'European governance in crisis: Modern Systems Theoretical accounts'

This year the CAJCEG (ie annual conference for young researchers in economic and management in Amiens, France) invites PhD candidates and recently qualified doctors to lean on the subject of governance in its multiple forms, and notably on European governance and the backlashes of the current polymorphous crisis.

Modern systems theory arguably provides innovative tools in order to tackle the heterogeneity and multi-level differentiation of European processes. Despite Luhmann's relative neglect of modern European transformations, his sociology of differentiation has proven to have a lot to offer to studies of European integration: his original perspective on modern society has thus been consolidated by his followers, and his theoretical tools were refined on contact with the European question. Issues such as governance, organizational differentiation in Europe, European constitutionalism, self-reference of the European polity and law have thus been given a new insight through modern systemic analyses.

Times of crisis shed more light on uncertainty, contingency and co-dependence of such processes, and on the problematic unity in their multiplicity and diversity. Arguably, the most striking feature of the current crisis in Europe is in fact that it has become a European crisis: by ultimately turning into an institutional crisis, the effects of the world economic crisis in Europe provides us with some kind of empirical evidence of a specific inter-systemic congruence in Europe. It also brings into light the contingency of processes of stabilizing expectations in Europe, and the very possibility of their failure.

This stream thus aims at highlighting systems theoretical tools' accuracy for tackling the intertwined political, administrative, legal, economic, (etc.) processes within Europe, their role and their relation to a polymorphous crisis. A theoretical focus on various levels of differentiation, on processes of coupling and possible co-evolution particularly opens possibilities for addressing the diversity and contingency of specific (inter-)systemic configurations within Europe. We thus invite PhD candidates and recently qualified doctors to lean on subjects such as:

- a-synchronicity and uneven europeanization of social systems;
- diversities of inter-systemic configurations in Europe;
- the difficult emergence of effective coupling mechanisms;
- legal/political and economic constitutionalism;
- Economic and political governance beyond the state;
- (...) : not an exhaustive list

Theoretical as well as systems-inspired applied studies are welcome in all fields. If you are interested in submitting a paper, please send your abstract to one of the addresses below, before May the 15th.

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