



Project No.: CIT4-CT-2006-028698

RECON
Reconstituting Democracy in Europe

Integrated Project
Priority: 7 - Citizens and Governance in a Knowledge-Based Society

Deliverable No. 49
Workshop on operationalization of the three RECON models

Due date of deliverable: April 2008
Actual delivery date: 25 April 2008

Start date of project: 1 January 2007

Duration: 60 months

Lead contractor for this deliverable:
Partner 1 ARENA – Centre for European Studies
University of Oslo, Norway

Final Version

Project co-funded by the European Commission within the Sixth Framework Programme (2002-2006)		
Dissemination Level		
PU	Public	
PP	Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Services)	
RE	Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services)	X
CO	Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)	

1. Introduction

RECON Deliverable No. 49, workshop on the operationalization of the three RECON models is part of work package 1 – Theoretical Framework. WP 1 establishes the theoretical perspective underlying the whole project and ensures integration of the research. The work package sets out RECON's theoretical framework, and spells out and develops specific indicators to test each of the three different models for reconstituting democracy in Europe. A further task of WP 1 is to coordinate the research conducted in all WPs. Based on the findings of the different WPs in the first period of the project, all work package leaders will collect and integrate the respective research results and establish substantial guidelines for further research on the three RECON models.

2. Presentation of the workshop

The workshop 'RECON models applied' was staged in Oslo on 25 April 2008. It was organised by RECON coordinator ARENA – Centre for European Studies, University of Oslo. The workshop brought together 31 participants from 12 of RECON's partner institutions and two representatives from the two new project partners to be included from mid-2008.



From left: Helene Sjørusen, Pieter de Wilde, Christian Joerges, Erik O. Eriksen, Johannes Pollak, Christopher Lord, Caterina Carta, Ben Crum, Anna Michalski, Magdalena Gora and Tatjana Evas

The background for the seminar was the challenges that RECON project participants have experienced when engaging with the project's theoretical models, notably when they have endeavoured to adapt them to different research areas. The seminar dealt with how the research undertaken in RECON's work packages can make use of the models as analytical tools, as well as how these can best be operationalised in the different research fields of RECON. The aim was to familiarise the participants with RECON's approach and intellectual tools, as well as to permit space for an ongoing critical engagement with the overarching project.

The full-day workshop started with an introduction by Erik O. Eriksen and John Erik Fossum (ARENA), who have developed RECON's theoretical framework and are authors of the handbook on the three theoretical models (*Deliverable No. 2*). The seminar was structured around sessions on each work package (WPs 2–9), which were introduced by a briefing paper by the work package leader(s) and followed by discussions.



From left: Ben Crum, John Erik Fossum and Erik Oddvar Eriksen

The workshop thus allowed for an exchange on the first experiences of using the models in empirical research and plans for the near future. It was clear that many had come a long way towards making the models ready for testing and investigation, such as the indicators in WP 3 on Representation and Institutional Make-up, developed by Christopher Lord (University of Reading) to conduct a democratic audit of the European Union. Ben Crum (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam) and John Erik Fossum (ARENA) moreover introduced the concept of a ‘multi-parliamentary field’, which is another helpful tool to deal with the EU’s complicated channels of representation. In other research fields more efforts are needed, and some aspects of the models require significant translation to be effectively used. For instance, Magdalena Gora (Jagiellonian University Krakow) illustrated that the term ‘cosmopolitanism’ has a very different ring to it in Central and Eastern Europe than it does in the old member states. Whereas in the west, it is often associated with multilateralism, human rights and liberalism, it is associated with anti-Semitism in Poland and Slovakia. Another challenge concerns the kind of tools the models provide us with. As Hans-Jörg Trenz (ARENA) argued, the models can be used for testing, understanding or assessment. Each use would require a different operationalisation and a different approach to reality. Reports from several work packages indicate that in particular the third model remains difficult to grasp in empirical terms.

Although challenges still lie ahead, the workshop demonstrated there had been clear progress towards giving the models flesh and bones across the different work packages. Many of the participants expressed satisfaction with the work so far, the coherence of the project and the quality of the papers presented.

The briefing papers on the operationalisation and/or indicators of the models on specific research areas will be further elaborated and included in a joint report in 2009 (*Deliverable No. 50 – Joint report on the operationalisation of the three RECON models*).

