

Territorial Politics in Europe: Did the Covid-19 pandemic lead to a centralisation or decentralisation of power?

Academic and Practitioner Workshop
Art Hotel, 20 Kiełbaśnicza Street, 50-110 Wrocław
In partnership with the University of Wrocław

Thursday 7th December – Friday 8th December 2023

Thursday, 7th December

- 9.00am **Welcome and Introduction**
Ed Turner, Aston Centre for Europe / DAAD 'ShifTERR' project
Aleksandra Maatsch, Jean Monnet Chair and Professor of Political Science,
University of Wrocław
- 9.15am **Panel 1: Comparative analysis of the territorial impacts of the Covid
pandemic**
Chair: Josefin Graef (Aston University, UK)
- Framing research on the implications of the COVID-pandemic*
Ed Turner, Carolyn Rowe, Josefin Graef (Aston University)
- Devolution in the UK post-pandemic: Levelling up or levelling down?*
Paul Anderson (Liverpool John Moores University)
- Swedish exceptionalism during the COVID-19 pandemic*
Niklas Peters (University of Potsdam, Germany)
- Territorial reforms in France in the wake of the pandemic*
Raul Magni-Berton (Catholic University of Lille - ESPOL) and **Clara Egger**
(Erasmus University, Rotterdam) **to join by Zoom at 10.00 am
- 11.00am Coffee Break

- 11.15am **Panel 2: The Pandemic and Challenges to Democracy and Legitimacy**
Chair: Ed Turner (Aston University)
- National parliaments during the pandemic: disempowerment and resilience*
Aleksandra Maatsch (University of Wrocław)
- Centralised Rapid Response in the Wake of Covid-19: Tracing the Acceleration of Legislative Processes in Germany*
Jasmin Riedl (Universität der Bundeswehr, Munich, Germany)
- The Political Legitimacy of Crisis Management in Multilevel Systems: Business Support in Germany, Spain and the United Kingdom during Covid-19*
Marius Guderjan (Free University Berlin), **Johanna Schnabel** (Free University Berlin)
- 1.00pm Lunch break
- 2.00pm **Panel 3: Insights from Early Career Researchers**
Chair: Carolyn Rowe (Aston University)
- The Background of Middle West Isolationism during the Interwar Period in the United States*
Tadahiro Yamada (University of Wrocław)
- Civil Service System in Poland and Georgia: a Comparative Analysis*
Bacho Bitari Khuroshvili (University of Wrocław)
- 3.30pm Concluding discussion
- 4.00pm End of Workshop
- 5.30pm Public event

**“Unleashing the potential of Europe’s regions, cities and towns
in the post-Covid era”**

Chair: **Ed Turner**, Co-Director, Aston Centre for Europe, Aston University, UK

Speakers:

Jakub Mazur, Deputy Mayor of Wrocław, Poland

Jessica Studdert, Deputy Chief Executive, New Local, United Kingdom

Luke Raikes, Research Director, Fabian Society, United Kingdom

Marius Guderjan, Researcher, Free University, Berlin, Germany

- 8.00pm Conference dinner – Art Hotel

Friday, 8th December

- 9.00am **Panel 4: A practitioner perspective on the pandemic and its legacy for centralisation and decentralisation**
Chair: Aleksandra Maatsch (University of Wrocław)
- A new vision for community power*
Jessica Studdert (New Local)
- Equality and empowerment: A progressive proposal for fiscal devolution and economic development in England*
Luke Raikes (Fabian Society)
- 10.30am Coffee Break
- 11.00am **Publication plans and next steps**
- Collaborative Opportunities*
Time frames
Themes and focus
- 12.00pm Lunch

Location

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