



Institute of Federalism's Summer University



Federalism, Decentralisation and Diversity

Twenty First Edition

Division of Power and Democratic Governance in Multicultural Societies

Programme

August 24 – September 11, 2009

First week - *Federalism: Theoretical Concepts and Institutional Designs*
with Professors Eva Maria Belser, Peter Hänni, Bernhard Waldmann, et al.

Second week - *Decentralisation: Opportunities and Challenges for Multicultural Societies*
with Prof. Nico Steytler and Dr. Robert Schütze

Third week - *Diversity: Multiculturalism, Democracy and Human Rights*
with Prof. Mohammad Hammouri, Dr. Hashim Jalal and Ms. Hala Barbara

Overall working method: Inputs from professors and experts are combined with group work and discussions. The final grades for the attribution of diplomas result from the written paper, exams and participation throughout the course.

Papers: Students are requested to present the situation in their home countries, based on their papers submitted by August 10. (The papers are prepared on the basis of a questionnaire distributed in advance)

During the first two weeks the participants have the possibility to fine-tune their papers and complement them with new insights. The final version has to be submitted by Thursday, September 3. The selected best papers are subsequently published in the IF's "Students' best papers Series". The students are encouraged to actively refer to their papers during discussions and workshops, and to share their experiences.

First week - Federalism: Theoretical Concepts and Institutional Designs

Course and workshops with Professors Eva Maria Belser, Peter Hänni, Bernhard Waldmann, et al.

The first week addresses the basic concepts of federalism and its institutional principles. Starting from the Swiss example, the faculty members will clarify concepts of self-rule and shared-rule, general principles of fiscal federalism and the accommodation of diversities in a multicultural society. The analysis will be complemented by lectures on supranational and international experiences of federalisation. After the first week the participants should be able to assess the interplay of different federal institutional settings and their impact on a multicultural society.

NB: In addition to the faculty, international guests will come to talk about their countries' experiences with federalism.

The Professors:

- Prof. Peter Hänni is Director of the Institute of Federalism (IF)
- Prof. Eva Maria Belser is Director of the IF's International Research and Consulting Centre, and of the Summer University
- Prof. Bernhard Waldmann is Director of the IF's National Centre

Second week - Decentralisation: Opportunities and Challenges for Multicultural Societies

Course and case studies with Prof. Nico Steytler and Dr. Robert Schütze

The second week will examine how decentralisation and federalism can help multicultural and/or fractured societies to peacefully coexist in a country. The students will identify the pre-conditions necessary for establishing federal/decentralised solutions. In a comparative approach, different case studies will be analysed, in particular the experience from a recently decentralised country – South Africa – will be compared to developments in the devolution process in the UK.

NB: The results of the case studies will be presented by the different groups in plenary sessions.

The Professors:

- Prof. Nico Steytler is Director of the Community Law Centre, University of the Western Cape (South Africa)
- Dr. Robert Schütze is Senior Lecturer in the Durham Law School (United Kingdom)

Third week - Diversity: Multiculturalism, Democracy and Human Rights

Courses, case studies and workshops with Prof. Hammouri, Dr. Jalal and Ms. Hala Barbara

During the 3rd week another case study will focus on decentralisation movements and minority protection in the Arab world. At the end of the week, we will discuss possible tensions between traditional social and legal structures and western concepts of democratic governance. In addition, the question of defending human rights and the Rule of Law in conflict situations will be addressed.

NB: On Wednesday, the students will have to write a short exam.

The Professors:

- Prof. Mohammad Hammouri is Attorney at Law in Amman (Jordan)
- Dr. Hashim Jalal is a Writer and a Journalist in London/Khartoum (UK/Sudan)
- Ms. Hala Barbara (LLM) is a Lawyer in Damascus (Syria)

Information and registration

Registration forms and information on the course, conditions of admission, scholarships, accommodation, diplomas, etc., can be downloaded from our website (www.federalism.ch) or will be sent to you on request.

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Closing date to register: April 30, 2009