015). Governing higher education beyond the state: The rise of ‘Higher education regionalism’. In H. De Boer, D. D. Dill, J. Huisman, & M. Souto-Otero (Eds.), *Handbook of Higher Education Policy and Governance* (pp. 361-378). London: Palgrave.
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- Peters, B. G. (2015). *Pursuing horizontal management: the politics of public sector coordination*. Kansas: University press of Kansas.
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CALL FOR PAPERS

Achieving effective and efficient coordination is at the heart of good public policymaking. This panel proposes to examine the multi-faceted coordination challenges and opportunities by looking at the case of knowledge policy domain through an explicit framework emphasising its multi-issue, multi-actor, and multi-level nature. The global shift towards knowledge-based societies has placed knowledge at the core of contemporary public

policy. However, the governance of knowledge requires collaboration across multiple policy sectors, e.g. higher education, research, and trade. While this brings forward the multi-issue aspect of policy coordination, it also points to the presence of state actors (e.g. different ministries and agencies), businesses, as well as non-state actors (interest groups and stakeholder organizations), adding a multi-actor aspect. Extant research has revealed how these two features already contribute to several coordination challenges – duplication, inconsistencies, clashing priorities, and potential bureaucratic and political conflict. So far largely missing from these analyses of policy coordination is a consideration of multi-level governance aspects. This includes ‘new’ actors increasingly involved in the design, implementation, and/or evaluation of policy which are operating across governance levels, but also transnational and sub-national governance layers, given that devolution to regions—both supranational and subnational—is an important feature of contemporary governance.

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Session 1

Wednesday, June 28th 14:00 to 16:00 (Block B 2 - 3)

Discussants

Martina Vukasovic (University of Bergen)

The politics of higher education policies: an introduction to multi-level, multi-actor and multi-issue dynamics

Meng Hsuan Chou (Nanyang Technological University)

Jens Jungblut (Department of Political Science, University of Oslo)

Pauline Ravinet (Université de Lille)

Martina Vukasovic (University of Bergen)

The Quality of Governance in Sub-Saharan Africa – Comparing Intra-regional Inequalities in Higher Education

Jens Jungblut (Department of Political Science, University of Oslo)

Peter Maassen (University of Oslo)

National Policy and Market Forces: Using the German Model of Transnationalisation of Higher Education to Redefine the Role of the Nation State in a Marketised Education Field

Nadin Fromm (University of Kassel/ Chair of Public Management)

Alexander Raev (Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen)

Global aspirations and local alignments: Investigating university strategies and roles

Iyad Abualrub (University of Oslo)

Romulo Pinheiro (University of Agder)

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Session 2

Wednesday, June 28th 16:15 to 18:15 (Block B 2 - 3)

Discussants

Meng Hsuan Chou (Nanyang Technological University)

Jens Jungblut (Department of Political Science, University of Oslo)

Follow the money: How Australian universities replicate national performance-based funding mechanisms

Peter Woelert (University of Melbourne)

Lachlan McKenzie (The Australia and New Zealand School of Government)

Universities' Third Mission: Global Discourses and National Imperatives

Mitchell Young (Charles University)

Romulo Pinheiro (University of Agder)

Kohoutek Jan (Charles University in Prague)

James Karlsen (University of Agder)

Regional policy coordination and policy convergence in higher education

Martina Vukasovic (University of Bergen)

Mari Elken (NIFU - Nordic Institute for Studies on Innovation, Research and Education)

Coordinating Canada's Innovation Agenda – Strategies Used by Ontario Vice-Presidents Research

Merli Tamtik (University of Manitoba)