



MPMC Programme

*Multicultural Policies and Modes of
Citizenship in European Cities*

NEWSLETTER. Special Issue

*Amsterdam, Athens, Antwerp, Barcelona, Birmingham, Brussels, Cologne, Liege,
Marseilles, Milan, Oeiras (Lisboa), Paris, Rome, Stockholm, Tel Aviv, Turin, Zurich*



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Introduction

This Newsletter is presented to you by the IMES. It is meant to inform all participants of and those interested in the UNESCO-MOST MPMC-project on topics and developments concerning the programme. It will appear as many times a year as necessary, depending on the developments of the programme. This special issue will address the second workshop of the MPMC project that took place in Liege (Belgium) on October 31st -November 2nd, 1999.

The MPMC project is formally adopted by the UNESCO-MOST programme since 1996. In the research project social scientists from a variety of disciplines will undertake research and comparative analysis within selected urban contexts characterised by a substantial presence and activity of immigrant and ethnic minority groups. Working with policy makers and members of local organisations, their task is to assess the development and interplay of both 'bottom-up' (community led) initiatives and 'top-down' (municipality created) policies aimed at better integrating immigrant and ethnic minorities in public decision making processes. Of central concern to the project are what we shall term 'channels of activation and mobilisation' in European cities; organisations, actions or institutions through which immigrant and ethnic minority communities (are supposed to) make their interests and concerns known to municipal decision-makers and other significant actors in the various societal domains. The key-questions to be answered by all research teams can be summarised as follows; how do local authorities activate immigrants and ethnic minorities to participate in political decision making in general and in relation to their position in particular; how do immigrants and ethnic minority members mobilise to improve their position and to influence policies relating to that position; how do activation policies of authorities and mobilisation of immigrants and ethnic minorities interact?

The MPMC project is co-ordinated by Dr. Marco Martiniello (Liege), Prof. Dr. Rinus Penninx (IMES, University of Amsterdam) and Dr. Steven Vertovec (Oxford University). The secretariat of the MPMC project is founded at the IMES under co-ordination of Mrs. Karen Kraal.

The first MPMC workshop in Amsterdam (October 9-11th 1997).

A basic feature of sound international comparative research is that it should start from a common basis in terms of research focus, central problem formulation, operationalisation and data collection. To establish such a basis forms a major problem for researchers who have divergent funding, different research traditions and often diverging disciplines. Inspired by the urgent call of the Metropolis-conference in Milan of November 1996 for sound international comparative research to base policies on, the group of researchers joined in the MPMC-project took the initiative to organise a workshop of researchers (and a number of policy makers) which was held in Amsterdam on October 9-11th 1997. The workshop resulted in a common framework for comparative research into multicultural policies, citizenship and political mobilisation. Each research team took up the task to write a so-called City Template; basic descriptions of cities concerned in terms of data that are essential for the strategy of discussions on a common framework for research. These cities are not only embedded as cities in national units that differ in several aspects; they supposedly have a special history and profile as well; as a local unit in the political, economic and cultural sense. Histories of immigration and composition of the immigrant population differ significantly and consequently also policies relating to it. The city templates have a double function. For the research teams it serves primarily as a starting point for the field research of the project and for policy makers it provides a first inventory of possibilities and experiences in the field. A way to further co-ordinate data collection according to common problems and methods is the installation of clusters. These clusters conduct more specific comparisons between a limited number of cities on specific well-defined research topics and questions.

The workshop was organised joint by the Centre for Racial and Ethnic Relations (CRER) of the University of Warwick (dr. Steven Vertovec) and the Institute for Migration and Ethnic Studies (IMES) of the University of Amsterdam (dr. Jean Tillie, dr. Meindert Fennema and prof. dr. Rinus Penninx).

In the course of 1999 seventeen research teams of the project delivered the City Template (Amsterdam, Athens, Barcelona, Antwerp-Brussels-Liège, Birmingham, Cologne, Tel Aviv, Marseilles, Milan, Oeiras/Lissabon, Paris, Rome, Stockholm, Turin and Zürich) and have conducted further research.

The second MPMC workshop in Liege, Belgium (October 31st - 2nd of November 1999)

From October 31st until the 2nd of November 1999 the Institute for Migration and Ethnic Studies (IMES) organised the second MPMC workshop in Liège (Belgium) to bring together the entire research network along with its advisory board. The basic idea of the workshop was to build further on the first workshop. Based on the revised city templates, but foremost on the progress reports of the teams the workshop should take stock of the progress, both in the empirical and the theoretical sense. Those progress reports were circulated before the workshop to inform all participants on the research that has been done within the MPMC-framework in the various cities.

