

Scientific Committee:

Anna Gamper (University of Innsbruck)
Esther Happacher (University of Innsbruck)
Peter Bußjäger (University of Innsbruck, IFÖ)
Matteo Nicolini (University of Verona)
Francesco Palermo (University of Verona, EURAC Bozen/Bolzano)
Jens Woelk (University of Trento, EURAC Bozen/Bolzano)

Further information and registration:

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Please register before March 19th, 2018.



Rechtswissenschaftliche Fakultät
Forschungszentrum Föderalismus

Conference

Representing Regions, Challenging Bicameralism

22 and 23 March 2018

University of Innsbruck, Aula
Innrain 52, 6020 Innsbruck/Austria

22 March 2018

9.00: Welcome addresses

Tilmann Märk, President, University of Innsbruck
Christian Markl, Dean of the Law Faculty, University of Innsbruck

Panel 1: Regions and their Chambers: Options for Power-Sharing

9.30 – 11.00

Chair: Anna Gamper (University of Innsbruck)

Unicameralism, Bicameralism, Tricameralism: Evolution and Trends in Europe

Paolo Passaglia (University of Pisa)

Shared Rule vs Self-Rule? Bicameralism, Power-Sharing and the “Joint Decision Trap”

Arthur Benz (Technical University of Darmstadt)

Discussion

11.00 – 11.30: Coffee break

Panel 2: Methods and Structures of Territorial Representation

11.30 – 13.00

Chair: Roberto Toniatti (University of Trento)

Second Chambers and Beyond: Bilateral, Multilateral and Alternative Representation of Territorial Interests

Francesco Palermo (University of Verona, EURAC Bozen/Bolzano)

The Legal Geography of Bicameralism: Territorial Representation between Symmetry and Asymmetry

Matteo Nicolini (University of Verona)

Discussion

13.00 – 14.00: Buffet lunch

Panel 3: The Functional Design of Federal Second Chambers

14.00 – 15.30

Chair: Francesco Palermo (University of Verona, EURAC Bozen/Bolzano)

Legislative Functions of Second Chambers

Anna Gamper (University of Innsbruck)

Extra-Legislative Functions of Second Chambers

Esther Happacher (University of Innsbruck)

Perfect and Imperfect Bicameralism: Conflict and Cooperation

Giacomo Delledonne (Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna, Pisa)

Discussion

15.30 – 16.00: Coffee break

Panel 4: The Role of Second Chambers in the European Union

16.00 – 17.30

Chair: Esther Happacher (University of Innsbruck)

The Committee of Regions – a Third Chamber?

Giuseppe Martinico (Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna, Pisa)

The Functions of National Second Chambers after the Lisbon Treaty

Jens Woelk (University of Trento, EURAC Bozen/Bolzano)

Discussion

23 March 2018

Panel 5: Case Studies, Part I: Symmetry, Bicameralism and Mature Federal Systems

8.30 – 10.00

Chair: Matteo Nicolini (University of Verona)

The German Bundesrat and Executive Federalism

Matthias Niedobitek (Technical University of Chemnitz)

The Swiss Ständerat: a Model of Perfect Bicameralism

Eva Maria Belser (University of Fribourg/Freiburg)

The Austrian Bundesrat – Imperfect and Unreformed

Peter Bußjäger (University of Innsbruck, IFÖ)

Discussion

10.00 – 10.30: Coffee break

Panel 6: Case Studies, Part II: Asymmetry, Bicameralism and Constitutional Engineering

10.30 – 13.00

Chair: Jens Woelk (University of Trento, EURAC Bozen/Bolzano)

Belgian Bicameralism between Linguistic and Territorial Representation

Patricia Popelier (University of Antwerp)

Transforming the House of Lords: a Chamber of Regions for the United Kingdom?

Meg Russell (Constitution Unit, UCL)

The Italian Senate after the Referendum: another Road to Reform?

Carlo Fusaro (University of Florence)

The Spanish State of Autonomies and the Secession Issue: Bicameralism Revisited

Alberto López Basaguren (University of the Basque Country)

Discussion

Conclusions: Representing Regions, Challenging Bicameralism

Roberto Toniatti (University of Trento)

13.00: Buffet lunch