

Conferences and Workshops



Full program of the seminar:

<https://tinyurl.com/Joint-Seminar-Program>

Forthcoming Workshop

**Neoliberalism in the Nordics:
Developing an Absent Theme**
Workshop organized by Jenny
Andersson, Mitchell Dean, and
Chris Howell

December 6–7, 2018
at MaxPo in Paris

[https://tinyurl.com/
ReNEW-workshop2018](https://tinyurl.com/ReNEW-workshop2018)

The Role of the Future in Economic and Political Sociology Joint PhD seminar of MaxPo and MPIfG in September 2018 in Cologne

A PhD seminar on the topic of “The Role of the Future in Economic and Political Sociology: Between Stabilizing Expectations and Extending Crisis” gathered about twenty doctoral researchers and experienced scholars from September 24–26, 2018, in Cologne. It was the second in a series of two PhD seminars jointly organized by **MaxPo** and the **Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies (MPIfG)**. The seminar aimed at exploring the recent interest in the future in the social sciences. Recent work in economic sociology has brought out the importance of actors’ expectations, showing the influence of narratives and fictions on future developments as ways of embedding economic activity in stories and images of envisioned future capitalist development. Other strands of literature in economic geography, anthropology, and history have

pinpointed the origins and use of tools of future crafting, such as forecasts and scenarios, as instruments of market making and as contributors to the crafting of economic interests over time. The seminar was taught by Jenny Andersson (MaxPo/Sciences Po), Jens Beckert (MPIfG), Marcin Serafin (Max Planck Partner Group for the Sociology of Economic Life), and guest speaker Christina Garsten (Copenhagen Business School/Stockholm University). Presentations were given by Mateusz Halawa (Max Planck Partner Group for the Sociology of Economic Life, Warsaw), Moritz Hütten (University of Darmstadt), Anitra Baliga (London School of Economics), Laura Gerken (IMPRS-SPCE, University of Duisburg-Essen), Pierre Wokuri (Sciences Po Rennes), Vera Linke University of Bielefeld), and Maximilian Roßmann (Karlsruhe Institute of Technology).

Neoliberalism in the Nordics ReNEW workshop by Jenny Andersson and Chris Howell

In recent years, the nature of neoliberalism as a concept has been highly debated in the social sciences. Crude understandings of neoliberalism as something “bad” have been replaced by more sophisticated interpretations of how the process of marketization can be understood as a universal phenomenon and as highly particularistic and contingent in different national settings. As a general rule, the Nordic countries are almost completely absent from the literature on neoliberalism. In the comparative welfare state literature and political economy, the

Nordics still figure as an exception to liberalization processes, particularly to the Anglo-Saxon countries. A workshop entitled “Neoliberalism in the Nordics: Developing an Absent Theme” organized by **Jenny Andersson** (MaxPo), **Mitchell Dean** (Copenhagen Business School), and **Chris Howell** (Oberlin College) will take place in December 2018 at MaxPo. Supported by ReNEW (*Reimagining Norden in an Evolving World* at the University of Oslo), the workshop seeks to develop a new research theme around neoliberalism in the Northern European periphery.

