International Seminar on Federalism and Conflict Resolution

Using the Federal Toolbox to Prevent and Solve Intra-state Conflicts

Institute of Federalism, University of Fribourg, May 23rd & 24th 2019

Both states and the international community increasingly recommend and use federalism, as well as other tools of autonomy, such as devolution and decentralization, as a means of solving internal conflicts following ethnic or cultural divides. In recent years, a growing literature has emerged on the topic and the academic debate is in full course.

This international workshop will bring together a range of experts from various disciplines and aims at contributing to increase our understanding of conflicts and their resolution through mechanisms of good governance. The speakers will look at federal mechanisms of power sharing that have successfully been put in place and have, if not solved, mitigated and transformed conflicts. They will present a case study or region from a comparative perspective, focusing on common trends and difficulties, or investigating transnational aspects of conflicts and their resolution, such as the impact of neighbouring states and their conflicts resolution mechanisms, constitutional transfers, etc.

Students of the UNIFR are welcome to attend this international seminar that will be organised as a cooperative event between the Institute of Federalism in Fribourg, the Institute for Comparative Federalism and the Institute for Minority Rights of Eurac Research in Bolzano, Italy, and the Politics and International Relations programme at Canterbury Christ Church University (CCCU), UK.

Registration is open until May 7th 2019. Participation is limited to 12 students who will be selected on a “first come, first served” basis. Attendance is required at the kick-off meeting on May 7th as well as during the 2-days seminar on May 23rd and 24th. Students must also submit an academic paper (40’000-50’000 signs). Successful students will be granted 5 ECTS from the University of Fribourg.

For practical matters and registration, please contact Mrs Yvonne Heiter (yvonne.heiter-steiner@unifr.ch).

We look forward to welcoming you soon!