3. Participants

See attachment.

4. Programme

See attachment.

Workshop RECON models applied

ARENA, University of Oslo
Friday 25 April 2008

List of participants

Carbonell, Flavia	<i>University of León</i>
Carta, Caterina	<i>LSE, London</i>
Clavero, Sara	<i>Queen's University, Belfast</i>
Costa-i-Font, Joan	<i>LSE, London</i>
Crum, Ben	<i>Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam</i>
de Wilde, Pieter	<i>ARENA, Oslo</i>
Eldholm, Marit	<i>ARENA, Oslo</i>
Eriksen, Erik O.	<i>ARENA, Oslo</i>
Evas, Tatjana	<i>Riga Graduate School of Law</i>
Fossum, John Erik	<i>ARENA, Oslo</i>
Gora, Magdalena	<i>Jagiellonian University, Krakow</i>
Holst, Cathrine	<i>ARENA, Oslo</i>
Joerges, Christian	<i>ZERP, Bremen</i>
Kriza, Borbala	<i>Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest</i>
Kucs, Arturs	<i>Riga Graduate School of Law</i>
Kværk, Geir	<i>ARENA, Oslo</i>
Liebert, Ulrike	<i>University of Bremen</i>
Lord, Chris	<i>University of Reading</i>
Mach, Zdzislaw	<i>Jagiellonian University, Krakow</i>
Michalski, Anna	<i>SIEPS, Stockholm</i>
Miklin, Eric	<i>Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam</i>
Olsen, Espen D. H.	<i>ARENA, Oslo</i>
Pollak, Johannes	<i>Austrian Academy of Sciences</i>
Rakusanova, Petra	<i>Institute of Sociology, Czech Academy of Sciences</i>
Rosén, Guri	<i>ARENA, Oslo</i>
Sjursen, Helene	<i>ARENA, Oslo</i>
Smith, Lesley Jane	<i>Riga Graduate School of Law</i>
Stie, Anne Elizabeth	<i>ARENA, Oslo</i>
Trenz, Hans-Jörg	<i>ARENA, Oslo</i>
Wagner, Wolfgang	<i>Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam and PRIF, Frankfurt</i>
Wartenberg, Raul L.	<i>University of León</i>

Workshop RECON models applied

ARENA, University of Oslo
Friday 25 April 2008

- 09:00-09:15 **Welcome and introduction: RECON's theoretical framework (WP 1)**
Erik O. Eriksen and John Erik Fossum
- 09:15-10:00 **Constitutional Politics (WP 2)**
Ben Crum and John Erik Fossum
- 10:00-10:45 **Representation and Institutional Make-up (WP 3)**
Christopher Lord
- 10:45-11:00 *Coffee*
- 11:00-11:45 **Justice, Democracy and Gender (WP 4)**
Sara Clavero and Cathrine Holst
- 11:45-12:30 **Civil Society and the Public Sphere (WP 5)**
Ulrike Liebert and Hans-Jörg Trenz
- 12:30-13:15 *Lunch*
- 13:15-14:00 **The Foreign and Security Dimension (WP 6)**
Helene Sjursen
- 14:00-14:45 **The Political Economy of the EU (WP 7)**
Raul Letelier Wartenberg
- 14:45-15:00 *Coffee*
- 15:00-15:45 **Identity Formation and Enlargement (WP 8)**
Zdzislaw Mach and Magdalena Gora
- 15:45-16:30 **Transnationalisation and Democratisation Compared (WP 9)**
John Erik Fossum and Christian Joerges
- 16:30-17:00 **Scientific Advisory Committee meeting (RECON WP leaders)**
B. Crum, E.O. Eriksen, J.E. Fossum, Y. Galligan, C. Joerges, U. Liebert, C. Lord, Z. Mach, A.J. Menéndez, H. Sjursen, H.-J. Trenz, W. Wagner and M. Eldholm, G. Kværk
- 17:00 **Meeting between RGSL representatives and the leaders of WP 1, 2 and 3**
B. Crum, E.O. Eriksen, T. Evas, J.E. Fossum, A. Kucs, C. Lord, L.J. Smith and M. Eldholm, G. Kværk
- 19:30 **Dinner at Ekebergrestauranten**
(Common departure from Rica Travel Hotel at 19:15)