

# Soziologisches Werkstattgespräch

11. November 2024, 16:00-17:30,  
Besprechungsraum, 2. Stock (R212), hybrid

## Dissertation Defensio Practice:

The changing rules of local welfare.

Territorial disparities and policy institutions under new welfare challenges in Austria and the United Kingdom

**Tatjana Boczy**

Welfare institutions are integral to societies as they can determine the distribution of opportunities and the dynamics of social inequalities. Since the 2008 Global Financial Crisis, welfare regimes, particularly labour market policies, have faced challenges from emerging social risks. These pressures may have altered institutional practices since Esping-Anderson's (1990) welfare state typology. While scholars often focus on path dependencies, isomorphism, or gradual transformation in welfare transformations, territorial differences and multilevel governance are frequently overlooked.

The dissertation analyses changes in local welfare systems' structure, agency, and culture, considering the impact of New Public Management, marketization, and privatization on job assistance, re-training, and out-of-employment benefits. Street-level operations are crucial for labour market policies as they affect claimants, inequality structures, and territorial disparities. However, scholars often assume general neoliberalisation rather than examining the locally sensitive transformations of institutional conventions. The study addresses this gap by investigating subnational policy operations in four localities in Austria and the United Kingdom from 2005 onwards. The findings reveal that local welfare systems in Austria have largely resisted neoliberal convergence despite external shocks and national regulatory changes. Local actors, e.g. social partners, active subsidiarity, and institutional culture all play key roles in preserving welfare practices

**Tatjana Boczy** ist Mitglied im Team Kazepov. In diesem Werkstattgespräch stellt sie ihre Dissertation vor, um sich auf ihr Rigorosum (voraussichtlich Jänner 2025) vorzubereiten. Im Werkstattgespräch werden zwei Grobstrukturen der 20-minütigen Präsentation vorgestellt und kollegial diskutiert. Der Fokus liegt auf einer knappen aber aussagekräftigen Darstellung der Monographie. Gebeten wird um konstruktive Kritik und Rückmeldungen, die wertvoll für die konkrete Defensio sein wird und darüber hinaus für all jene, die noch an ihrer Dissertation arbeiten.

Das **Werkstattgespräch** wird am **11. November 2024 um 16:00-17:30, hybrid** stattfinden.

Vor Ort: Besprechungsraum im 2. Stock (Institut für Soziologie)

Online-Meeting-ID: 676 2657 5457, Kenncode: 039970

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<http://www.soz.univie.ac.at/rising-scholars/>

