

CONCILIA: Democratic Legitimacy in the Post-Crisis European Economic Governance

Over the past decade, the European Union (EU) has acquired a good deal of power in the fiscal policies of its member states. **This result of the Euro crisis is exemplified by a framework for fiscal policy surveillance, where governments and parliaments seem to surrender crucial aspects of governance and scrutiny to European control. They thus give away key policy leverage. Why?** And how these new mechanisms affects parliamentary scrutiny powers over budget? This topic is also important in terms of democratic accountability and could thus contribute to the debate on democracy in Europe. **By analysing the parliamentary scrutiny of the EU's economic governance, I would help to solve this puzzle and fill an important gap in the literature.** CONCILIA will be the first project showing the comparative political discourse on fiscal policy embedded in the European institutional framework.

How can the executives be scrutinized by national parliaments (NPs) in the area of economic governance? In order to answer this research question, the relevant debates and hearings in the NPs would be explored, which would allow for the discovery of patterns of scrutiny and political conflict. **Thus, the main goal of CONCILIA would be to investigate and explain mechanisms of scrutiny and political conflict in European economic governance.** This study would be conducted on a representative set of parliaments. The main goal of CONCILIA would be accompanied by more specific objectives. **Drawing from my previous work on the Europeanisation of economic and political domestic systems is to demonstrate the patterns of the NPs' involvement in the EU's economic governance.** How exactly have the NPs become 'Europeanised' in the framework of their economic policymaking? I would answer this question by in-depth case studies and an interdisciplinary approach of Process Tracing, combining methods of political science and history, which could be interesting for a wider audience of scholars doing qualitative case studies. **Moreover, by conducting interviews with Members of Parliament (MPs) and other policymakers, I would be able to also show informal ways of scrutiny.** By presenting the project results in five academic conferences and publishing five peer-reviewed articles, including one joint paper, I will ensure the impact of the project on my specific research field, but also on a wider discipline of political science.