

EU INFLUENCE IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

A FRAMEWORK FOR A GOVERNMENTALITY ANALYSIS

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introduction

- aims
 - a theoretically informed, methodologically transparent, empirically oriented and critical analysis of EU practices
 - further exposing and undermining the mainstream theoretical limitations of global power analysis
- EU power flows and shapes, rather than coerces and breaks
- explaining change x “making facile gestures difficult”

introduction

- not entering a *terra incognita*, but neighbourhood not yet conceived as one strategically oriented assemblage
- comparison to unified-actor and structural approaches (e.g. external governance)

governmentality: a theoretical introduction

- government(ality) in Foucault
- (international) governmentality studies
- governmentality what: pluralist perspective (*toolkit*)
 - “[...] any more or less calculated and rational activity, undertaken by a multiplicity of authorities and agencies, employing a variety of techniques and forms of knowledge, that seeks to shape conduct by working through the desires, aspirations, interests and beliefs of various actors, for definite but shifting ends and with a diverse set of relatively unpredictable consequences, effects and outcomes” (Dean 2010: 18)

governmentality: a theoretical introduction

- power
 - “a name one attributes to a complex strategic situation in a particular society” (Foucault 1979: 93)
 - multiplicity of force
 - power/knowledge
 - *dispositif*: the threefold concept

governmentality: a theoretical introduction

- critique / normativity
 - power relations are neither good or bad, but *dangerous*
 - disturbing that which seemed certain as a means to “nouvel imaginaire politique”
 - individuals are free to act and think (... and to conduct themselves)

methodological outline

- instrumentarium of the governmentality analysis
- method
 - exploration of discourses
 - thick description of processes
 - drawing on previous catalogues of liberal government practices
- two categories of concepts
 - general
 - specific ways of acting in certain domains

methodological outline

- strategy (intrinsic logic of the regime)
- rationality of government / governmentality
 - *epistémé*
 - forms of visibility
- general problematisations and programmes

methodological outline

- political rationalities
 - regulative ideals
 - problematisations
 - programmes
- political technologies
- translations and networks

initial sketch: governing georgia

- outline of further research)
- focus on general conditions of possibility and specific ways of acting in **economic and social development domains**

initial sketch: governing georgia

- strategy: *empire*
- rationality of government
 - civilisation and pacification
 - (un)ambiguous spatialisation
 - relevant knowledges (orientalism, empire, *powers* etc.)
- conditionality, action at distance
- Georgia case

initial sketch: governing georgia

- specific ways of acting
 - **rationalities** (internalisation of standards, problematisation in failure to achieve sufficient progress)
 - **technologies** (institutional isomorphism, knowledge transfer, *collocation/professionalisation/governmentalisation*, cf. Merlingen and Ostrauskaité 2006)