The workshop was to lead to

- a) a short term goal namely make the research materials available for policy makers, politicians and representatives of organisations of migrants, specifically by preparing documentation for the third workshop in March 2000 to be held in the Netherlands;
- b) a longer term result, besides stimulating the individual city teams through the systematic comparison of research results of the 17 cities, namely a number of publications on 'local government and ethnic minorities'.

The programme of the workshop was based on the three clusters that were formed in the first workshop in Amsterdam. After an introduction of Prof. Rinus Penninx and an analysis of the progress reports three consecutive sessions took the 'clusters' as a starting point for the discussion and for the organisation of the data that has been collected in the various cities. Cluster 1 was introduced by a key note of Meindert Fennema and Cluster 2 by a key-note of Marco Martiniello. In the last session plans were made for the next phase of the project and organisational decisions were taken related to future tasks. In the following minutes below a condensed description of the workshop is given. It is written in the present tense.

Opening of the meeting.

The workshop is opened by the alderman of Intercultural affairs of the city of Liege followed by an introduction of Prof. Rinus Penninx. In his introduction he gives a short history of the MPMC project and reminds the participants of the important aims of the project, namely to give a sound scientific analysis of the problems regarding the participation and activation of ethnic minorities in European cities and to translate these results to politicians and policy-makers. During the workshop it will be discussed how to reach these results. The collected data of research shall be analysed and despite eventual differences between the various cities the comparative approach of the project must be achieved. It will take a lot of discipline of every research team to reach the results we will agree to since most are working on a voluntary base without a financial base.

To take stock of the research that has been done so far every research team has delivered a progress report. The referees, prof. Andreas Wimmer, dr. Steven Vertovec and dr. Alisdair Rogers pull out the larger themes of these reports. Comparing the Progress Reports it has become clear that there are differences between the various cities regarding the existence or absence of formal structures and participatory frameworks, the channels of activation and mobilisation, regarding ethnic minorities. This has led to differences in questions, focus and methods. Especially the absence of formal structures and participatory frameworks in some cities have made it difficult for some research teams to precisely answer the key-questions of the MPMC framework and to place oneself in one of the clusters. It raises questions like what will happen to the participation of ethnic minorities in the absence of formal structures and whether this matters for the functioning of the concerning group. It also addresses the attention towards structures of participation outside the political/local structures and on the informal level. Two aspects that are not yet included in the MPMC framework. What does for example the participation of ethnic minorities in other civil structures mean for the integration of ethnic minorities?

Despite these differences we must safe guard the comparative dimension of the project and achieve minimal consensus to central questions and minimal consensus on methodology. We therefore have to discuss the use of certain concepts and eventual refine and broaden the MPMC framework. The assumptions the teams had during the research that affected their choice for topic or focus (like the focus on certain groups defined as problematic by policy) have to be made explicit. The division of three clusters can help to deliver different modes of explanation.

Cluster I.

Introduction

The first cluster was originally named *Analysis of immigrant/ethnic minority organisational networks and their liaison with city-officials*, co-ordinated by dr. Meindert Fennema and dr. Jean Tillie from the *Universiteit van Amsterdam*. Although no research team has yet committed itself to this cluster research has been conducted in Amsterdam, Zurich and Liege. Two students of the Universiteit van Amsterdam conducted research in Zurich and Liege with the assistance from the research teams there. The focus of cluster I has gradually turned to what is called civic communities and political participation in a multicultural democracy.

Key note by Meindert Fennema.

This cluster focus on the link between the civic community of ethnic minorities, the political opportunity structures at the city level and the political participation and trust in political institutions. The concept civic community refers to voluntary associations of migrants that are set up to pursue a common goal or a common interest and the relation between these associations. This also includes organisations that are not oriented towards the political systems like sports clubs. Meindert and Jean argue that these associations are crucial for democracy since free associations are characterised by horizontal as well as vertical relations. Horizontal relations are the result of communication through informal contacts and the overlapping of the associations' boards. These interlocking directorates as permanent communication channels between different organisations makes that social trust (which can lead to trust in political institutions) can travel A strong civic community is therefore expected to have many voluntary associations that are

horizontally connected through interlocking directorates. For a more precise description of this cluster I refer to the enclosed cluster abstract.

