

University of Cologne
Faculty of Management, Economics and Social Sciences
Cologne Center for Comparative Politics (CCCP)
Chair of International Comparative Political Economy and Economic Sociology

The Comparative Political Economy of the Welfare State (Master course)

Time: Block Seminar

Introduction: 23.10.2015, 10:00-11:30, 203 Gottfried-Keller-Str. 6 - 2

Block 1: 16.1.2016, 9:00- 15:00, 101 WiSo-Hochhaus - 310

Block 2: 23.1.2016, 9:00- 15:00, 101 WiSo-Hochhaus - 310

Block 3: 30.1.2016, 9:00- 15:00, 101 WiSo-Hochhaus - 310

Final session: 19.2.2016, 10:00-11:30, 203 Gottfried-Keller-Str. 6 - 2

Instructor: Dr. Dennis C. Spies

E-Mail: spies@wiso.uni-koeln.de

Course summary

The protection of the population against risks such as unemployment, illness or aging is considered as one of the core tasks of government policy. Consequently, social spending accounts for the bulk of government spending in almost all developed political economies. However, significant differences exist both with regard to the quantity and quality of welfare programs. At the same time, all welfare states face the same set of current challenges, including e.g. migration, demographic changes and several new social risks. The seminar introduces into this extensive literature on the emergence, establishment and the current crisis of the welfare state as a political-economic system of risk protection and redistribution. The occupied perspective is international-comparative and is intended to illustrate significant differences between different welfare regimes, as well as common developments and trends.

Prerequisites

The focus of the seminar literature will be on empirical studies which often follow a quantitative research design. Therefore, a general understanding of this kind of methodology is highly recommended. Since nearly all reading assignments are in English, this will be the general classroom language as well. Participants therefore must know enough English to be able to participate actively. Perfection is not required – you just need to understand and make yourself understood.

Registration

Students have to register via KLIPS.

Reading assignments

At the beginning of October the required texts for the sessions of the seminar can be accessed via ILIAS. If you register via KLIPS you will automatically have access to the ILIAS files.

Working requirements and assessment method

All participants are expected to:

- attend the seminar on a regular basis
- complete assigned obligatory readings according to schedule
- actively contribute to class discussions
- give a 10 to 15 minutes presentation in the seminar

Depending on the “Prüfungsordnung”

- EITHER write a research paper of 20-25 pages (but not more than 10.000 words) in length
- OR sit a written exam (probably in the last session of the seminar on **11th February 2016**)
- BOTH THE TERM PAPER AND THE EXAM HAVE TO BE TAKEN IN ENGLISH!

Submission of the research paper

The research paper have to be handed in an electronic version via email to spies@wiso.uni-koeln.de. The paper version should be handed in personally at the secretary of the Cologne Center for Comparative Politics (*IBW Gebäude, Herbert-Lewin-Str. 2, 1st floor, Room 1.09*). **Deadline for both is 15th March 2016.**

The paper version must contain the following signed statement:

http://www.cccp.uni-koeln.de/fileadmin/wiso_fak/cccp/Lehre/ErklaerungzuArbeiten.pdf

Course schedule

23.10.2015: Introduction

Further reading:

Obinger, Herbert und Bernhard Kittel, 2003: Parteien, Institutionen und Wohlfahrtsstaat: Politisch-Institutionelle Determinanten der Sozialpolitik in OECD-Ländern. S. 355-384 in: Herbert Obinger, Uwe Wagschal und Bernhard Kittel (Hg.): Politische Ökonomie: Demokratie und wirtschaftliche Leistungsfähigkeit. Wiesbaden: VS Verlag für Sozialwissenschaften.

16.1.2016: Block 1: How and why welfare states emerged

Topic 1: The welfare state as „politics against markets“

Obilgatory reading:

Esping-Andersen, Gøsta, 1990: The Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism. Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press, S. 9-34.

Further reading:

Arts, Wil und John Gelissen, 2002: Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism or More? A State-of-the-Art Report, Journal of European Social Policy 12 (2): 137–58.

