

CEREN is a centre for research within the field of ethnic relations and nationalism, based at the Swedish School of Social Science at the University of Helsinki.

CEREN's main interest is in developing postgraduate activities on a national and international level, but it also co-ordinates various teaching and research activities.



HELSINGIN YLIOPISTO
HELSINGFORS UNIVERSITET
UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI

RECENT EVENTS



From the left: Ulla-Majja Forsberg, Peter A. Kraus, Riva Kastoryano, Ferran Requejo, Keith Banting and Rainer Bauböck.

Panel and Workshop

Responding to Complex Diversity in Europe and Canada – Programme Launch Panel

In early May, CEREN organized a number of events for the RECODE (Responding to Complex Diversity in Europe and Canada) research networking programme. The programme kick-off event was a public launch panel and was followed over the next two days with the inaugural RECODE workshop.

The public launch panel took place on Thursday May 5th in the Festival Hall at Fabianinkatu 26. The welcoming words were given by Vice-Rector Ulla-Majja Forsberg from the University of Helsinki. Chair of the programme, Professor Peter A. Kraus gave a short introduction to the issue in question before the start of the panel. Invited panellists, representing the four thematic sections of RECODE, included Rainer Bauböck from the European University Institute, Florence/ Austrian Academy of Sciences; Keith Banting from Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario; Ferran Requejo from Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona; and Riva Kastoryano from CERI-CNRS-Sciences Po, Paris. The event was a success with more than 80 participants. The panel was followed by a reception.

On May 6th-7th, the first RECODE workshop took place on the topic of Linguistic Diversity and the Changing

Dynamics of Political Integration. There were 18 researchers from the RECODE network who took part, representing Canada and participating countries in Europe. The workshop was divided into three different work sessions: Session 1 – Linguistic Diversity, Nation-Building and Nationalism; Session 2 – Language, Transnational Integration, and Europeanization; and Session 3 – Language and the Politics of Immigration. The results of the workshop will be presented in an online working paper series in Winter 2011/2012.

RECODE, a research networking programme financed through the European Science Foundation (ESF), is intended to explore to what extent the processes of transnationalisation, migration, religious mobilisation and cultural differentiation entail a new configuration of social conflict in post-industrial societies - a possible new constellation labelled complex diversity. RECODE brings together scholars from across Europe and Canada in a series of workshops, publications and a PhD Summer School. More information about the programme and the working papers series is available via the RECODE website: www.recode.fi

ERI Programme

ERI Work Life Session II

On the 5th of April, the second ERI work life session took place at the Finnish Immigration Service (Migri) in Helsinki. The visit was arranged in cooperation with Arno Tanner who is a researcher at Migri and docent at the Department of Social Research at the Faculty of Social Sciences. Tanner has participated in ERI with the course *The International Migration System Today* since the beginning of the program in 2008.

The director Jaana Vuorio started by introducing the Finnish Immigration Service and by telling about the asylum process in Finland. Other issues that were brought up concerned the citizenship and the European Migration Network. The students also received useful information about possible internships or recruitment at the Immigration Service. This was particularly important, since from autumn 2011 onwards ERI students will have the possibility to include an internship period in their degree. The personnel at the Migration Service felt very positive towards cooperation with ERI regarding university intership. The work life session II was arranged by Ruta Kazlauskaitė.



From the left: Ruta Kazlauskaitė, Johanna Leinius, Ilari Lovio, Cao Qian, Allyana Thomas, Varpu Ahtonen, Julie Breton, Sofia Söderberg, Margarita Sakilayan-Latvala and Leena Sairanen.

THE STUDENTS ALSO RECEIVED USEFUL INFORMATION ABOUT POSSIBLE INTERNSHIPS OR RECRUITMENT AT THE IMMIGRATION SERVICE

Roundtable

Media for Diversity and Migrant Integration: Consolidating Knowledge and Assessing Media Practices across the EU

Docent Karina Horsti spoke at the European University Institute, in Florence, 13 May 2011 in a Roundtable on Media for Diversity and Migrant Integration: Consolidating Knowledge and Assessing Media Practices across the EU." Based on her experience as a Project leader for the Nordforsk funded researcher network Migra-Nord she was invited to evaluate and develop a new European research database and indicators assessing the capacity of the media to reflect diversity

and promote integration which are developed within the MEDIVA project directed at the EUI Florence.