Discussion

In discussion on this cluster it becomes clear that, as already mentioned, formal participatory frameworks on the local level are not present in all partaking cities. The focus on the local level, furthermore, is felt by some research teams as a restriction, since no attention is given to structures or organisations on the national and supra national level that do exist and are of importance for the activation and participation of ethnic minorities. Further the use and explanation of certain terms like multiculturalism, democracy and social capital is to strict for some teams. This makes it difficult to place the research material of concerning cities in the framework of the cluster. The Oeiras research team therefore proposes to broaden the framework to more effectively chart the networks of organisations and make a distinction between the different levels; the local, the national, and supra -national structures and the existence of migrant (oriented) organisations on these levels. The definition of the terms should be broadened to fit other cities with different structures/policies/groups etc.

Cluster II.

Introduction

The original title of cluster II was *Immigrant and ethnic minority politicians and the development of an active citizenship* and is co-ordinated by dr. Marco Martiniello from the University of Liege. No research team has yet committed itself to this cluster. Marco himself has conducted research in Brussels. The title has now changed to immigrants and ethnic minorities in the city political systems.

Key note by Marco Martiniello.

Marco Martiniello will deal mainly with ethnic politicians. He argues that less has been written on citizenship from below, the bottom-up approach, than the top-down approach. He wants to find out what migrants and leaders think about the concept citizenship and identifies three aspects: 1. Citizenship as legal status. 2. Citizenship as bundles of rights/obligations. 3. Citizenship as participatory dimension. These different aspects lead to different research questions. The third aspect can be seen as the practice of citizenship. Martiniello wonders how the differences in the various cities and the different data complicate the comparative approach.

Marco refers to his research in Brussels in which he focused on elected ethnic candidates. He wanted to A. get a better view of the sociological character, B. know how they conceive nationality (what does it mean) and the importance for political involvement and C. know how they conceive their role in the broader community and in the ethnic group. He differentiates three groups: 1. foreign students; 2. Intermediary groups and 3. the 2nd and 3rd generation. There seems to be an important link between political participation and the market/business participation (also a neglected point in the MPMC framework). He asks himself the question what difference does it make to have elected politicians in the council. The link between ethnicity and political experience is unclear.

Discussion

To guarantee the comparative approach it is suggested to not only focus on ethnic politicians but also on membership of political parties and to broaden the title to not only the formal political system, but also for example participation on neighbourhood levels and voting in local elections. This suggestion stems from the same situation as in Cluster I. In some cities there are no ethnic politicians in the formal political structures but there are bottom-up initiatives. You can for example divide the concept formal systems into 1. elected party members, 2. co-operations and 3. advisory boards.

Cluster III.

Introduction

The original title of this cluster was *The state, the city and the role of voluntary organisations in local multi ethnic community integration; a comparative perspective*. No research has yet been conducted in this cluster. Prof. Rinus Penninx leads the discussion on this cluster.

Discussion

The third cluster takes the neighbourhood as a primary unit of research and not immigrant groups/communities or political structures. It looks at units where people live close to each other. Since no research has been conducted yet the precise topic of the cluster has still to be formulated. It is suggested to give attention to the link between immigrant organisations and local/neighbourhood associations and their activities in the neighbourhood. You could also see the neighbourhoods as social drama and focus on certain events. This would incorporate the time dimension into the MPMC framework.

Although many research teams seem to relate to this cluster the central question and elements must be formulated and concepts defined; what exactly is the neighbourhood, a political unit or geographical area? Maria Margarida Marques (Oeiras) and Irene Molina take it on them to co-ordinate this cluster and define the topic .

Conclusions and agreements.

On the one hand it has become clear that the three clusters defined and set up in the first MPMC workshop in Amsterdam (1997), namely as a way to co-ordinate data collection according to common problems and methods, did not develop the way hoped for and that by now there is hardly time left for the research teams to conduct new and further research. On the other hand, as the City Templates and Progress Reports show a lot of research has been done and a lot of data is collected in the various cities. The research material we have so far must be organised and the teams that have conducted research on

common themes must be brought together. This can be done by use of the clusters; than the clusters do not function any more as ways to bring together teams and conduct comparative research, but as ways to organise the material. The comparative aspect has now to be organised ex-post.

