Institut für Föderalismus
Institut du Fédéralisme
Institute of Federalism

iacfs INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CENTERS FOR FEDERAL STUDIES

2017 IACFS Conference

12 – 13 October 2017

The Principle of Equality in Diverse States – Reconciling Autonomy with Equal Rights and Opportunities

Conference Programme

Saal Grenette/Grenette Hall

Place de Notre Dame 4

1700 Fribourg, Switzerland

Thursday, 12 October 2017: 1st Day of Conference

Time		Location
08:30	**Departure from Hotel de la Rose**	**Meeting Point Hotel de la Rose**
08:45 - 09:15	**Registration and Tea/Coffee**	**Grenette Hall**
09:15	**Opening of the Conference in Fribourg** Welcome Address by the Faculty of Law: **Bernhard Waldmann**, Dean of the Faculty of Law, University of Fribourg Welcome Address by the IACFS: **Francesco Palermo**, President IACFS About the Conference: **Eva Maria Belser**, Host of the 2017 IACFS Conference	
10:00 - 11:15	1st scientific session: **Clarifying Concepts of Equality** Chair: Francesco Palermo	
	10:00 **Anna Gamper** "Suum Cuique Tribuere" – a Common Narrative of Federalism and Equality? (12')	
	10:15 **Nico Steytler** Autonomy: the Quest for Equality and Inequality (12')	
	10:30 **Eva Maria Belser** Balancing Autonomy and Human Rights: Can We Accept Unequal Human Rights Standards in Federal States? (12')	
	10:45 **Debate** Chaired by Francesco Palermo (max. 30')	

11:15	**Refreshments** (30')	
11:45 - 12:45	2nd scientific session: **Handling Constitutional Asymmetry** Chair: Peter Haenni	
	11:45 **Patricia Popelier & Maja Sahadzic** Asymmetry and Equality in Multinational Federations (12')	
	12:00 **Jaap de Visser** The Western Cape Controversy: Asymmetry in an Equal Federation (12')	
	12:15 **Debate** Chaired by Peter Haenni (max. 30')	
12:45	**Lunch** (90')	**Notre-Dame Hall**
14:15 - 15:45	3rd scientific session: **Reconciling Equality and Multinationalism** Chair: Alain Gagnon	**Grenette Hall**
	14:15 **Assefa Fiseha** Reconciling Right to Self-rule with Right to Equality: The Evidence from Ethiopia (12')	
	14:30 **Soeren Keil** The Problem of Equality in a Multinational State – Bosnia and Herzegovina and Its Many People(s) (12')	
	14:45 **Gilberto M.A. Rodrigues** Indigenous Peoples and Brazil's Federalism (12')	

	15:00	**J. Wesley Leckrone** Trump's America, Federalism and Inequality: Varying Visions of the Federal Government and (Some) States (12')	
	15:15	**Debate** Chaired by Alain Gagnon (max. 30')	
15:45	**Refreshments** (30')		
16:15 - 17:45	4th scientific session: **Dealing with Differentiated Equality** Chair: Elisabeth Goodyear-Grant		
	16:15	**Rekha Saxena** Union Territory (UT) Model: Principle of Weighted and Differentiated Equality in Indian Federation (12')	
	16:30	**Victoria O. Isawa-Elaigwu** Balancing Autonomy and Equality in the Nigerian Federation (12')	
	16:45	**Pau Bossacoma** Equality in Need of Autonomy (12')	
	17:00	**Erika Arban** Italy: the Principle of (Federal) Solidarity as a Principle of Equality (12')	
	17:15	**Debate** Chaired by Elisabeth Goodyear-Grant (max. 30')	

17:45 - 17:50	**Conclusion of the First Day of Conference**	
18:15	**Visit of the Espace Jean Tinguely – Niki de Saint Phalle**	**Meeting point** **In front of Grenette Building**
19:30	**Dinner at Café des Arcades**	

Friday, 13 October 2017: 2nd Day of Conference

Time		Location
09:00	**Opening of the Second Day of Conference** Eva Maria Belser	**Grenette Hall**
09:15 - 10:45	5th scientific session: **Representing Unequal Groups Equally** Chair: Eva Maria Belser	
	09:15 **Dejan Vanjek** Federalism, Consociation and Constitutionality: Positioning of Collective Rights on the Continuum between Autonomy/Self-Rule and Shared Rule in the Political System of Bosnia and Herzegovina (12')	
	09:30 **Sérgio Ferrari** Federal States and Equality in Political Representation. Federalism Superseding Democracy? (12')	
	09:45 **Kirsten Nussbaumer** The Varieties of Electoral Federalism: Top-down, Bottom-up, or Separate Spheres (12')	
	10:00 **Yonatan Tesfaye Fessha** In the name of diversity: The "disenfranchisement" of linguistic minorities in Ethiopia	
	10:15 **Debate** Chaired by Eva Maria Belser (max. 30')	
10:45	**Refreshments** (30')	
11:15 - 12:45	6th scientific session: **Protecting the Weak in Federal Settings** Chair: Nico Steytler	

	11:15	**Andrea Filippetti** Does Regional Autonomy Lead to Equality? The Case of Public Services in European Regions (12')	
	11:30	**Marcelo Ponte** The Bolsa Família Program as a Way of Achieving Dignity and Reducing Social and Regional Inequalities in Brazil (12')	
	11:45	**Thea Baechler** Equality Among Individuals in Need and Among the Subnational Entities Supporting Them: Reviewing the Provision of Social Welfare in a Federal State (12')	
	12:00	**Gabriella Saputelli** The Principle of Equality and Social Care Policies in the Italian Regional System between Autonomy and Centralisation (12')	
	12:15	**Debate** Chaired by Nico Steytler (max. 30')	
12:45	**Lunch** (90')		**Notre-Dame Hall**
14:15	**Introduction of the Recipient of the Ronald L Watts Young Researcher Award** Chair: Francesco Palermo (5') **Ronald L. Watts Young Researcher Award:** **Benjamin Fraser** Presentation of the Award-Winning Paper and Discussion (25')		**Grenette Hall**

14:45 - 15:45	7th scientific session: **Sharing Resources while Respecting Autonomy** Chair: Jaap de Visser	
	14:45 **Peter Haenni** Fiscal Federalism: The Tension between Cantonal Autonomy and the Principle of Equality (12')	
	15:00 **Elisabeth Goodyear-Grant & Kyle Hanniman** Reconciling Efficiency and Solidarity: the Role of Fiscal Councils (12')	
	15:15 **Debate** Chaired by Jaap de Visser (max. 30')	
15:45	**Group Photo** (15')	
16:00	**Refreshments** (30')	
16:30 - 17:00	**8th scientific session: Case Studies & Country Reports** Chair: Assefa Fiseha (60')	
	16:30 **Miguel Angel Asensio** Equality, Development Equivalence and Federal Finance in Argentina (12')	
	16:45 **Jayampathy Wickramaratne** Assuring Equality, Autonomy and Territorial Integrity in Sri Lanka (12')	

17:00 - 17:30	**Concluding observations** Francesco Palermo Eva Maria Belser (30')	
18:15	**Historic Walking Tour through Downtown Fribourg** with Bernhard Altermatt, Historian	**Meeting point** **Hotel de la Rose**
19:30	**Dinner at the Café du Midi, Fribourg**	

Saturday, 14 October: Special Event (facultative)

Time		Location
08:30	**Departure from Fribourg**	**Meeting point Hotel de la Rose**
	Cable car up to Mount Moléson with mountainous lunch and a beautiful view over the Fribourg Alps	
14:30	**Arrival at the Hotel de la Rose (at the latest)**	