

Call for Papers for a two-day workshop
at Forum Internationale Wissenschaft (FIW), Bonn, May 5-6, 2016

Politics beyond democratic representation: Who takes part in collectively binding decision making?

Organized by:

Alexandra Bechtum, Damien Krichewsky, Evelyn Moser,
Philipp Rückheim, Anna Skripchenko (all FIW)

Democracy may be understood as a radically individualized form of political inclusion. As it is both empirically observed and normatively required in democratic political systems, the reference to equal participation and representation of individuals (one person – one vote) act as the ultimate legitimation of collectively binding decisions.

However, this view has been increasingly contested in public debates as well as by social sciences in recent years. They point to the observation that individualized inclusion as the main democratic principle is successively supplemented and presumably undermined by the increasing involvement of mostly collective actors in processes of political decision making, such as expert commissions, research organizations, business corporations, non-governmental organizations, protest movements and the like. Related analytical concepts that try to describe this transformation of democratic structures refer to terms like post-democracy, network governance, or deparliamentarization.

In order to shed light on the multiple facets of these distinct but interrelated forms of political inclusion, the workshop aims to bring together empirical studies from different fields of social sciences (*e.g.* sociology, political science, anthropology, history). We invite proposals for 20-minute presentations that focus on different actors, policy fields and/or examples of political influence to understand the underlying (common and diverging) structures and mechanisms as well as their conditions of emergence.

Contributions may cover but are not restricted to the following areas:

- Private companies and Corporate Social Responsibility
- Interest organizations and lobbying
- International organizations
- Regional actors, *e.g.* cities, regional councils, inter-regional associations
- NGOs from different societal fields (human rights, environmental protection, urban development and the like)
- Philanthropic foundations
- Social media and their role in political processes
- Scientific expertise and expert commissions
- Social movements and different forms protest
- Terrorist organizations, violent political groups, criminal organizations

We invite abstract submissions in particular from PhD candidates and Post-docs. If you are interested, please submit your abstract (approx. 300 words) to Evelyn Moser (emoser@uni-bonn.de) until February 15, 2016. If you have further questions, do not hesitate to contact us. You will be notified of abstract acceptance by March 1, 2016.