
This conference aims to review the relationship between governance, expertise and social actors in the field of employment and labour market policies in Europe. These relations are different from one country to another and new forms of governance emerge especially in the context of the European integration process and European Employment Strategy. The conference provides an opportunity to compare national experiences, to confront view points from the various actors involved, and finally to debate in a European perspective.

The two-day conference is organised around seven thematic sessions in which four contributors and one discussant, coming from various European countries and European institutions, will present different view points on the issues raised by the theme (final programme to be communicated by the end of September).

SESSION 1
New Perspectives on the Relation between Governance and Expertise

Introduction by key-speakers from the three areas involved in the relation between governance and expertise (experts, administrators and social actors): what is at stake within these collaborations? What is to be expected from a European perspective?

SESSION 2
Diversity in Relations between Governance and Expertise in Europe

Comparison between national realities: what are the institutions that produce expertise in the field of employment? What are their links with policy-makers and institutional agencies? What kind of changes the European Employment Strategy has introduced in governance and expertise for employment matters?

SESSION 3
Social Actors and Expertise

Being involved in various mechanisms of labour market governance, social actors need expertise on employment policies: how is this expertise produced in different European countries? In which areas and levels? What are the impacts for social partners’ participation in employment governance?
SESSION 4
Social Actors' Involvement in Employment Governance

The European Employment Strategy integrates social dialogue as one of the governance dimensions: To what extent social actors have been associated at national and European levels? What kind of collaboration has been shaped between government, administration and social partners at these levels?

SESSION 5
Elaboration and use of Indicators in Employment Governance

Employment governance relies more and more on statistical indicators, especially within the EES process. How are these indicators selected, produced and disseminated? What are the impacts on the relation between expertise and governance? What are the meanings in terms of policy-making?

SESSION 6
Innovations in Governance and Employment Policies Evaluation

Changes in employment policies are located within a continuous process of evaluation and prescription in terms of governance. One of the main recent innovations is certainly the Open Method of Coordination (OMC) introduced by the European Employment Strategy. To what extent does this method modify the relationship between governance and expertise?

SESSION 7
New forms of Governance, New Fields of Expertise

Focusing on precise topics, how to characterise the new forms of involvement of expertise within the process of governance? What are the consequences in terms of research agenda?

More Information

The conference will be held the 13th and 14th December 2004 in the Carré des Sciences, Ministère de la recherche, 1 rue Descartes, 75005 Paris.

Papers will be made available on a website and in paper version at the beginning of the conference. All sessions will benefit from a direct translation French/English.

For further information and registration, please send your details to: cee@ptolemee.com