

European Works Councils (EWCs) were introduced by the European Council of Secretaries (*Minister-rat*) in 1994 as a new interest mediation mechanism at the European level. Their legal basis is a complex multilevel framework of supranational European law, intergovernmental treaties, national implementation law and transnational agreements at company level. Furthermore, EWCs are European law based non-profit organisations working and embedded in national law based profit organisations. Although only about one third of all companies falling under the EWC-directive actually have established an EWC, their importance and impact for labour regulation at a transnational level should not be underestimated. They represented a total of about 17 million people working in companies with an EWC all over the old 15-European Union countries - including the new member states they represent even more people.

Based on an organisation research approach this one week seminar examines EWCs as a specific type of European non-profit organisations with four ideal-typical figures (global, focal, multinational or transnational). Basic literature about international labour regulation, EWCs and international organisations will be treated as well as empirical cases of the automobile industry.

Researchers from the Ruhr-University Bochum will present a broad variety of approaches. **International scholars** of transnational and of labour regulation research will present research findings and share experiences and standpoints.

Venue:

Ruhr-Universität Bochum
Location: Conference Room 2 (above the Mensa)
 44780 Bochum
Except where indicated!

Directions:

Public transport: From Bochum Hauptbahnhof (Central Station) take the U35 towards Bochum Querenburg (Hustadt) and get out at stop "Ruhr-Universität". (Ticket needed: Preisstufe A).
 On weekdays the subway U35 leaves every 5 minutes and reaches the university within 9 minutes.

Car: Motorway A 43, interchange "Bochum-Witten", exit at "Bochum-Querenburg/Universität" (exit no. 19). Universitätsstraße direction Universität/ Zentrum, exit at "Uni - Mitte" (about 2 km). Free parking is sign posted.

A map is available at:
http://www.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/lage/lageplan_en.htm

For further information concerning the *International Conference* included in this *International Seminar* see:
<http://www.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/soaps>

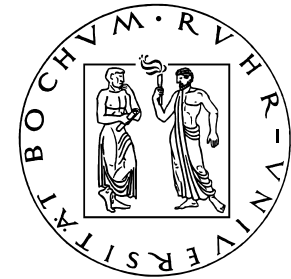
Compulsory seminar preparation session for RUB-students: June 18th at 14.00h in GB 04/42
3 Credit Points ECPS could be obtained under specified conditions. Please **register until April 12th** at:

Ruhr-Universität Bochum
 Lehrstuhl Organisationssoziologie und Mitbestimmungsforschung (Chair of Sociology of Organisations and Participation Studies (SOAPS))

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European Works Councils as Transnational Organisations?

Theoretical and Empirical Findings and Prospects

Funded by



Sunday, July 8 th	Monday, July 9 th	Tuesday, July 10 th	Wednesday, July 11 th	Thursday, July 12 th	Friday, July 13 th
Internal Meeting	EWCs and transnational organisations – an outline	National specifics	Excursion to Brussels	Transnational EWCs in the automotive industry	Transnational Labour Regulation
18.00 Internal Project Meeting Agenda for further co-operation / research schedule	9.00 Opening Welcome, Programme and Participants Presentation Ludger Pries & Luitpold Rampeltshammer	Empirical evidence Country Issues	6.30 Departure from the Ruhr-University, GB 05 (Süd)	Different Venue: <i>This session will take place in GB 04 / 46</i>	9.00 Students presentation I The case of Ford
	9.15 Presentation and Discussion Ludger Pries, Luitpold Rampeltshammer & Markus Hertwig EWCs as transnational organizations? The EWC-research project at RUB	9.00 Poland Stanislaw Rudolf	10.30 Trade union representative on EWCs Ms. Bernadette Ségol General Secretary UNI-Europa	9.00 Working groups a) The ETUI-data base on EWCs b) Conclusions from the Brussels Excursion	10.00 Students presentation II The case of GME
	11.00 Volker Telljohann EWCs: emergence of a European identity or still national bound actors?	10.00 United Kingdom Miguel Martinez Lucio	12.00 Employers association representative Ms. Brigitte De Vita BDA Representative in Brussels		11.00 Students presentation III The case of Daimler
		11.00 France Elsie Charron	14.30 European Commission Ms. Evelyne Pichot		12.00 Veronika Rott Europäische Kooperation und Solidarität - Bedingungen für die Kooperation von Arbeitnehmervertretern am Beispiel der Delta Gruppe bei General Motors
	12.30 Lunch Break	12.00 Udo Rehfeldt		13.00 Lunch Break	12.30 Lunch Break
	14.00 Selected issues in EWC research Werner Altmeyer Co-Determination rights for the European Works Council? Examples and approaches in practice	14.00 Hans-Wolfgang Platzer EWCs: theoretical concepts, empirical observations, political and legal perspectives	21.00 Arrival in Bochum	Doctoral Thesis Projects	13.30 Working groups presentation
	15.00 Martin Bartmann European employee co-operation vs. management strategy of company internal competition at General Motors Europe	Empirical evidence (continued)		14.00 Thomas Oettgen EWCs and SMEs – some empirical and theoretical aspects	16.00 Final session
	16.00 Michael Whittall Understanding and overcoming the limits of European Works Council networks: the case of BMW and GM	15.00 Spain Holm-Detlev Köhler		15.00 Carolina Stegemann Interactions between the Polish and the European labour law regulations for workers participation	
		16.00 Matthias Klemm & Jan Weyand Communication and solidarity in cross-cultural employee relations			
		17.00 Preparation for Brussels Excursion			