

Publications

Overall, the activities of the KFG have resulted in numerous publications, including monographs and edited volumes by its directors and visiting researchers, as well as its Working Paper Series. Until today, 82 Working Papers have been published and are accessible online on our website.



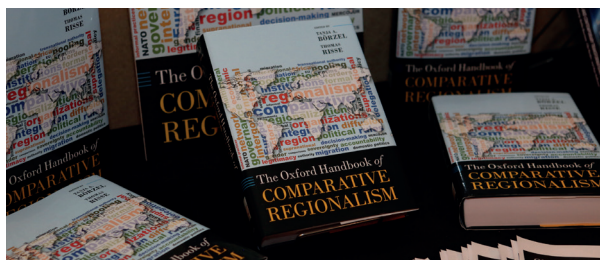
HUMBOLDT LECTURE (2016)
IMAGE CREDIT: MARTIN FUNCK

WORKING PAPER SERIES (2013)
IMAGE CREDIT: INGA HAAR

The publishing of “The Oxford Handbook of Comparative Regionalism” in 2016 has been a special achievement, followed by roadshow-presentations at the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities as well as universities in Rio de Janeiro, Pretoria and Singapur, where we discussed the findings with local experts.

“Twenty-seven chapters review the theoretical and empirical scholarship with regard to the emergence of regionalism, the institutional design of regional organizations and issue-specific governance, as well as the effects of regionalism and its relationship with processes of regionalization.

The authors explore theories of cooperation, integration, and diffusion explaining the rise and the different forms of regionalism.”



HANDBOOK PRESENTATION AT ISA (2016), IMAGE CREDIT: ROBB D. COHEN

WHO WE ARE

Research Directors

Prof. Dr. Tanja A. Börzel

Prof. Dr. Thomas Risse



OUR RESEARCH DIRECTORS (2018), IMAGE CREDIT: MARTIN FUNCK

Senior Scholars

Prof. Dr. Verena Blechinger-Talcott (FU Berlin)

Prof. Dr. Marianne Braig (FU Berlin)

Prof. Dr. Christian Calliess (FU Berlin)

Prof. Dr. Barbara Fritz (FU Berlin)

Prof. Dr. Liesbet Hooghe (University of North Carolina)

Prof. Dr. Detlef Jahn (Ernst-Moritz-Arndt-Universität Greifswald)

Prof. Dr. Wolfram Kaiser (University of Portsmouth)

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THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF EUROPE

Kolleg-Forschergruppe (KFG)

KFG - A Research College



The Kolleg-Forschergruppe (KFG) has been launched as a funding program by the German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft – DFG) in 2008. As a Research College, the KFG has been committed to synthesizing research and pooling expertise.

With its (post-)doctoral fellowships, the sabbatical program, and the invitation of top senior scholars, the KFG has provided a supporting and stimulating environment for quality research. Especially the promotion of young researchers has been a core task. They have been supported to discuss and forward their projects at the weekly Jour Fixe meetings, to organize workshops and participate in conferences – at home and abroad.



KFG CONFERENCE (2013), IMAGE CREDIT: INGA HAAR

Knowledge Exchange

The KFG has engaged in a wide array of activities to develop its research agenda and foster knowledge exchange among scholars and practitioners, such as policy-makers and the media. Thanks to our annual international conferences, book talks, and other events, the KFG has achieved high international visibility and disseminated its research results beyond academia.



KFG CONFERENCE (2013),
IMAGE CREDIT: INGA HAAR

LONG NIGHT OF THE SCIENCES (2015)
IMAGE CREDIT: BETTINA VOLKE

The Diffusion of Ideas...

The diffusion of ideas has become a central research theme in political science, sociology, law, history, and economics. During its first phase of research, from 2008-2012, the Kolleg-Forschergruppe (KFG) studied the diffusion of policy ideas and institutions within the European Union (EU), its candidates and neighborhood. During the second phase, from 2012-2018, the KFG realigned its focus of interest on the diffusion of ideas, policies, and institutions beyond Europe (comparative regionalism) and the analysis of the EU at the receiving end of external influences.

Two Research Areas

The EU and Regional Institutions in Latin America, Africa, the Middle East, and Asia

During its history of integration, the EU has developed as a major reference point for regionalisms around the globe. The aim of this research area is to explore how and under what conditions European policies and institutions diffuse to other regions of the world, particularly to Latin America, Africa, the Middle East, and Asia. How are they adapted, translated, or “localized” in different regional and cultural contexts – and when do they meet rejection and resistance? What explains the variations in outcomes as regards institutional designs, meanings, and interpretations? Moreover, despite its transformative power beyond its borders, the EU is not the only game in town when it comes to the spread of regionalism across the globe. Which alternative ideas of regional cooperation exist and how do they compete with the EU script? Lastly, can the EU maintain its image as a role model for regional integration in times of financial and economic crises?

Europe and the EU as Recipients of Diffusion

EU institutions and policies do not only diffuse to other parts of the world. The EU is also recipient of global diffusion processes. This research area aims to explain how and under what conditions different regional cooperation and integration experiences travel back to Europe. How has early Western European integration been influenced by institutional models from other regions of the world? And has today's EU learned from other international settings, such as NATO or IMF, and regional integration forms in Latin America, the Arab world, Africa, and Asia? Furthermore, this research area seeks to shed light on the gap between the EU's self-image it seeks to promote externally, on the one hand, and resistance of other regions against these ideas, on the other. How does Europe's history of colonialism influence its efforts to export its institutional solutions to other parts of the world? Finally, in time of a rising China and other emerging economies, how does Europe address these changes in the global order that will inevitably render the world more pluralistic?

For answers to these questions we invite you to have a look at our publications section on the website.



KFG CONFERENCE (2013), IMAGE CREDIT: INGA HAAR

Finally

The KFG is closing with a last international conference, taking place in Berlin in June 2018. Nevertheless, the large scientific community that has emerged out of the Research College will stay around, and the discussion on its research topics will continue with lasting impact.