

Genomineerden Johannes van der Zouwen masterthesisprijs 2016



B&P-Political Science: Jan Klenke – *Fresh ideas for the international system. How economic ideas of emerging powers affect transnational economic governance.* Jan studied the mechanism that connects the economic ideas of emerging powers to changes in transnational economic governance outcomes. He distinguishes between two competing mechanisms, derived from constructivism and neoclassical realism. If existing great powers adjust their preferences because of the perceived legitimacy of emerging power, this would be in line with a constructivist understanding of how ideas affect policy outcomes. In contrast, if emerging powers put pressure and enforce their ideas on existing powers, this is taken as evidence for the neoclassical mechanism of hard bargaining. By means of process-tracing Jan examines the role of India and Brazil in the case of the involvement of the IMF in the solution of the European Sovereign Debt Crisis. He concludes that the legitimacy-mechanism has more explanatory value than the hard bargaining-mechanism. [Read the entire thesis.](#)



Sociologie: Wendelijn Vollbehr – *Sex workers against human trafficking. Strategies and challenges of sex worker-led organizations in the fight against human trafficking.* Human trafficking and sex work are often conflated in the public discourse, which results anti-trafficking laws and policies that affect sex workers negatively. It is important to understand how sex workers themselves, through sex worker-led organizations, deal with this conflation and with anti-trafficking policies in practice. Wendelijn gives insight in the challenges sex workers and their organizations face regarding human trafficking and their response to this issue. She concludes that sex worker-led organizations (1) use different strategies to influence and challenge the powers behind the discourse on trafficking and the harmful anti-trafficking laws and policies, on different levels, in different spaces and in different forms, (2) use different strategies - either implicitly or explicitly focused on human trafficking situations - to address human trafficking, (3) face some obstacles in order to influence decision-making processes and to participate as an equal partner in the fight against human trafficking. [Read the entire thesis.](#)



Social and Cultural Anthropology: Laetitia Simorangkir – *Caring about care.* The

organization of care arrangements often derives from Western ideas around the importance of nuclear families and parents as primary caregivers. To understand how children themselves view their caregiving, Laetitia conducted fieldwork in communities around Pretoria, South Africa. When parents are omitted as caregivers, their relatives or friends might help out in the caretaking. This could be seen as ‘sharing’ the caregiving. Respondents described how fathers walked out on their families, expressing sadness and distress when this had happened, hoping this would change. This led to this thesis’s main argument: communities should work on their ideas around father-involvement. The idea that men are incapable of taking care of children is becoming so influential in the communities, that men start to act accordingly. To change these ideas, Laetitia encourages and shows the academic world how to take a first step in including fathers in the organization of care arrangements. [Read the entire thesis.](#)



Communicatiewetenschap: Vera Dekkers – *Invloed van berichtgeving in de media op*

de opkomst en de stem van kiezers bij het referendum over de associatieovereenkomst van de Europese Unie met Oekraïne. In hoeverre kan de opkomst en stem van kiezers bij het referendum over de associatieovereenkomst van de EU met Oekraïne worden toegeschreven aan de mediaberichtgeving? Vera onderzocht of strategische vormen van framing (‘benefit framing’ en ‘disadvantage framing’) leiden tot de associatie van het verdrag met voor- of nadelen en of dit vervolgens invloed heeft op opkomst en stemkeuze. Ze toont aan dat dit zo is. Hoe sterker de associatie van het verdrag met voor- of nadelen, hoe waarschijnlijker het is dat kiezers opkomen. Hoe sterker de associatie van het verdrag met voordelen, hoe waarschijnlijker het is dat de kiezer vóór het verdrag stemt. Ook laat ze zien welke andere aspecten een belangrijke rol spelen bij opkomst en stemkeuze. [Lees de hele thesis.](#)



ORG-Beleid, Communicatie en Organisatie: Katinka Zollner – Jonge

wetenschappers op de niet-wetenschappelijke arbeidsmarkt: Geweldige academische aanvulling of een irritante kostenpost?. De toekomstperspectieven van jonge wetenschappers zijn verslechterd. Zeventig procent is genoodzaakt zijn carrière te vervolgen buiten de wetenschap. Dit onderzoek naar de toekomstperspectieven van jonge wetenschappers biedt inzicht in hoe zij tijdens en na hun academische loopbaan beter voorbereid kunnen worden op een carrière buiten de wetenschap. Katinka concludeert dat jonge wetenschappers hun arbeidskansen op de niet-wetenschappelijke arbeidsmarkt kunnen vergroten door rekening te houden met het stereotypebeeld van jonge wetenschappers in de ogen van leidinggevendenden van de niet-wetenschappelijke arbeidsmarkt. Dit kunnen zij doen door zich breder te ontwikkelen en rekening te houden met verwachte sterke en zwakke competenties van jonge wetenschappers. In de begeleiding van jonge wetenschappers moet onder andere rekening worden gehouden met hun zelfredzaamheid en de cultuur op universiteiten waar het bespreken van een carrière buiten de wetenschap als een taboe ervaren wordt. [Lees de hele thesis.](#)



ORG-Culture, Organization and Management: Andrés Pérez Russo – Dealing with

‘biographical uncertainty’: tracing connections between ‘merit’ construction, the ‘views of life’ and career preferences of Middle Managers within a multinational firm. . Andrés explores connections between the construction of merit and ‘biographical uncertainty’. The results suggest that despite a social tendency to elude professional fixity and the difficulty to draw a trace towards success, the belief in a meritocratic principle can be understood as a coping strategy that allows individuals to make sense of their careers through a coherent storytelling and a more-or-less fixed base course. The findings open up the discussion to explore ‘merit’ as a (personal) symbolic construction that connects with a broader ‘view of life’ and operates as a coping strategy against ‘biographical uncertainty’. In such quest and from this approach, the research calls for further depurating and improving the notion of ‘merit’ as a concept. [Read the entire thesis.](#)