Fifth SoLaR Workshop
EU Social Policy Soft Law and its Reception in the Member States

Program

28 February – 1 March 2019
Freie Universität Berlin
Seminar Center (Silberlaube), Room L 115
Otto-von-Simson-Str. 26, 14195 Berlin-Dahlem

Financed by the European Commission, the Academic Network of Soft Law Research (https://www.solar-network.eu/home/) aims at stimulating the debate between academics and practitioners on the national role of EU soft law. SoLaR asks whether and how non-legally binding EU instruments are used by national administrations when implementing EU policies and by national courts when ruling in cases falling within the scope of application of EU law.

The 5th Solar Workshop focuses on the role of soft law in the field of EU social policy. During the first day, open to the public, the relevance of soft law in the national practice of social policy will be assessed through a presentation of the effect EU soft law instruments took in Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Slovenia and UK. In particular we analyse three instruments adopted at EU level between 2011 and 2014: Recommendations on investing in children: breaking the cycle of disadvantage (2013/112/EU) and on strengthening the principle of equal pay between men and women through transparency (2014/124/EU) as well as »Buying Social: A Guide to Taking Account of Social Considerations in Public Procurement«. By engaging with a number of distinguished guests from different academic disciplines, the workshop will also examine conceptual questions of EU soft law, as well as the role of soft law in Germany more generally. The second day is reserved to a research meeting involving SoLaR team members and is closed to the public.
Thursday, 28 March 2019

09:00 – 09:15 Opening
Introduction by Miriam Hartlapp

9:15 - 9:45 Informal Politics and Legitimacy
Mareike Kleine, London School of Economics

9:45 - 10:15 Soft Law in Germany: Tradition and EU Influence
Matthias Knauff, University Jena
Comment & Discussion: Andreas Hofmann, Freie Universität Berlin

10:45 - 11:15 Coffee break

11:15 – 12:45 Presentation of National Reports Part I
(Chair: Matej Avbelj)
Report on Finland by Emilia Korkea-aho, University of Helsinki
Report on Germany by Miriam Hartlapp, Freie Universität Berlin
Report on France by Olivier Andre, Aix-Marseille University
Report on the United Kingdom by Ewan McCaughey, King’s College London

12:45 – 13:45 Lunch

13:45 – 15:30 Presentation of National Reports Part II
(Chair: Oana Stefan)
Report on Italy by Mariolina Eliantonio, Radbound University
Report on the Netherlands by Barbara Beijen, Radbound University
Report on Slovenia by Gorazd Justinek, Faculty of Government and European Studies
Comment “What have we learned?” & Discussion: Miriam Hartlapp, Freie Universität Berlin
15:30 - 16:00  Coffee break

16:00 - 16:30  Presentation of SoLaR Database
Mariolina Eliantonio

16:30 – 17:00  Effects of Soft Law across the multilevel system
Fabien Terpan, University Grenoble
Comment & Discussion: Mark Dawson, Hertie School of Governance

18:30    Dinner for Participants
Luise Dahlem, Königin-Luise-Straße 40 - 42, 14195 Berlin,
http://www.luise-dahlem.de/

Friday, 1 March 2019

10:00 – 12:00  Milestones and challenges
Book (Emilia Korkea-aho)
Next meeting in Aix, Practitioner Events
Policy Reports (Oana Stefan)

12:00 – 13:00  Lunch