The Cluster Volume

Regarding the clusters the problem often seemed to be the way terms were defined and elements selected. Some cities felt excluded and not able to partake in the cluster although they were interested. It is therefore agreed that the cluster leaders will write an abstract of the domain of their cluster (with the discussions of the workshop in mind) in which the central question and basic elements are (re) defined in such a way that the various research teams are able to commit themselves to one of the described clusters. The result we aim at is the publication of a volume. As there will already appear a book based on the City Templates this second volume will concentrate on the research that can be placed within the themes of the clusters and will consist of three parts corresponding to these clusters. Each part will consist of chapters delivered by the various teams. To reach the result of this volume the research teams have to react on the cluster abstracts within two weeks indicating what kind of material/chapter they can and will deliver (in principal 8000 words). The first of March the first detailed outline of the chapters will be distributed by the cluster leaders and the first of June the first draft of the chapters will be ready. The first of September the Volume must be ready. Those who really make the efforts get the credits of the book. In principal the Steering Committee will be the editors of the Volume.

In the preparation of this volume the relation of the MPMC project to UNESCO must be kept in mind and the research material has to be translated in such a way that it will be relevant to policy makers.

Other publications

Some other publications that can be aimed at are papers for the MOST-discussion papers. These are meant for a non-academic audience. The preparation of these papers can be lead by the cluster leaders. Further we can aim at publishing our own working papers on the Website of UNESCO and in hard copies distributed by the MPMC secretariat. These papers could be introduced by a member of the Steering Committee. Finally, the secretariat of the MPMC will prepare a flyer of the MPMC project.

The City Template Book

Besides these new publications the preparing of a book based on the City Templates (and Progress Reports) by Jean Tillie and Alisdair Rogers is in full running. During the workshop Jean Tillie reminded us of the procedure regarding this book. The introduction will be written by John Crowley, Jean and Alisdair Rogers will write the conclusion. The editorial committee felt it as their responsibility to coordinate the writing of a book which, in one sentence, addresses (for various European cities) the interaction between (local) Political Opportunity Structure on the one hand and mobilization of ethnic communities on the other. They decided to propose a rather stringent time-table and ask each team for a commitment. They also hoped that specific comments to all the CT's and progress reports would be a good starting point for writing the chapters. However, the more they worked on it, the more they thought that the very way the CT's and progress reports are structured makes them unsuitable as first drafts of book chapters, not referring to the quality but they were just written for another purpose. The CT's are now published on the UNESCO website and the progress reports were written as internal reports for the Liege conference. That is why they decided to ask each team to write a first draft of a book chapter of 8000 words using the material from the CT's and progress reports. They felt confident to make this request because they truly believe that as far as time is concerned they are not asking a greater effort from each team. After they have these first drafts (written to be published in a book) they will comment on them in detail (as they promised). Those teams who would like to receive comments on their City Template can contact Jean or Alisdair. The editorial committee has approached commercial publishers. If these do not publish the book, the EC will approach UNESCO-MOST for the publication. IMES guarantees publication.

Workshops

Alongside the publications the project aims at several so called 'user' workshops where researchers, politicians, policy-makers and representatives of migrant organisations or NGO's are brought together. In

March 2000 UNESCO will organise a workshop in Amsterdam which will be mostly directed to policy makers and where the central theme will be research and policy. The research teams that have established relationships with representatives of migrant organisations or NGO's and politicians and policy makers and who are able to present a sound scientific analysis can be invited to this workshop. For each case a researcher, a politician and a representative of a NGO or migrant organisation will be invited. Rinus can guarantee that one researcher and the representative of the migrant organisation (or NGO) will be invited on costs of the organisation and asks all the research teams to signal to him if they think it is possible to bring up the case with the required people, mentioning what the dynamics are in these relations plus what the results are. In the coming month these teams should explore if they are able to mobilise the politicians and representatives of migrant organisations and prepare a systematic presentation. Perhaps we can achieve a same kind of link with the *Metropolis* project.

Further the project can aim at smaller user workshops organised by some of the cities that partake in the MPMC project that have common approaches and topics of research.

New Time schedule.

To be able to reach the results we aim at the following time schedule was established¹:

Date	Task
Week 46 (15 th -19 th November)	Cluster abstract will be distributed to all the participants
Week 48 (29 th Nov.-3 rd December)	Participants will commit themselves to one or more clusters and indicate what kind of material/chapter they can and will deliver
Week 48 (3rd of December)	The first draft for the City Template book must be ready (including introduction/conclusion, introduction and conclusion will be written by the editorial committee).
Week 49 (6 th -10 th December)	Teams that have signaled to be able to partake in the UNESCO workshop of March 2000 must have mobilised the politicians and representatives to be a showcase and prepare him/her self to give a systematic presentation
Week 50 (13 th -17 th December)	Based on the commitments and suggestions of the various teams cluster leaders will make a proposal for the concrete content of their part of the book (which chapters to be written by whom).
Week 51 (20th-24th December)	comments on first drafts by the editorial committee to teams who met the first deadline (3rd December 1999)
Week 3 (21st January 2000)	Final draft ready of the City Template book (including introduction and conclusion).