The MEDIVA project seeks to strengthen the capacity of the media to reflect the increasing diversity of European societies and thus foster a better understanding of immigrant integration processes at a time when social cohesion and integration policies are put to the test by an acute economic crisis.

To achieve this aim, the project will:

1. survey existing studies/projects assessing the media capacity to reflect diversity and promote migrant integration (looking at 5 aspects: content of news, news making and programme production, recruitment, employment, training) across Europe;
2. create a searchable database of these studies;
3. create a set of indicators assessing the capacity of the media to reflect diversity and promote integration;
4. assess 30 selected media outlets (TV channels, newspapers, news web sites) across Europe on the basis of these indicators;

5. organize 5 international workshops to present the database, the indicators and discuss how they can be used;
6. create and use a targeted e-mail list of relevant stakeholders to disseminate the project results (database, indicators, their use for policy assessment/policy design and journalist training).

More about the MEDIVA project:

<http://www.eui.eu/Projects/MEDIVA/Home.aspx>

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Journal

Nordic Journal of Migration Research

The first issue of Nordic Journal of Migration Research (NJMR) was published in August 2011. The Nordic Journal of Migration Research is a peer-reviewed, open access international journal. Its areas of focus include migration theory and analyses of migratory processes, integration policies and intercultural relations. It gives high priority to Nordic issues and comparative studies of integration in Nordic and non-Nordic countries. The first issue includes an article

written by professor Peter A. Kraus *The Multilingual City – The cases of Helsinki and Barcelona*. The journal was founded in 2011 by Nordic Migration Research. It is a continuation of the Norwegian Journal of Migration Research (2000-2009) and the Finnish Journal of Ethnicity and Migration (2006-2010).

The issue can be downloaded from: <http://versita.metapress.com/content/122336>

NEW PERSONNEL AND AFFILIATES

Vanja La Vecchia-Mikkola



Vanja La Vecchia-Mikkola holds a master's degree in Political science with a specialization in Sociology from the University of Palermo, Italy. She is currently working on her PhD thesis which explores

the Iraqis' longing of return and practices of integration in Helsinki and Rome. While at Ceren, she is working as a researcher for the project "Transnational and local: the social integration of immigrant communities". Her research interests cover: international migration, transnationalism, refugee studies, ethnicity, multiculturalism, home and belonging.

Sabina Fortelius



Sabina Fortelius is currently working as a research assistant in University Lecturer Östen Wahlbeck's project "Swedish immigrants in Finland" funded by the Society of Swedish

Literature in Finland (SLS). She has previously worked at the Swedish School of Social Science both in the study office, and as an assistant at the Research Institute (FISS). Sabina is starting her studies in the ERI-Master's programme this fall, and will later this year start writing her master's thesis in sociology.

Anniina Hyttinen



Anniina Hyttinen is working at CEREN as a research assistant in the EUROSHERE project, which focuses on political and civil society actors' views on ethnic and national diversity,

migration and the development of the European Union in relation to these. She is a Master's student at the Faculty of Humanities, majoring in Hungarian language and culture. Her main interests are minority questions and ethnic relations in Eastern Central Europe.

Enikő Marton



Enikő Marton obtained her Master's degrees in communication studies, German and Hungarian philology at the University of Pécs (Hungary). She has been in charge of the programme for Hungarian studies at the University of Regensburg

(Germany) and held seminars on intercultural communication at her home university. She is currently a PhD student at the Department of Finno-Ugrian and Scandinavian languages at the University of Helsinki. Her main field of interest is the motivation of majority speakers towards learning the minority languages in bilingual areas.

Forthcoming events

On 15 Dec 2011, CEREN is organizing a workshop, combined with a panel discussion, on the topic Closing off the folkhem? Right-wing populism and the politics of xenophobia in the North. The list of speakers includes Ann-Cathrine

Jungar (Södertörn University), Peter Hervik (Aalborg University), Anders Ravik Jupskås (University of Oslo) and Anders Hellström (Malmö University). Further information will be made available online.

CEREN Centre for Research on Ethnic Relations and Nationalism

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