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Challenges to European Integration: welfare states and free movement in the EU

SOLID Symposium, Monday 17th December
Room A.014, Kamerlingh Onnes Gebouw (KOG) Steenschuur 25, 2311ES Leiden, Leiden University

Programme

11.45 – 12.25 **Arrival: lunch, tea and coffee**

12.25 – 12.30 **Welcome and introduction to the SOLID Project**
Olaf van Vliet

12.30 – 13.15 Alexandre Afonso
Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Governance and Global Affairs/Institute of Public Administration, Leiden University
Title: More Equality, Less Immigration: Labour Market Institutions, Migrant Rights and Foreign Labour Recruitment in Post-war Europe
Discussant: tbc

13.15 – 14.00 Anthony Kevins
Marie Curie Research Fellow at the School of Governance, Utrecht University
Title: Immigrant Sentiment and Labour Market Vulnerability: Economic Perceptions of Immigration in Dualised Labour Markets
Discussant: tbc

14.00 – 14.15 **Tea/Coffee Break**

14.15 – 15.00 Clare Fenwick
Ph.D. candidate in the project SOLID at the Department of Economics, Leiden University
Title: Does the type of migration matter? Immigration and EU welfare states
Discussant: tbc

15.00 – 15.45

Brian Burgoon

Professor of International and Comparative Political Economy at the University of Amsterdam (UvA)

Title: tbc

Discussant: tbc

15.45 – 16.30

Olaf van Vliet

Professor of Comparative Welfare State Analysis at the Department of Economics and the Institute of Public Administration, Leiden University

Title: Do larger welfare states have tighter immigration policies? Social protection and immigration restriction in OECD countries

Discussant: tbc

16.30

Close of Symposium

Olaf van Vliet and Clare Fenwick

Description

SOLID: Solidarity under strain - a legal, criminological and economic analysis of welfare states and free movement in the EU. Analysing the ways in which immigration structurally challenges and changes the organisation and conceptual boundaries of national welfare states.

European welfare states are under pressure - the extent to which Union citizens can access welfare in a host-Member State is a controversial and highly sensitive political issue, and one which divides opinion in a crisis-hit Europe. Preserving the welfare state's advantages entails the limiting of access to benefits for certain persons, meaning national welfare arrangements are by their very nature closed systems. These closed systems need boundaries to distinguish between those who are 'in', and those who are 'out', and make clear that only certain persons are entitled to certain benefits. In contrast to national welfare systems the process of European integration, in particular freedom of movement, demands more openness. As such, states are trapped in a 'liberal paradox'. The free movement of people within Europe and its associated labour migration challenges national welfare states. Whilst it has been demonstrated and politically contested that immigration affects national welfare states, it is still not fully understood why and how this happens. This symposium aims to contribute to increased understanding of the relationship between labour migration and welfare in the light of European integration.