¹ Be aware: there are different tasks for the publication of the book based on the City Templates and for the publication of the book based on the Clusters. Tasks for the publication of the book based on the City Templates are boldly printed.

Week 9 (1 st of March 2000)	First outline of the chapters for the Cluster book must be delivered by the cluster leaders
Week 9 (2 nd of March 2000)	UNESCO-Workshop in Amsterdam
Week 22 (1 st of June 2000)	First draft chapters of the Cluster book must be delivered by the research teams
Week 35 (1 st of September 2000)	Final chapters of the Cluster book must be delivered by the research teams

Cluster abstracts.

Meanwhile after the workshop the cluster leaders have written the cluster abstracts based on the discussions and suggestions made during the workshop. This has resulted in the following.

Cluster I.

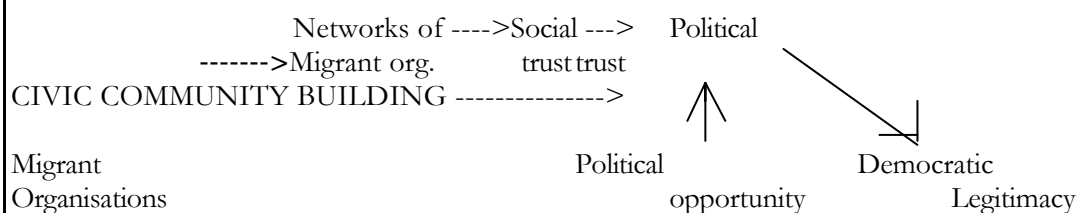
'Migrant organisations, Political Opportunity Structures and Political Participation of Migrant Communities'.

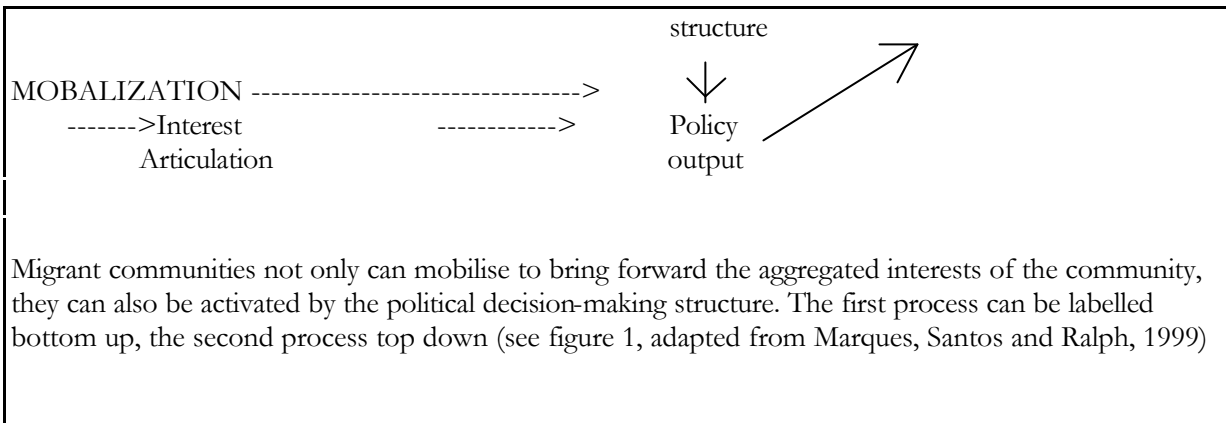
Meindert Fennema/Jean Tillie

Enclosed you will find our summary of the research in cluster I. The cluster focuses on the degree of political participation of migrants as a result of the interaction between Political Opportunity Structure and structure of migrant communities. We want to emphasise that the cluster proposal is meant as a general framework to which teams can contribute in terms of their own research. That is, chapters can focus on specific relations within the general model using material from the own city. If there are any additional questions to this framework and the relation to your own work you can contact Jean Tillie (e-mail: tillie@pscw.uva.nl).

