WHAT IS THE WINTER SCHOOL ABOUT?

The Winter School is a two-week international postgraduate programme on federalism, regionalism and multilevel governance. It explores, from an interdisciplinary and comparative perspective, how federalism can contribute to multilevel, integrated and pluralistic decision-making.

A wide range of lectures provides an opportunity for participants to broaden their knowledge of multilevel governance and government, especially from the perspectives of legal and political sciences.

Top-notch scholars coming from different backgrounds and from around the globe lead courses and workshops on federalism and its challenges in the Winter School's international learning environment.

The 2018 edition of the School will focus on federalism in the making. For one week at the University of Innsbruck and one week at Eurac Research, Bolzano/Bozen, participants will analyze the basic requirements, origins and evolution of federal states, constitution making, as well as the success and risk factors of multilevel systems. A wide range of case studies and examples of symmetric and asymmetric federations, the European Union, multinational states or current examples in Eastern Europe will be discussed.

Furthermore, the study of different policy fields, such as financial relations or environmental and social policies, will provide insights into the workings of multilevel governance.

Beside numerous opportunities for discussion with leading experts on multilevel governance throughout the lectures, the interactive sessions will also offer participants the chance to share knowledge amongst themselves. Both lectures and workshops will address the issue of implementing federal systems through case studies and their comparison.

The Winter School will examine a series of issues:

- What are basic requirements of a federation?
- What are the factors for the success or failure of federal systems?
- What does constitution-making look like in emerging federations?
- What are the political, economic and legal drivers of federalism?
- How do federal systems accommodate or facilitate asymmetries and diversity?
- Is the European Union a federation in the making?
- What impact does federalism have on fiscal relations, social welfare and policy fields such as land use and the environment?
- What lessons can be learned from comparative practice?

The Winter School 2018 examines these and other questions by combining theoretical expertise and relevant case studies. As such, the programme is a unique opportunity for young academics, postgraduate students and practitioners to receive enhanced training on the theoretical and practical aspects of federalism.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

The Winter School is designed for those who wish to upgrade their knowledge of federalism through an interdisciplinary and comparative approach, including:

- young researchers and academics
- post-docs, postgraduate and graduate students
- civil servants from local, regional or national government
- employees of international organisations or NGOs

Please note that the programme builds on assumed prior knowledge of federalism.
WHAT TO EXPECT IN INNSBRUCK AND BOLZANO/BOZEN?

The two-week programme is embedded in an exciting international learning environment in Austria (Innsbruck) and in Italy (Bolzano/Bozen, South Tyrol) and includes:

• lectures by distinguished academics;
• discussions and case studies with experts;
• study visits to political institutions;
• interactive workshops and a public lecture.

The Winter School is held entirely in English.

LECTURERS

• Dott.ssa Elisabeth Alber - Eurac Research, Bolzano/Bozen, Italy
• Dr. Mariachiara Alberton - Eurac Research, Bolzano/Bozen, Italy
• Prof. Dr. Balveer Arora - Jawaharlal Nehru University, India
• Prof. Dr. Eva Maria Belser - University of Fribourg, Switzerland
• Prof. Dr. Jörg Broschek - Wilfried Laurier University, Canada
• Prof. Dr. Reiner Eichenberger - University of Fribourg, Switzerland
• Prof. Dr. Andreas Heinemann-Grüder - University of Bonn, Germany
• Dr. Sören Keil - Canterbury Christ Church University, United Kingdom
• Dr. Karl Kössler - Eurac Research, Bolzano/Bozen, Italy
• Prof. Christina Murray - Bingham Centre for the Rule of Law, United Kingdom
• Prof. Dr. Francesco Palermo - Eurac Research, Bolzano/Bozen and University of Verona, Italy
• Prof. Dr. Simona Piattoni – University of Trento, Italy
• Dr. Alice Valdesalici - Eurac Research, Bolzano/Bozen, Italy
• Prof. Dr. Jaap de Visser - University of the Western Cape, South Africa
• Prof. Dr. Jens Woelk - Eurac Research, Bolzano/Bozen, Italy and University of Trento, Italy

DATES AND VENUES: 5 February – 16 February 2018

The first week takes place at the Faculty of Law and School of Political Science and Sociology, Leopold-Franzens-Universität, Innsbruck, Austria; The second week takes place at the Institute for Comparative Federalism, Eurac Research Bolzano/Bozen, Italy.

Application deadline: 26 October 2017

For further information, a detailed programme, enrolment procedure, costs and scholarship opportunities, please visit: winterschool.eurac.edu

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The Winter School is honoured to enjoy the patronage of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Mr Thorbjørn Jagland.