



SEMINAR SERIES CITIZENSHIP 3.0

SEMINAR CITIZENSHIP AND COOPERATION - TREND OR HYPE?

FEBRUARY 28TH, 2014

On Friday February 28th, 2014, the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (the KNAW) will host the seminar: '*Citizenship and Cooperation – Trend or Hype?*'. This seminar, which forms part of a larger project on *Citizenship 3.0*, aims to critically address the new functions, roles and challenges for citizens in the 21st century. It will bring together some thirty experts from different disciplines; this small-scale setup will enable intense discussion and debate throughout the seminar.

Citizenship 3.0

The vitality and sustainability of institutions are under constant pressure in a globalizing world. This does not only call for changes within these institutions themselves, but also for new roles for citizens. In a series of seminars, Utrecht University's interdisciplinary research group 'Institutions: Understanding the Dynamics of Open Societies' aims to critically address the new functions, roles and challenges for citizens in the 21st century in terms of responding to some of the many problems they are facing (e.g. poverty, unemployment, housing problems, welfare decline and socio-economic problems, financial crisis, global environmental crisis) and the development of political, social and economic democracy. The seminars are organized in cooperation with and under the aegis of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (the KNAW) in Amsterdam.

Each seminar is designed as a multidisciplinary event and will focus on a different dimension of *Citizenship 3.0*, viz. Cooperation, Participation, and Governance. The focus of the first seminar, Cooperation, is on the growing prevalence of informal, horizontal forms of cooperation by active, self-organizing citizens who seek to promote the collective interests of the participants in the absence of any government intervention. The Participation seminar (May 2014) will focus on the new and increasingly direct ways in which groups of citizens are participating in democratic processes with a view to influencing governmental policies so as to further their interests. In the Governance seminar (October 2014), the focus will be on the growing role for citizens, whether individually or collectively, when it comes to protecting or promoting public interests in a more institutionalized manner.

Seminar I: Cooperation

The aim of the first seminar will be to explore how, in times of the continuing decrease of 'big government' in the Western world, self-organisation by cooperating citizens, who seek to attain their goals without government intervention, can be shaped. Is the current growth of such citizen initiatives, aiming for collective action through self-organisation, a sustained trend or rather a temporary hype in the free market society? What are the threats and opportunities for such often temporary and 'one-issue' initiatives in times which are also characterised by individualism? Can self-organisation exist without any form of state intervention in the first place or is some form of recognition or facilitation (subsidies or abolishment of obstructive laws, policies and procedures) by formal institutions crucial?

Organization

The organizing committee of this Seminar Series consists of dr. Antoine Buyse, dr. Liesbeth Enneking, prof. Ivo Giesen, dr. Evelien de Kezel and prof. Maarten Prak of Utrecht University. They are all involved in the University's Strategic Research Theme 'Institutions: Understanding the Dynamics of Open Societies', a programme of Utrecht-based researchers concerned with the ways in which humans organize their social life, through institutional arrangements. It seeks to understand these institutional arrangements theoretically and empirically, in both their historical development and contemporary forms. The outcomes of this research have significant policy implications in such areas as the creation of citizenship, economic institutions, corporate governance and European Law.



Registration

You can register for the first seminar by sending an e-mail to Liesbeth Enneking (L.F.H.Enneking@uu.nl) **before February 20th, 2014**. In order to realize the intended small-scale, academic set-up, the number of places available will be limited.

PROGRAMME

9.30 - 9.45 Opening - Maarten Prak (Chair)

9.45 - 11.15 Cluster 1: Conditions for the Realization of Cooperatives by Self-Organizing Citizens

- Tine de Moor (UU) - Keynote Speaker
- Frans van Winden (UvA) - On the Dynamic Development of Social Ties: Theory and Application
- Kees Biekart, Alan Fowler (EUR) - Civic Energy as a Trigger for Collective Citizens' Action
- Discussion

11.15 - 11.30 Coffee / Tea

11.30 - 13.00 Cluster 2a: The Functioning of Cooperatives by Self-Organizing Citizens

- Siegwart Lindenbergh (RuG) - Keynote Speaker
- Marien Borgstein, Ronald de Graaff, Nico Polman (WUR) - Self-Organization for Sustainability in Leisure and Landscape
- Meike Bokhorst, Josta de Hoog (WRR) - The Rise and Development of Health Care Cooperatives
- Discussion

13.00 - 14.00 Lunch

14.00 - 15.30 Cluster 2b: The Functioning of Cooperatives by Self-Organizing Citizens

- Hans Münkner (Universität Marburg) - Keynote Speaker
- Gerard Breeman, Katrien Termeer (WUR) - Self-governance in the Agricultural Sector
- Bert Sadowski (UEindhoven) - The Local Purpose of Consumer Cooperatives: The Case of a Local Broadband Initiative
- Discussion

15.30 - 15.45 Coffee / Tea

15.45 - 17.15 Cluster 3: The Results of Cooperatives by Self-Organizing Citizens

- Evelien Tonkens (UvA) - Keynote Speaker
- Justus Uitermark, Emiel Rijshouwer (EUR) - Self-organizing bureaucracies? How self-organizing networks can become introverted and rigid
- Discussion

17.15 - 17.30 Closing statement - Maarten Prak (Chair)

Drinks