



## **Public Lecture Series Spring 2018**

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**Thursday, 22 February 2018**

**The Challenge of Mainstreaming Integration Governance in the Context of Superdiversity**

**Prof. Peter Scholten, Faculty of Social Sciences, Erasmus University Rotterdam**

**Discussant: Prof. Anita Manatschal, Swiss Forum for Migration and Population Studies, University of Neuchâtel**

18:15 – 19:45 h

University of Neuchâtel, Rue Abram-Louis-Breguet 2, Room R.113.

### **Abstract**

The key question that is addressed in this talk is how to reconceptualize migrant integration at the level of urban governance in the face of the changing nature of migration-related diversity. There is a growing number of cities in Europe that can be defined as “superdiverse cities”, or cities where the people with a migration background make up such a substantial part of the city population – a part that is very much diverse in itself – that it becomes difficult to speak of distinct migrant minorities. This talk discusses what implications the changing nature of migration-related diversity has for urban governance.

First, I will argue that rather than thinking of “integration” in the sense of coherent “national models of integration”, integration should be redefined as a local issue: how to develop proper relations between various levels of government in order to prevent policy decoupling or policy contradictions.

Secondly, I will argue not only that we should go through a local turn in our conceptualization of the governance of migration-related diversity, but I will also pinpoint a specific direction in which local governance can develop: mainstreaming. Borrowing from literatures of gender, disability and environmental mainstreaming, it is argued that the structural character of migration-related diversity in contemporary cities requires a structural approach embedded in generic policies.

Thirdly, I will discuss what this local turn and mainstreaming mean for relations between the local level and other levels of governance. Speaking to the literature on multi-level governance, I will reflect on to what extent the “local turn” in the governance of migration-related diversity has led to effective coordination between governance levels or rather to evidence of what can be described as “decoupling” or “disjointed governance”.

### **Curriculum Vitae**

Prof.dr. P.W.A. (Peter) Scholten is Professor Public Administration, specialized in the Dynamics of Migration and Diversity Policies, at the Erasmus University of Rotterdam. His research focuses, amongst others, on the governance of migration and migration-related diversity, multi-level governance, comparative public policy, and the relationship between knowledge and power in the field of migration.

Peter Scholten is director of IMISCOE, Europe’s largest academic research network on migration, integration and social cohesion. Furthermore, he is editor-in-chief of the journal Comparative Migration Studies (CMS) and member of the editorial board of the Journal of Comparative Policy Analysis. Also, he is coordinator of the master Governance of Migration and Diversity (a cooperation of Leiden University, Delft University, and Erasmus University Rotterdam), coordinator of the Erasmus Migration & Diversity Institute (EMDI), and external collaborator at the Migration Policy Centre in EUI Florence.

Currently, Scholten is leading several international research projects: CROSS-MIGRATION (H2020 project on the systematic cross-national accumulation of knowledge) and Cities of Migration (project funded under the Erasmus Initiative Vital Cities and Citizens, on the “diversity of diversities” in Cities). Besides these projects, Peter is coordinator of a work package in the H2020 project ReSOMA (Research-Social Platform on Migration & Asylum). [www.peterscholten.net](http://www.peterscholten.net)

### **Selected Publications**

- Bekkers, V., Fenger, M. and Scholten, P. (2017). *Public Policy in Action: Perspectives on the Policy Process*. Edward Elgar Publishers.
- Scholten, P. and I. Van Breugel (Eds, 2017). *Beyond Migrant Integration: Mainstreaming Integration Governance*. London: Palgrave.
- Geddes, A. and Scholten, P. (2016). *The Politics of Immigration and Migration in Europe*. London: Sage.
- Zapata Barrero, R., Caponio, T., and Scholten, P. (2017). Theorizing the Local Turn in the Governance of Immigrant Policies: A Multi-Level Approach. In: *International Review of Administrative Sciences*, 38:2, 1–19.
- Scholten, P., Collett, L., and Petrovic, M. (2016). Mainstreaming Migrant Integration? A Critical Analysis of a New Trend in Integration Governance. In: *International Review of Administrative Sciences*, published online first.
- Scholten, P. and Verbeek, S. (2014). Politicization and Expertise: Changing Research-Policy Dialogues on Migrant Integration in Europe. In: *Science & Public Policy*, 42:2, 188–200.