In this cluster the focus is on civic communities of migrants, on the political opportunity structures at the city level and the resulting political participation of migrants. Civic communities are defined in terms of (inter)ethnic organisations that create horizontal and vertical ties among their members, the relations between these organisations and the group's identity that is embedded in this community structure. A strong migrant community is characterised by a high number of voluntary associations, by a high degree of membership of these associations (*filling*) and by many ties between these organisations. Such voluntary organisation do not need to be oriented towards the political system but may well have their own goals. Such is the case with religious organisations. Religious, welfare or sport organisations do create social trust among its members, while frequent and structural contacts between these organisations – such as interlocking directorates - make that this social trust can travel among the different organisations thus creating an ethnic community. (see Fennema and Tillie, 1999). Social trust can under certain circumstances lead to trust in political institutions and thus in itself enhance democratic legitimacy. Yet, some voluntary organisations see it as their mission to bring the interests of their members on the political agenda of the local community. Interest articulation and political mobilisation is the core business of many migrant organisations. If the governmental institutions are receptive to these interests and provide the right policy output, this will directly add to the democratic legitimacy of local government. (Van der Meer, 1999)

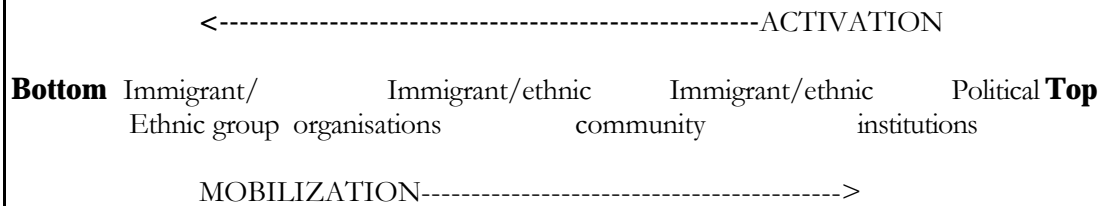
Figure 1. **Migrant organisations and democratic legitimacy.**





Migrant communities not only can mobilise to bring forward the aggregated interests of the community, they can also be activated by the political decision-making structure. The first process can be labelled bottom up, the second process top down (see figure 1, adapted from Marques, Santos and Ralph, 1999)

Figure 2 **Mobilisation and activation of immigrant groups through organisations**



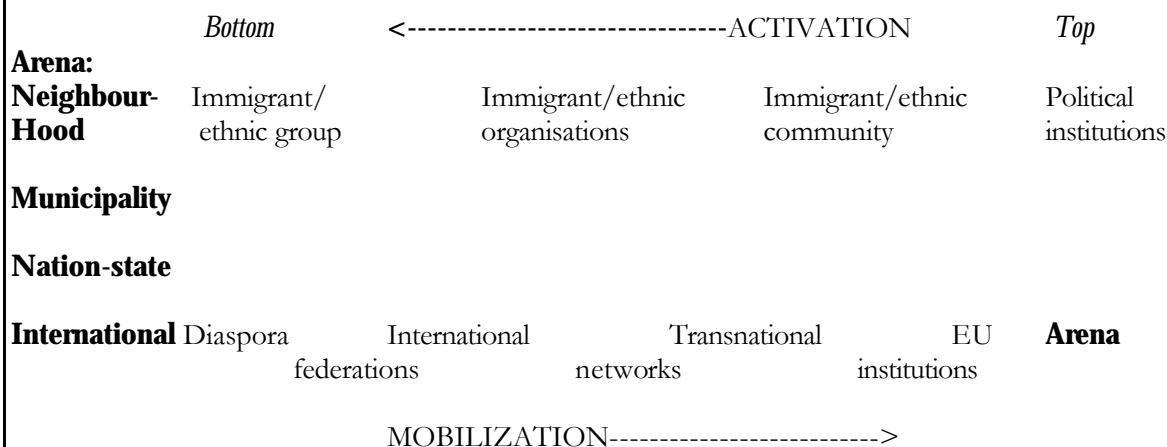
As becomes clear from figure 1, the capacity to mobilise as well as to activate depends on the structure of the ethnic community as well as on the character of the political institutions. If the political institutions are receptive to the demands of the migrant communities, it will be easier to mobilise the immigrant group. We will speak then of an open political opportunity structure. Openness of the political opportunity structure will also facilitate top-down activation, because it will create commitment and political trust among the leaders of the ethnic organisations. If the political opportunity structure, on the other hand, is not receptive to the demands of the migrant communities mobilisation will be more difficult, because the results are likely to be meagre, while the capacity of activation by the political institutions will also be small.

