



**Conference: Causal Mechanisms in the Analysis of Social Policy Dynamics**

*7-8 November 2019, House of Science, Bremen*

**Day 1**

**9-9.30 Registration and welcome coffee**

**9.30-10.30 Gary Goertz**, University of Notre Dame

**The veil of ignorance – causal mechanism – process tracing methodology**

*Coffee break*

**10.45-12.15 Session 1: Theorizing Mechanisms** (Chair: Johanna Kuhlmann)

1. **Holger Straßheim**, University of Bielefeld  
Transforming social policy (research): the mechanisms of micro-focusing (*Discussant: Hubert Heinelt*)
2. **Johannes Schmitt, Martin Noltze**, German Institute for Development Evaluation  
Causal mechanisms in evaluation: conceptual confusion, practical application and the way forward (*Discussant: Heinz Rothgang*)
3. **Sebastian Haunss**, University of Bremen  
Network mechanism driving the development of social policies (*Discussant: Sarah Berens*)

*Lunch*

**13.30-14.30 Renate Mayntz**, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies

**Promise and limits of mechanism-based explanation**

*Coffee break*

**14.45-16.30 Session 2: Mechanisms of Social Policy Dynamics – Single Case Studies** (Chair: Heiko Pleines)

1. **Olivier Burtin**, LMU München/Princeton University  
Mechanisms of veterans' policy in the United States: A comparative overview (*Discussant: Teresa Huhle*)
2. **Ellen van Reuler**, Leiden University  
English hospices and palliative care policies as a model for the Netherlands? (*Discussant: Anna Safuta*)
3. **Tobias ten Brink<sup>1</sup>, Armin Müller<sup>1</sup>, Tao Liu<sup>2,1</sup>**, <sup>1</sup>Jacobs University Bremen, <sup>2</sup>University Duisburg-Essen  
Policy experimentation and elite cooperation: Causal mechanisms in the making of China's social insurance system (*Discussant: Osmany Porto de Oliveira*)
4. **Sarah Berens, Franziska Deeg**, University of Cologne  
Moving North and coming back. Migration and social policy preferences in Mexico (*Discussant: Cecilia Rossel/Florencia Antía*)

*Coffee break*

**16.45-17.45 James Mahoney, Northwestern University**  
**Causal mechanisms and theories of causality: Three approaches**

*Coffee break*

**18-19.30 Session 3: Mechanisms of Social Policy Dynamics – Comparative Approaches** (Chair: Klaus Schlichte)

1. **Traute Meyer**, University of Southampton  
Industrialism revisited - Changing kinship systems and pension reform in China and Europe  
(Discussant: *Tao Liu*)
2. **Robert van Niekerk**<sup>1</sup>, **Reynaldo Jiménez Guethón**<sup>2</sup>, <sup>1</sup> University of Witwatersrand,  
<sup>2</sup> University de La Habana  
Cultures of social solidarity and the public good: A reflection on South Africa and Cuba  
(Discussant: *Armin Müller*)
3. **Heinz Rothgang, Karin Gottschall, Anna Safuta, Kristin Noack, Marlene Seiffarth, Greta-Marleen Storath**, University of Bremen  
Migrantization of long-term care in Europe. On search of causal mechanisms (Discussant: *Friederike Römer*)

*Conference Dinner at Ratskeller*

**Day 2**

**9.30-11 Session 4: Mechanisms of Social Policy Dynamics – Transnational Interdependencies** (Chair: Frank Nullmeier)

1. **Andreas Heinrich**<sup>1</sup>, **Gulnaz Isabekova**<sup>1</sup>, **Armin Müller**<sup>2</sup>, **Heiko Pleines**<sup>1</sup>, **Tobias ten Brink**<sup>2</sup>,  
<sup>1</sup>University of Bremen, <sup>2</sup> Jacobs University Bremen  
Types of international policy-related knowledge transfer. From conditionality to elaborated autonomous policy learning (Discussant: *Lutz Leisering*)
2. **Monika Ewa Kaminska, Ertila Druga, Ante Malinar, Liva Stupele**, University of Bremen  
Reforms from within or reforms from without? Defying international organizations' agenda in healthcare reforms in Central Eastern Europe: in search of causal mechanisms (Discussant: *Andreas Heinrich*)
3. **Friederike Römer, Jakob Henninger**, University of Bremen  
Democracy and immigrant rights - Conflicting mechanisms at play (Discussant: *Sebastian Haunss*)

*Coffee break*

**11.15-12.30 Plenary Session: Could we hope to compile a list of basic causal mechanisms?** (Chair: Karin Gottschall)

**Peter Starke**, University of Southern Denmark  
**Delia González de Reufels, Johanna Kuhlmann, Frank Nullmeier, Klaus Schlichte**,  
University of Bremen

*Lunch*

**13.45-15.15 Session 5: Mechanisms of Social Policy Dynamics in Latin America** (Chair: Delia González de Reufels)

1. **Osmany Porto de Oliveira**, Federal University of São Paulo  
Mechanisms for social policy diffusion: theory and evidences from the Brazilian case  
(Discussant: Tobias ten Brink)
2. **Cecilia Rossel<sup>1</sup>, Florencia Antía<sup>2</sup>**, <sup>1</sup> Universidad Católica del Uruguay, <sup>2</sup> Universidad de la República  
The politics of sanctioning the poor: Revealing causal mechanisms in Uruguay's CCT programs  
(Discussant: Reynaldo Jiménez Guethón)
3. **Sebastian Sirén**, Stockholm University  
The Struggle over universalisation. Actors and institutions in the process towards health care reform in Bolivia (Discussant: Monika Ewa Kaminska)

*Coffee break*

**15.30-16.30 Armando Barrientos**, University of Manchester  
**The rise and fall of Bismarckian social policy in Latin America**

*End of Conference*

*Addresses:*

**Conference Venue:** House of Science (Haus der Wissenschaft), Sandstraße 4/5, 28195 Bremen

**Conference Dinner:** Ratskeller, Am Markt, 28195 Bremen