

**Call for Papers:  
Migrants and External Voting in the EU:  
New Prospects and Challenges for Research and Policy-making**

Rome, *Academia Belgica*, 26-27 May 2011

Emigrants' electoral involvement in the homeland, from their countries of settlement, is an issue that is increasingly gaining attention in the European Union. This workshop, which builds on several initiatives developed by **IMISCOE** in the last few years, aims to provide a venue for presenting and discussing contributions to the topic. This may be relative to old and new EU countries that hold their national elections in other Member State territories (and beyond) or third countries (i.e. emigration countries) that hold their national elections in the EU territory.

The workshop is co-organised by **Jean-Michel Lafleur** (CEDEM, University of Liege) and by **Paolo Boccagni** (University of Trento). It is funded by the **Belgian National Scientific Foundation (FRS-FNRS)**, the **IMISCOE Research Network**, and the **Belgian Academy in Rome**. In addition to the paper presentations of selected researchers, the workshop will feature keynote presentations by Prof. Rainer Bauböck (European University Institute) and Prof. Robert C. Smith (CUNY) among others.

Papers are invited on emigrants' external voting in Europe, approaching this multifaceted issue from one or more of the following viewpoints:

- theoretical analyses (from a political, sociological, migration theory or legal viewpoint)
- empirical research (i.e. case studies on specific instances of external voting, whether through surveys, interviews, ethnography and/or other techniques)
- comparative analyses - policies, regulations or even practical experiences of external voting, in a comparative perspective between different national cases (and/or different emigrant groups).

Case studies based on empirical research, with respect to migrants' involvement in (or reactions to) external voting initiatives promoted by their home countries, are especially welcome.

Paper proposals should contain a preliminary title, an abstract of 100 to 200 words, and a more extensive outline of about 1000 words. The outline should contain a clearly stated research question, indications of methodology and approach, references to the literature and a tentative structure of the sections of the paper. Proposals should be sent by the **20<sup>th</sup> of February 2011** to Jean-Michel Lafleur [jm.lafleur@ulg.ac.be] and Paolo Boccagni [paolo.boccagni@unitn.it]. Acceptance will be notified by the **1<sup>st</sup> of March 2011**. Full papers (6-7,000 words) are then expected by the 6<sup>th</sup> of May 2011.

Selected presenters will have their accommodation expenses covered. Limited funding covering the travel expenses of some participants may also be available. A selection of the papers discussed in the conference is expected to be published in an edited book, or in a journal's special issue.

About our funders:

**FRS-FNRS** (Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique) is a government-funded Belgian institution, aimed to support and finance research in the French-speaking Community of Belgium ([www.fnr.be](http://www.fnr.be)).

**IMISCOE** (International Migration, Integration, and Social Cohesion) is a Research Network based on a Consortium Agreement among different migration research centres throughout Europe. Its Standing Committee on Migration, Citizenship and Political Participation (MIGCITPOL, formerly known as cluster B3) has already organized several workshops, and has led several publication projects on the topic of political transnationalism ([www.imiscoe.org](http://www.imiscoe.org)).

The **Academia Belgica** in Rome is a Belgian institution that promotes cultural and scientific cooperation between Belgium and Italy, and supports students and researchers conducting academic work in Rome. It is located in the Villa Borghese area and offers facilities to hold scientific meetings in the middle of Rome ([www.academiabelgica.it](http://www.academiabelgica.it)).

**CEDEM** (Center for Ethnic and Migration Studies) is an interfaculty research centre based at the University in Liège in Belgium (directed by Prof. Marco Martiniello), which aims to carry out theoretical and empirical research in the fields of migration, ethnic relations, and racism ([www.cedem.ulg.ac.be](http://www.cedem.ulg.ac.be)).