So far, we have not specified the level at which the processes of ethnic community building, political mobilisation and political activation take place. In this cluster the focus is on the municipal level. In some cities, of which Amsterdam, Athens and Lisbon seem to be clear examples, the neighbourhood, district or barrio form relative autonomous level of governance and also of relative autonomous ethnic communities. If this is the case, we cannot take the municipal level for granted. As the Amsterdam progress report shows, different city districts may have different policies vis-à-vis the migrant communities and these policies seem to influence the strategies of the ethnic associations and thus the structure of the migrant communities (Berger and Alink, 1999).

But, as many city templates clearly have demonstrated, the policies at the national level do also play a role in the articulation and determination of the political opportunity structures at the city level. Furthermore the ethnic associations at the national level have an impact on the ethnic associations at the city and neighbourhood level. This is equally true for the international level. The cluster focuses in the articulation of these different levels. It is a well known fact that the bottom up mobilisation tends to be easier at the neighbourhood level, and becomes subsequently more difficult at the municipal level, the national level and often is very difficult at the international level. Yet two factors seem to affect these traditional barriers for political mobilisation. Firstly, the electronic (mass) communication media have facilitated international organisation and mobilisation the grass root level. *Internet* seems to become a major factor in the political mobilisation in the international arena. Secondly, the very nature of the migrant communities makes that ethnic communities at the local level can more easily than autochthonous communities mobilise at the international level by communicating with local communities of the same ethnicity in other countries. Thus, the Cape Verdian communities in Lisbon and in Rotterdam seem to maintain permanent communication. The Moroccan Communities in Amsterdam, Brussels and Paris also seem to be interconnected. The immigrant communities thus may be the pioneers in the bottom up mobilisation in

the international arena. One of the central questions in this clusters is whether and how the European Communities facilitate the mobilisation and activation of ethnic communities at the municipal level.

Figure 3 **Levels of mobilisation and activation of immigrant groups**



Cluster II

IMMIGRANTS AND ETHNIC MINORITIES IN THE CITY POLITICAL SYSTEMS

Marco Martiniello

The unit of analysis of this section is the city seen as a political system in which individuals and groups compete for power, representation and thus take part in one way or another in the management of collective affairs.

In this context the chapters are expected to examine the participation of immigrants and ethnic minorities and the local power structure in a comparative perspective by looking at the dynamics between the factors that promote their participation and those that impede their participation.

Further, the chapters should also assess the impact of participation on the empowerment of ethnic minorities: which avenue of participation has more positive (negative) effects on the power of migrants at the local level? Power is defined as the ability of an ethnic collectivity as a group to control results related to issues affecting its interests (Martiniello 1993: 242)

The section could be organized around 5 chapters;

- I. An introductory chapter will synthesise the main theoretical issues at stake
- II. Ethnic elected politicians in a comparative perspective (local councils or other bodies): what is the impact of their presence of the empowerment of migrants?
- III. Migrants as policy implementators in a comparative perspective (mediators, cops, teachers, etc.): in many integration policy devices, migrant or ethnic minorities "professionals" play key role as in-betweeners, gate-keepers, facilitators, etc. What is the impact of their action of the empowerment of migrants.
- IV. Consultative politics: Is consultative politics a useful means of political participation and empowerment?
- V. Immigrants in non-ethnic organisations (unions, 'single issue' groups, other non-ethnic associations): migrants and ethnic minorities can participate in local political struggles and debates in all sorts of non-ethnic organisations and movements. How to explain these forms of participation and what is their impact in terms of empowerment of migrants? Clearly, no systematic comparison of the 17 cities of the

network is expected. each article should ideally single out the 2 or 3 city political systems between which the comparison is the most relevant.

Cluster III

The Role of the Local in Multi-ethnic Social Inclusion

Maria Margarida Marques (Oeiras team) & Irene Molina (Stockholm team)

In this cluster, what is at stake is the locally territorialised dimension of the processes of citizenship asserting and political participation. Local units, characterised by social exclusion and ethnic segregation, are often envisaged as privileged arenas in the processes of multi-ethnic social inclusion. The local can thus be understood as the particular territorial social unit selected for each case study. “The local” could be the neighbourhood, a local district or a residential unit of another scope within the municipality, or even the whole city as a particular territorial social unit. Since spilling over from one level (local) to the other (supra-local) is unavoidable, inter-level dynamics and effects should be taken into consideration, as a context providing resources, but also imposing constraints to local action.

