

# Editorial

*Monika Eigmüller* ([monika.eigmueller@uni-flensburg.de](mailto:monika.eigmueller@uni-flensburg.de))

Europa-Universität Flensburg, Germany

*Klarissa Lueg* ([klueg@sdu.dk](mailto:klueg@sdu.dk))

University of Southern Denmark, Denmark

*Martin Seeliger* ([martin.seeliger@uni-flensburg.de](mailto:martin.seeliger@uni-flensburg.de))

Europa-Universität Flensburg, Germany

---

After our last volume mainly focused on the EU's capacities and limitations in the fields of labor regulation and social policy in times of crisis, the contributions to this issue are mainly centered around the problem of how national territories are being politically organized under supranational order. Besides the topic of migration, which has been at the center of public debate not only since the new political salience of asylum policies since 2015/16, we can find similar accounts in heterarchic structures of EU-governance, as well as the academic discourses directed at generating reflexive knowledge about the social world in general.

In his article ,*Between Charity and Justice*', Wolfgang Streeck formulates some 'Remarks on the Social Construction of Immigration Policy in Rich Democracies'. Taking the constructivist premises of 'Wissenssoziologie', Streeck critically reconstructs implications and dilemmata of class politics in immigration societies. According to him, the social construction of moral obligations follows not only a particular political agenda set along the lines of new political cleavages, but also implies many (possibly) unintended consequences. As the arguments addressed by Streeck leave room for further debate (political, as well as academic), we will include a number of critical replies by other experts on the topic in the first volume of CPE in 2019.

In order to develop an analytical scheme applicable to analyze the social order of national European immigration societies, Nikola Tietze analyzes the 'Wechselwirkung' between the topoi of 'religion', 'language' and 'territory' in the social construction of domination and critique. By drawing on an empirical analysis of the Council of Europe, the national public spheres in Germany and France, as well as individual actors in both countries, she is making reference to the dynamics of European integration as a multi-level-process.

An alternative perspective on diverse constellations is subsequently developed by Jermias Herberg, who discusses the Europeanization of risk governance through public administrations as a problem of political heterarchy. Especially in times of crisis, the crafting and transformation of common political positions constitutes a challenging task. Therefore, Herberg concludes, if common problems cannot be solved by formal legislation, public administrators have to become creative learners.

In the following section, two essays reflect upon the role of sociological theory in research on European integration and globalization. In his text, which was originally held as a keynote speech at the Opening of the International Center for European Studies at Europa-Universität Flensburg, Hans-Jörg Trenz discusses how a new (or renewed) narrative for Europe can be constructed from below and not imposed from above.

The following essay by Martin Seeliger reconstructs three popular sociological accounts on the interrelation between capitalism, inequality and democracy from the current debate within German macrosociology with particular regards to their implicit concept of space.

Finally, an interview between Marius Mülhausen and Stephan Lessenich sheds light on the question of how patterns of consumption on the Global North are affecting ways of life in the Global South.