

Science, Numbers and Politics

Venue: Akademie der Wissenschaften
Karlstraße 4
69117 Heidelberg

Date: 28 – 30 April 2016

Beginning: 28 April 2016, 13:30

Science, Numbers and Politics

HEIDELBERGER AKADEMIE DER WISSENSCHAFTEN

Karlstraße 4
69117 Heidelberg
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REGISTRATION AND CONTACT DETAILS

Attendance is free of charge, but prior registration is mandatory, as the number of participants is limited. Please register via email:
numbers-and-politics@adw.uni-heidelberg.de

LOCATION

The conference takes place at the Heidelberg Academy of Sciences and Humanities (Karlstraße 4, 69117 Heidelberg, Old town / „Altstadt“), please find the Google location here: [Google Maps](#)

Academy Conference, Heidelberg
28 – 30 April 2016



HEIDELBERGER AKADEMIE DER WISSENSCHAFTEN

Akademie der Wissenschaften
des Landes Baden-Württemberg

In keeping with a widespread contemporary trend towards social rationalization, a growing *Verwissenschaftlichung* (“scientization”) of the political sphere has taken place over the past few decades: science and quantitative measures are increasingly defining and shaping politics. Today, empirical evidence almost always accompanies policy making, and quantification and the use of statistics have become ever more central to the practices of contemporary politics.

The conference takes up the relationship between politics and science in order to analyse how processes of “quantification” and “rationalization” have come to shape our contemporary world.

How has this relationship evolved over time, and what are the opportunities and risks of an intensifying interaction between the political and scientific world? Of particular interest is the role played by “numbers” within contemporary education policies, because of their close interrelation with economic, social and cultural policies more generally.

This will be the first in a series of two interconnected conferences organized under the auspices of the interdisciplinary research project “Science, Numbers and Politics”.

For further information on the research project, please consult the project website:

www.haw.uni-heidelberg.de/forschung/win-kolleg/win-politics/welcome.en.html

Science, Numbers and Politics

Academy Conference, Heidelberg

28 – 30 April 2016

Organization

Dr. Markus J. Prutsch
(European Parliament/
Heidelberg University)

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

THURSDAY, 28 APRIL 2016

13:30 Reception and Registration

14:00 Opening

Welcome Address

Introduction

Markus J. Prutsch/Organizing Committee

15:00 Coffee Break

15:30 Parallel Workshop Sessions (Part 1)

Section I – “Historical Genesis”

Section II – “Politics and Science Today”

Section III – “Case Study – European Education Policies”

18:00 Buffet Dinner

FRIDAY, 29 APRIL 2016

09:00 Parallel Workshop Sessions (Part 2)

Section I – “Historical Genesis”

Section II – “Politics and Science Today”

Section III – “Case Study – European Education Policies”

12:00 Coffee Break

12:30 Lecture

Volker Sellin (Heidelberg University)

Heidelberg and its Institutions of Learning in
Historical Perspective

13:30 Free Afternoon

17:30 Lecture

Lars Bo Jakobsen (European Commission – Education,
Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency)

How Does Evidence Inform European Policy-
Making in the Educational Sphere?

SATURDAY, 30 APRIL 2016

09:00 Plenary Session

12:00 Coffee Break

12:30 Concluding Remarks and Project Outlook

13:00 End of Conference

Composition of Sections

Section I – “Historical Genesis”

Moderators

Kelly L. Grotke & Stephen Hastings-King

Contributors

Anat Leibler, Bar-Ilan University – The Emergence of the Global Economic Order

Kaat Louckx, Ghent University – Population, Territory, and State-istics: “Habitual Residence” in the Census

Ida Stamhuis, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam – “What use is it in the long run to resist something that is bound to happen anyway?” Statistics as the Basis of 19th c. Politics

Axel Utz, Independent Scholar – Science, Numbers, and Colonialism in the African Great Lakes, 1850-1910

Section II – “Politics and Science Today”

Moderators

Kathrine von Graevenitz & Georg von Graevenitz

Contributors

Jean-Guy Prévost, Université du Québec à Montréal – Policies and Politics of Statistical Independence

Julia Schubert, Forum Internationale Wissenschaft Bonn – Mapping the Organized Interface of Science and Politics

Wolfgang Drechsler, Tallinn University of Technology – Sufficiency Economy, Gross National Happiness, and the Rise of Governance Indicators

Amanda Machin, Alexander Ruser & Nico Stehr, Zeppelin University – When do we start counting? Time, Numbers and the Indispensable Illusion of Accuracy in Climate Change Politics and Science

Radhika Gorur, Deakin University; **Bryan Maddox**, University of East Anglia; **Estrid Sørensen**, Ruhr-University Bochum – PISA for Development: Between Standardization and Re-Contextualization

Section III – “Case Study – European Education Policies”

Moderators

Markus J. Prutsch & Lars Lehmann

Contributors

Yuval Vurgan, Knesset Research and Information Center – “Let’s Talk Numbers”: Parliamentary Evidence-Based Policy Advice in Educational Affairs in Light of Political Demand for Quantification – Comparative Analysis

Karin Amos & Anne Rohstock, Eberhard Karls University Tübingen – “Smart Me Up”: Scientization, Digital Education Policies and the Optimization of the Self in Late Modern Societies

Jörg J. Dötsch, Andrassy University Budapest – Higher Purpose or Economic Reason? A Comparative Study Concerning the Role of Numbers as Guide Values of Recent Education Policy with Focus on Tertiary Education