



International Conference
EXPERIENCING JUSTICE
researching citizens' contacts with judicial practices

The central theme of this conference, organized within the framework of the IAP research programme Justice and Populations: The Belgian Experience in International Perspective (IAP 7/22, Belgian Federal Science Policy Office), is research on experiences of justice. It focuses on justice-society relationships from the viewpoint of the citizen, as both subject and client of legal and judicial systems. Although (historical) research on law and justice is often focused on judicial institutions and their staff, the aim of this conference is to put a spotlight on the role of citizens in judicial practices, from a bottom-up perspective. This kind of approach makes it possible to explore the experiences, attitudes and motivations of clients of legal and judicial systems and examine the complex ways in which they interact with judicial/police authorities. Citizens are not merely to be seen as passive subjects meekly acquiescing in state practised repression; rather, they are forces that turn to, and make use of, the police and the courts to actively serve their own ends.

Two Keynote lectures (Henk Elffers, *VU Amsterdam* & Mary Bosworth, *Oxford University*) and five thematic Workshops address one or more of the following themes: the conceptualization of experience; methodological issues (which sources and approaches can be mobilized to research experience?); interdisciplinary and comparative reflection on the results of ongoing empirical research into experiences of justice.



EXPERIENCING JUSTICE

Organizing Committee

- Prof. Jenneke Christiaens (VUB)
- Prof. Nathalie Tousignant (USL-B)
- Prof. Margo De Koster (VUB)
- Prof. Antoon Vrints (UGent)
- Dr. Veerle Massin (UCL)
- Anneke Evenepoel (VUB - PhD researcher)

Scientific Committee

- Prof. Jenneke Christiaens (VUB)
- Prof. Els Enhus (VUB)
- Prof. Nathalie Tousignant (USL-B)
- Prof. Margo De Koster (VUB)
- Prof. Antoon Vrints (UGent)
- Prof. Bruno De Wever (UGent)
- Prof. Xavier Rousseaux (UCL)
- Prof. Frédéric Schoenaers (ULg)
- Prof. Axel Tixhon (FUNDP)
- Prof. Serge Dauchy (Lille-2)
- Prof. Geert Boeckeaert (KULeuven)
- Dr. Veerle Massin (UCL)

March 5th, 2015
DAY ONE

9.00: Welcome & registration (+ coffee)

9.30 – 10.15: Opening & introduction researching "experience"

Prof. Jenneke Christiaens (VUB, Belgium)

10.15 – 10.30: Coffee break

10.30 – 11.30: Keynote lecture

Prof. Henk Elffers (VU Amsterdam, The Netherlands)

'Outsiders as insiders: citizens in contact with judicial practices'

11.30 – 12.00: Questions and Discussion

12.00 – 13.00: Lunch

13.00 – 14.30: Workshop 1

Chair: Prof. Margo De Koster (VUB, Belgium)

1. Ilse Luyten & Tom Bauwens (VUB, Belgium)

'Experiencing experience: killing the researcher?'

2. David Churchill (University of Leeds, UK)

'The Civilian Public and the Modernisation of Criminal Justice: The Contours of Experience'

3. Lucas Melgaço (VUB, Belgium)

'Eyes on the street: citizen participation in surveillance practices'

14.30 – 14.45: Coffee

Participation is free of charge,
but registration is required.

Please send an email with the subject
"registration experiencing justice conference"
to m.dupont@uclouvain.be

14.45 – 16.15: Workshop 2

Chair: Prof. Jenneke Christiaens (VUB, Belgium)

4. Barbara Deruytter (UGent, Belgium)

'Securing authority with pen and paper: the use of procès-verbaux in conflicts between police and 'the public' in the beginning of the 20th century'

5. Isabelle Verwee (Federal Police Belgium)

'The role of the police as viewed through the glasses of the citizen. A kaleidoscope of expectations and meanings'

6. Gertjan Leenders (UGent, Belgium)

'Denunciation to the enemy in Belgium during the First World War and the reporting of denouncers to the Belgian judiciary after the occupation'

16.30 – 18.30: Cinema and experiencing justice

Session with movie screening and panel discussion on visual sources and experiencing justice

19.00: Conference dinner

(speakers and organizers only)

March 6th, 2015
DAY TWO

8.30 – 9.00: Coffee

9.00 – 10.30: Workshop 3

Chair: Prof. Els Enhus (VUB, Belgium)

1. Jenneke Christiaens & Anneke Evenepoel (VUB, Belgium)

'Young people experiencing prevention: looking beyond the narratives?'

2. Marloes Callens (KU Leuven, Belgium)

'Item Nonresponse in the Module on Trust in the Police and the Criminal Courts of the European Social Survey'

3. Nathalie Tousignant (Université Saint-Louis – Bruxelles, Belgium)

'Making visible the (almost) invisible. Documenting experience of justice with visual materials'

10.30 – 11.00: Coffee

11.00 – 12.30: Workshop 4

Chair: Prof. Jean-Pierre Alline (Université de Pau, France)

4. Veerle Massin (UCL, Belgium)

'Experiencing in History (20th century): some methodological issues on women confinement'

5. Benoit Henriët (Université Saint-Louis - Bruxelles, Belgium)

'Experiencing colonial justice: investigations, trials and punishments in the aftermaths of the 1931 Kwango revolt'

6. Donald Fyson (Université Laval, Québec, Canada)

'Experiencing Howard from within: prison reform and everyday life in Quebec's City's common goals, 1760-1867'

12.30 – 14.00: Lunch

14.00 – 15.00: Keynote lecture

Prof. Mary Bosworth (Oxford University, UK)

'Doing research in immigration detention centres: ethics, access and emotions'

15.00 – 15.30: Questions and discussion

15.30 – 16.00: Conclusions

Prof. Xavier Rousseaux (UCL, Belgium – Coordinator IAP P7/22)

16.00: Closing reception

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