Topic 2: The welfare state as part of the national production regime

Obilgatory reading:

Mares, Isabela, 2001: Firms and the Welfare State: When, Why and How Does Social Policy Matter to Employers? S. 184-212 in: Peter A. Hall und David Soskice (Hg.): Varieties of Capitalism. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Further reading:

Swank, Duane H. und Cathie Jo Martin, 2001: Employers and the Welfare State. The Political Economic Organization of Firms and Social Policy in Contemporary Capitalist Democracies, Comparative Political Studies 34 (8): 889-923.

Hall, Peter A., und Soskice, David (2001): An Introduction to Varieties of Capitalism. In Peter A. Hall und David Soskice (Hrsg.), Varieties of Capitalism. The Institutional Foundations of Comparative Advantage. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1-33

Topic 3: The impact of religion on welfare states

Obilgatory reading:

Manow, Philip, 2002: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly, Kölner Zeitschrift für Soziologie und Sozialpsychologie 54 (2): 203-225.

Further reading:

Kahl, Sigrun, 2005: The Religious Roots of Modern Poverty Policy: Catholic, Lutheran, and Reformed Protestant Traditions Compared, Archives Européennes de Sociologie 46 (1): 91-126.

23.1.2016: Block 2: “New Politics of Welfare”

Topic 4: Welfare state retrenchment

Obilgatory reading:

Pierson, Paul, 1996: The New Politics of the Welfare State, World Politics 48 (2): 143-179.

Topic 5: Public support for welfare

Obilgatory reading:

Blekesaune, Morten und Jill Quadagno, 2003: Public Attitudes toward Welfare State Policies: A Comparative Analysis of 24 Nations, European Sociological Review 19 (5): 415-427.

Further reading:

Larsen, Christian Albrekt, 2007: The Institutional Logic of Welfare Attitudes: How Welfare Regimes Influence Public Support, Comparative Political Studies 41 (2): 145-168.

Topic 6: Do parties still matter?

Obilgatory reading

Rueda, David, 2005: Insider-Outsider Politics in Industrialized Democracies: The Challenge to Social Democratic Parties, *American Political Science Review* 99 (1): 61-74.

Further reading:

Häusermann, Silja, Georg Picot und Dominik Geering, 2013: Review Article: Rethinking Party Politics and the Welfare State – Recent Advances in the Literature, *British Journal of Political Science* 43 (1): 221–240

30.1.2016: Block 3: New risks and new challenges

Topic 7: Migration

Obilgatory reading

Alesina, Alberto und Edward L. Glaeser, 2004: *Fighting Poverty in the US and Europe*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, Kapitel 1, 6.

Further reading:

Freeman, Gary P., 1986: Migration and the Political Economy of the Welfare State, *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 485: 51-63.

Topic 8: Demographic change

Obilgatory reading:

Busemeyer, Marius R., Achim Goerres und Simon Weschle, 2009: Attitudes Towards Redistributive Spending in an Era of Demographic Ageing: The Rival Pressures from Age and Income in 14 OECD Countries, *Journal of European Social Policy*, 19 (3): 195-212

Further reading:

Castles, Francis G., 2004: *The Future of the Welfare State. Crisis Myths and Crisis Realities*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, Kapitel 6.

Lynch, Julia, 2006: *Age in The Welfare State. The Origins of Social Spending on Pensioners, Workers, and Children*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, Kapitel 2-3.

Topic 9: Labor market dualization

Obilgatory reading:

Palier, Bruno und Kathleen Thelen, 2010: Institutionalizing Dualism: Complementarities and Change in France and Germany, *Politics & Society* 38 (1): 119-148.

Further reading:

King, Desmond und David Rueda, 2008: Cheap Labor. The Politics of Bread and Roses in Industrial Democracies, *Perspectives on Politics* 6 (2): 279-297.

19.2.2016: Final session: Summary and information on term papers