



Second Berlin Forum **INNOVATION IN GOVERNANCE**

Knowing governance The making of governance knowledge and the transformation of politics

19–20 May 2011, Berlin

– CALL FOR PAPERS –

The Berlin Forum Innovation in Governance provides an interdisciplinary research platform on the genesis, dynamics and politics of new forms of governance. For the second Forum, we invite submissions along the following broad questions.

- **How is knowledge about governance made and contested, how do claims of objectivity and authority become established?**
- **How does knowledge about governance induce, shape or impede the emergence and development of new forms of governance?**
- **In which way is the production of knowledge about governance intertwined with transformations in governing practices and politics?**

The Forum will open on the morning of Thursday, 19 May, with a public keynote dialogue between **Marie-Laure Djelic** (ESSEC Business School) and **Andrew Barry** (University of Oxford).

Outline of the topic

The Berlin Forum Innovation in Governance provides a platform for research on the emergence, development and expansion of new forms of governance. Within this overall perspective, the Second Forum puts a special focus on knowledge about governance and its impact on governing practices and politics.

Basic questions concern different forms in which knowledge about governance is involved in processes of reconfiguring political practice and patterns of governance. This implies an interest in how the production of knowledge about how to govern effectively, efficiently, good or legitimately, is intertwined with governing practices and the establishment of new forms of governance (such as collaborative, network, market, deliberative, audit governance).

Special attention shall be put on different forms in which social sciences are involved in devising new forms of governance (e.g. by assessing and constructing modes and mechanisms of governance, by providing methods and instruments to be used for governance design, by offering models, data, or indicators which can be referred to as “objective knowledge” in the political process, or by granting legitimacy and



authority to particular reform projects to which scientific experts or institutions become enrolled).

We invite submissions which, in addressing these topics, contribute to developing academic debate on science and politics in three aspects which we deem important for understanding the role of knowledge in and for changing patterns of governance.

- **Knowing how to govern**

While past debates on science and politics offer valuable insights in the role of science in defining problems of governance (knowing what to govern), the role of scientific (and other forms of) knowledge in *devising tools, methods, and models for the conduct and organisation of governance (knowing how to govern)*, is sparsely analysed.

The latter includes knowledge on modes and mechanisms of governance (such as participatory governance, market based policy instruments, policy evaluation and benchmarking, public communication and campaigning). It also includes broader discourses on alternative techniques and instruments of governing that may draw political debate away from a focus on the ends and issues of governing.

Turning attention towards the production of the know-how of governing can add a relevant dimension to our understanding of innovation in governance. It is also of more general relevance for the study of governance change and the transformation of politics as it makes some important sites of politics beyond the institutions of state and public debate accessible for analysis.

- **Invisible advice**

Interactions between science and politics are often investigated by reference to more or less formal relations of advice such as the contracting of studies and reviews by policy makers, issuing of policy papers by think tanks and research organisations, establishment of committees and commissions, or expert commentary in the media.

Knowledge about governance, however, comprises *a broader range of various different forms of knowledge production*. This includes the circulation and uptake of tools and methods (e.g. simulation models, management concepts, statistics and indicators), training programmes for political personnel (e.g. leadership programmes, negotiation and project management skills, education in law and economics), or provision of professional services in support of governing (for e.g. accounting, public relations, change management, project development, drafting of regulations).

In these instances knowledge about governance is more diffuse and shapes governing practices in a more indirect manner. Because of its subtlety and pervasiveness, however, it can have important impacts on emerging new forms of governance and the transformation of political practices.

- **Making and contesting knowledge about governance**

In debates on science and politics knowledge often appears as a finished product. The question is who takes it up and in which way. With a view to knowledge in and for innovation in governance, however, we need to *extend analysis to the production of governing knowledge* (which often takes place in close interaction

with the negotiation of political strategies, design of policies or enforcement of regulations).

Such a perspective brings alternative research programmes, competing knowledge claims and controversy over objectivity and authority of knowledge about governance into view. It suggests a view on the co-production of particular forms of knowledge with particular governing practices and forms of political discourse, rather than analysing the interaction of science and politics as distinct entities.

This allows investigating relations of knowledge and governance in the making. As such it provides access to the politics of establishing objective knowledge and scientific authority in partial connection with some governing practices (e.g. performance indicators, impact assessment models, policy benchmarking) and the forgetting or discarding of other knowledges about governance (e.g. active citizenship, grassroots mobilisation, collective planning, democratic theory, participatory policy analysis).

We invite submissions that take up one or more of the above topics for conceptual and/or empirical investigation. Contributions combining different research perspectives such as policy and governance studies, innovation studies, organisational studies, and science and technology studies are explicitly welcomed. In view of the interdisciplinary and explorative character of the Forum we encourage contributors to place the different concepts and strands of empirical research that underlie the particular perspective and approach of their papers in a wider perspective.



Submission procedure

There are three ways of active participation in the Forum:

1. Proposals for **papers** which explicitly address one or more aspects of the outlined topic in empirical case studies and/or conceptual reflections (max. 500 words).
2. Proposals for **posters** which present ongoing or completed research projects (also PhD theses) that relate to the outlined topic (max. 500 words). A poster session includes a concourse with three minutes for each poster author to highlight questions, approach and findings.
3. Proposals to act as **discussant** of one of the papers selected for presentation at the Forum. Please give a brief outline of your expertise as well as current and past research work in relation to the topic of the workshop (max. 300 words).

The submission deadline for all proposals is **Sunday 9 January 2011**.

Please submit all proposals by email to Thomas Crowe (thomas.crowe@tu-berlin.de).

We will be able to cover travel expenses for a limited number of participants. Please indicate your need for travel funds (including a rough estimate of costs) when submitting your proposal.

Successful applicants will be informed of their acceptance by mid-February 2011.

Selected papers and posters will be considered for publication in a planned special issue on the topic of innovation in governance.

Organisation

This Second Forum is part of the Berlin Forum Innovation in Governance series which commenced 2010. The series is hosted by the Innovation in Governance Research Group at Technische Universität Berlin. For information on prior events and a conceptual outline please click on "Forum" on our project website at www.innovation-in-governance.org.

The Second Forum will take place in the Einsteinsaal of the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities which is located at Gendarmenmarkt in the centre of Berlin. Participants will be assisted in finding accommodation in vicinity of the venue.

For more information on the Forum aims, or should you wish to discuss your proposal in more detail, please contact the organisers. For all other general information surrounding the Forum, please contact the management.

Concept: Jan-Peter Voß (jan.peter-voss@tu-berlin.de)
Nina Amelung (amelung@ztg.tu-berlin.de)

Management: Thomas Crowe (thomas.crowe@tu-berlin.de)

Scientific committee: Nina Amelung, Jochen Gläser, Carsten Mann, Sonja Palfner, Werner Rammert, Arno Simons, Jan-Peter Voß (Chair), Arnold Windeler