

DOING POLITICS ■ ■ ■ ACTING POLITICALLY

19-20 March 2009 International Workshop On The Political Dimension Of Situated Practices

B130, Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences-Pérolles II - Department of Social Sciences, University of Fribourg, Switzerland

In recent years, abstract entities such as the State, the Citizen and Power inherited from political philosophy have been reassessed empirically, notably under the influence of pragmatic considerations in social science approaches of the political order. This important development has led to a much more concrete understanding of modern democracies, now seen as a contingent process rather than the direct outcome of institutional structures.

The workshop will contribute to this development through presentation and discussion of related research projects. These projects have in common an observational approach to the situated practices through which political phenomena emerge in the first place. Ethnographical and video-supported enquiries are expected to demonstrate how the practices examined exhibit an orientation to their political dimension. While this dimension may concern the organisation, modification and discussion of 'life in common', how it is specifically produced remains to be described and explicated in each instance. In other words, the political character of the analysed practices has to be demonstrated as relevant for the participants involved and consequential for the organisation of their unfolding activity.

The aim of the workshop is twofold: first, to assess how relevant and important observational studies of situated practices are to the sociological understanding of political phenomena; second, to discuss key epistemological and methodological issues in the observational study of situated practices with a focus on their political dimension. In sum, the workshop is expected to provide a greater understanding of the concrete realisation of the political order, understood as a contingent and situated achievement. The results (and their publication in an edited volume) should therefore be of particular interest to the scientific community as well as to any citizen involved in the (re)organisation of the world we live in.

The workshop will be the second in a series of Situated Practices Seminars, following the 'Scientific Practice as Ordinary Action' International Workshop (March 2007 - Department of Social Sciences, University of Fribourg). The Situated Practices Seminars are intended to contribute to, and suggest the advantages of, a 'practical turn' in the study of social phenomena.

The workshop will be conducted in English and French.

Organised in collaboration with

the Research Committee 'Interpretative Sociologies' of the Swiss Sociological Association

Supported by

the Swiss National Science Foundation and the Swiss Sociological Association

Organising Committee

Alain Bovei (University of Fribourg), Esther González Martínez (University of Fribourg) and Philippe Sormani (University of Manchester)

■ Thursday, 19 March 2009

Chair: Esther González Martínez (University of Fribourg)

8:30 - 9:30 Registration, Welcome & Introduction

Alain Bovei (University of Fribourg), Esther González Martínez (University of Fribourg) and Philippe Sormani (University of Manchester)

9:30 - 11:00 **Louis Quéf** (Ecole des hautes études en sciences sociales, Paris)
Vers une approche pragmatique des phénomènes politiques.
L'enquête publique sur des vêtements

Discussion: Basilestin Dupret (CNRS-ISE, Cachan)

11:00 - 11:15 Break

11:15 - 12:45 **Christoph Maeder** (Pädagogische Hochschule Thurgau)

Negotiating performance. Human resource management as an interpretive and political practice

Discussion: Yasmine Siblot (Université Paris 8)

12:45 - 2:15 Lunch

2:15 - 3:45 **Basilestin Dupret** (CNRS-ISE, Cachan) and **Jean-Noël Ferré** (CNRS-PACTE, Grenoble)

On deliberative politics in action: A sociological stance

Discussion: Henrike Padmos (University of Groningen)

3:45 - 4:00 Break

4:00 - 5:30 **Yasmine Siblot** (Université Paris 8)

Les dimensions politiques et morales des rapports aux administrations en milieu populaire

Discussion: Christoph Maeder (Pädagogische Hochschule Thurgau)

5:30 - 5:45 Break

5:45 - 7:15 **Ivan Leudar** (University of Manchester) and **Jiri Nekvapil** (Charles University, Prague)

War on terror revisited. On historical contingencies of membership categorisation analyses of political discourse

Discussion: Cédric Terzi (Université de Lille 3)

Workshop website: <http://www.unifr.ch/sociologia/2007/index.php?page=up>

For directions: <http://www.unifr.ch/map/fr>

Registration

Advanced registration (Université de Fribourg, Banque Cantonale de Fribourg, IBAN: CH56070401100417600 / TE-203) or onsite registration.

Registration fees: 40 CHF, 20 CHF (Swiss Sociological Association members), free (Department of social sciences students and staff).

■ Friday, 20 March 2009

Chair: Philippe Sormani (University of Manchester)

9:00 - 10:30 **Tim Berard** (Kent State University)

Science(s) and jurisdiction as practical accomplishments. Reflections on praxis and prescriptions in cases of contested authority

Discussion: Louis Quéf (Ecole des hautes études en sciences sociales, Paris)

10:30 - 10:45 Break

10:45 - 12:15 **Henrike Padmos** (University of Groningen)

The discursive construction of the citizen identity in public debates on GMOs

Discussion: Ivan Leudar (University of Manchester)

12:15 - 1:45 Lunch

1:45 - 3:15 **Thomas Scheller** (Freie Universität Berlin)

Strong and weak prescriptions

Discussion: Tim Berard (Kent State University)

3:15 - 3:30 Break

3:30 - 5:00 **Philippe Gonzalez** (Université de Lausanne) and **Cédric Terzi** (Université de Lille 3)

Lorsqu' l'incantation se fait politique. La politisation des émeutiers à la creche du portique et du religieux

Discussion: Jean-Noël Ferré (CNRS-PACTE, Grenoble)

5:00 - 5:15 Conclusion

Alain Bovei (University of Fribourg), Esther González Martínez (University of Fribourg) and Philippe Sormani (University of Manchester)