Consequently the study of the role of the local, i.e. the role of different local actors in processes of local social mobilisation, the short and long term coalitions they make and the overall conditions for their actions, can be included in this group of research projects. Materials from single case studies for the writing of the comparative chapters can focus on the following aspects for approaching local social mobilisation for multi-ethnic inclusion:

- **Identification of the actors** having a local influence (actors with a local and a supra-local scope of action) and their characterisation according to their spatial distribution, the relation between spatial processes and patterns of local inclusion and processes of local social mobilisation, and mainly their scope and main arena of intervention, the latter having special priority, in order to comply with the MPMC framework. This should allow a summary characterisation of local situations (although a brief one, in order to avoid repeating the city templates) inasmuch as they form a social unit but also as they are a part of a wider social and political arena;
- **The role of local actors.** The activities and the role of local organisations, institutions, groups and individuals in processes of local social mobilisation for social inclusion should be systematically characterised. Examples of different local actors are local labour market institutions, churches, anti-racist organisations, trade unions, local media, local councils, etc. Particular attention should be paid as well to the local coalitions formed and the instrumental use of it.
- **Participation in organisations.** The genesis of local organisations and the representation of local population in general and of immigrant population and other ethnic minorities in particular in such entities can be a theme for case studies. Active participation of ethnic minorities (or segments of it – e.g. women groups or youth groups) in local organisations, as NGOs, churches, sport organisations, ethnic-based organisations, the presence and role of local media, etc. This approach may include spatialised social practices in terms of the existence of particular places for social inclusion and interaction in daily life, such as meeting points for the multi-cultural encounters. Particular attention should be paid to the characterisation of local institutions, according to ethnic membership/use, in order to assess the degree of institutional completeness of local communities. The organisation, project, or place for participation can have been initiated from above or from grassroots. One aspect that is going to be specially problematised in this cluster is the complexity of the relation between bottom- up and top-down initiatives for social mobilisation. What is considered as *bottom up* at one level, can be perceived as *top-down* at the next. This issue is relevant for the evaluation of different practices in processes of social multi-ethnic inclusion.

- **Crises in local dynamics.** Crises can sometimes play an important role in the breaking of the status quo and the creation/definition of new grounds for local dynamics. Implications can spill straight into broader geographical political levels as the municipality, the metropolitan area or even the nation as a whole (e.g. urban riots, mobilisation of residents against public authority decisions, etc). The study of these crises in local dynamics can be important to unveil constellations of power (the processes of transition from crystallised old patterns to new ones, as well as the analysis of political contradictions generated by a complexity of social and ethnic/racial excluding mechanisms operating simultaneously with politics of multi-ethnic inclusion). This type of analysis might facilitate the understanding of processes of social mobilisation and their socio-political implications.

List of participants.

Participant list of the MPMC-workshop, 31st October-2nd November, 1999.

1. dr. Enrico Allasino, Centro Interculturale, Turin research team
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6. dr. Meindert Fennema, IMES (Institute for Migration and Ethnic Studies), Universiteit van Amsterdam, Amsterdam research team
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16. Nadia Ben Mohamed, ULB (Université Libre de Bruxelles), Brussels research team
17. dr. Irene Molina, Uppsala University, Stockholm research team
18. Damian Moore, Aix-Marseille University, Marseilles research team
19. Ricard Morèn, University of Warwick, Barcelona research team
20. dr. Marina Petronoti, EKKE (National Centre for Social Research), Athens research team
21. Tiago Ralha, SOCINOVA, Oeiras (Lisboa) research team
22. dr. Alisdar Rogers, School of Geography (Oxford), Editorial Committee
23. dr. Paolo Ruspini, Cariplo ISMU, Milan research team
24. dr. Rui Santos, SOCINOVA, Oeiras (Lisboa) research team
25. Prof. Carl-Ullrich Schierup, MERGE, University of Umeå, Stockholm research team
26. dr. Jean Tillie, IMES, Universiteit van Amsterdam, Amsterdam research team, Editorial Committee
27. dr. Steven Vertovec, Oxford University, Steering Committee
28. Prof. Andreas Wimmer, University of Bonn, Zurich research team
29. Prof. Rinus Penninx, IMES, Universiteit van Amsterdam, Steering Committee

We want to invite you to send us all information which you think is important to bring to the attention of all participants. The central person of the secretariat is drs. Karen Kraal, her email address is Kraal@pscw.uva.nl.