



What Moves Political Parties in Europe?

Freie Universität Berlin–Indiana University
Joint Speaker Series 2018/19:
Moving People

Speakers:

Swen Hutter

Lichtenberg-Professor of Political Sociology, Freie Universität Berlin
and Vice Director of the Center for Civil Society Research at Berlin Social Science Center (WZB)

Timothy Hellwig

Professor of Political Science and Henry Remak Professor, Institute for European Studies,
Indiana University

Moderator:

Christine Reh

Professor of European Politics and Dean of Graduate Programmes, Hertie School of Governance

In democracies, political parties can serve both as agents for stability and for change. Regarding the former, parties aggregate and adjudicate among diverse interests in society and, when functioning well, use these interests to inform policy. But parties can also be handmaidens to the rise of new issue concerns—like immigration, Europe, pensions, or the environment—and inject a level of instability into what were once predictable political systems. What moves parties to become champions of new issues or, for that matter, to change their positions on old ones? Why do some parties in Europe today seem quick to sell out their principles to curry favor with voters while others remain wed to old principles? And what if parties fail to react to growing pressures in society?

These and other questions will be addressed by our experts **Swen Hutter** from Freie Universität Berlin and **Timothy Hellwig** from Indiana University. The panel and subsequent Q&A session will be moderated by **Christine Reh** from the Hertie School of Governance.

The Freie Universität Berlin–Indiana University joint speaker series aims at bringing together scholars from both institutions to discuss current topics of global politics, stir scientific dialogue and research initiatives, and trigger public debate.

Monday, June 24, 2019, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

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