



EPICamp III: Collective identities and/or European identities

Call for Participation

Primarily targeting Early Career Researchers

NEW DATE: 25/26 February 2022

This EPICamp is part of the EPICUR Research project. More info on EPICUR Research is available at the [bottom](#).

One societal challenge that EPICUR Research addresses is the importance of “(European) identities”. Yet what does that mean and how can we transform this politically charged term into a scientific object? Culture is a main repository of available identities within a given space, and developing a shared identity is a prerequisite for the proper functioning of social and political institutions such as the European Union. Financial solidarity means to pay for other nations and this requires sharing a common sense of belonging. That is why European parliamentarians and commissioners regularly invoke European identity. In a time in which the European idea has come under much scrutiny, this EPICamp will provide a space to develop new approaches to European identity. Instead of invoking a hypothetical singular European identity, we propose to use interdisciplinary and international advances on collective identities in general, including non-European identities, to challenge and rethink this basis of community as well as social and political action. Through comparing our ways of understanding collective identities (disciplines, research fields, theories, methodologies, results), we will hopefully reach new conclusions and best practices for Europe.

EPICamps serve as an informal forum of discussion for people working on collective identity to connect and exchange, to connect projects of cooperation between our universities and countries. Your intervention during the EPICamp can be either formal (presentation of 5 to 15 minutes) or informal, in dialogue with colleagues working on similar objects. This EPICamp is to be understood foremost as an opportunity to create a network with international researchers. The target audience is young researchers (R1 to R3), and senior researcher (R3-R4) to supervise and advise them. All workshops invite interdisciplinary collaboration: for example the workshop on law is not for lawyers only, and Antiquity is not only a theme for Hellenist or Latinist colleagues, but also for history, literature, anthropology, etc.

You may submit your ideas and projects on any of the following topics:

Antiquity, Humanism and classical reception in the constructions of European identities

- Classical heritage and modern literature, modern European claims of classical heritage
- Cultural and material heritage from Antiquity to the present: constructing identities
- Ancient knowledge between East and West : Mediterranean and continental Europe
- Classical reception, including the construction of European identities through the ages, from Humanism to the present

Political identities and history

- National vs European public opinion, incl. Euroscepticism vs European commitment
- Migrations into Europe, migrations inside Europe & its impact on a sense of belonging
- Emotions running high: identity and political correctness
- Territorial identities vs ethnoscape: community, people, nation, nation-state, Europe
- Conflict, peace and international order
- Compared history, common historiography; identity through memory or history

Defining European identities through Europe’s margins

- Non-European partner countries, European values and universalism?

- Euro-Mediterranean, Euro-Atlantic, Eurasian partnerships, etc.: diverse or convergent perspectives on global problems?
- Economy, migration and identities
- Economic development, training and partnerships with non-European (non UE) countries
- Cooperation and research development in partner countries

Europe and its former colonies

- Denial and eurocentrism
- Coloniality, decoloniality, internal colonization
- Restitution of cultural goods, restitution of identity

Identity through law

- Legal pluralism and European harmonization: directive or regulation, which flexibility and which consequences for identities?
- Unity, indivisibility and institutional plurality: Unitarian vs federal State
- National Sovereignty and community of values; national vs european citizenship
- Constitutional patriotism, utopia or reality

Media and identity

- Theories of identity through media, including internet and new forms of identities
- Public policies on media and through media: Education on media, education for democracy?
- Socializing or de-socializing social media? Democracy, evaluation and social media
- Fake news, infox: new communities based on manipulation?
- National identities vs globalised internet
- Social identity vs digital identity

Identity through digital humanities

- Digital humanities
- Digital data literacy
- Corpus analysis, FAIR, digital library, database, digital edition

Cultures and identities

- Cultural vs political conception of identities
- Scientific culture and identity
- Identity in institutions: museums, policies, classrooms, radio
- Identity and culture in interaction for global change: research, arts and media,
- Cultural studies, Kulturwissenschaften, sciences de la culture ? Research & political commitment, methodological nationalism, etc.
- Emotions and Identity, Affective Theory

Identity in literature, identity through literature

- Narrative Identity in Literature, media, etc.
- Women's writing and identity: towards a European gender studies?
- Exile, boundary and transgression; from divided identity to fragmented identity
- Philosophies of identity in Europe, identity and the poststructuralist subject position
- Identity and Othering: race and identity, critical whiteness studies

Discourse & power in relation to language and identity

- Discourses defining and legitimating identity
- Language and Identity
- Identity through knowledge: « general » culture, scholarship, canon
- Implicit discourses and identity

Intercultural Citizenship & Implications of teaching intercultural citizenship for teachers.

- Language as building blocks of (intercultural) identity and citizenship
- Communicative intercultural competence
- Professional identities – social and/or personal, democratic and intercultural skills.

- Professional responsibilities – social and personal identity
- Collaborative reflection on the main purpose of teaching and on different issues related to the development of an ‘intercultural personality’

Identity: Nature, culture and the sense of belonging

- Individual or collective identity through the relationship to nature
- Cultural conceptions of Risk, environment and sustainability as a culture
- Naturalisation of social identities through nature (sport, mountaineering, natural sciences etc.)

This EPICamp is interconnected with a symposium organised by the University of Strasbourg as one of the seven official events of the French presidency of the EU. “The future of Europe, which challenges? Multilingualism, competitiveness and innovation” will be held in Strasbourg on 13-14 January 2022

Submissions and Participation

EPICUR invites scholars, NGOs including public institutions, institutes, social organizations, funding agencies, infrastructure providers (such as archives, libraries, museums etc.), business etc. to come together and share their insights, concerns, needs and vision for the future. There are **three options for participation in the EPICamp**:

- 1) **Participation with Thematic Contribution:** you may submit a proposal for one of the following potential formats. As EPICamps are non-traditional gatherings, so are potential submissions. We invite prospective participants to apply with innovative and creative formats as well as submissions that are more traditional in format but aim for inter- and/or transdisciplinary exchange. Applicants may choose one of the following proposed formats or add their own:
 - Panel Discussions: full panels with around $\frac{2}{3}$ early career and $\frac{1}{3}$ senior researchers may be submitted as well as open panels, which will be filled on the go
 - Posters introducing current research as well as research ideas
 - Short-Thesis Presentations (5min) this is primarily aimed at late-stage PhD researchers or recent graduates who wish to continue their research in the coming years
 - Open Discussion Groups / Special Target Discussion Groups: please submit topic/theme along with at least three discussion questions, indicating your intended target group (disciplines; career stages etc.)
 - Workshops & Skill Presentations: please submit a short paragraph outlining the particular topic/method/skill you wish to address in a mini-workshop
 - Interventions (i.e., everything beyond traditional formats, e.g., short performances, slams, movies, book presentations etc.)
- 2) **Participation with Organizational Contribution:** you can offer to moderate a format (open discussion), facilitate group interactions, or report on sessions in which you participated. Applicants will receive their assignments and guidelines from the organizing team.
- 3) **Participation as an active attendee:** you can also simply join the EPICamp as a participant actively listening and contributing to the discussions and networking activities.

ALL applications, regardless of the manner of participation, have to be submitted through this [form](https://forms.office.com/r/9rtUuTiFJh) [https://forms.office.com/r/9rtUuTiFJh] We highly encourage you to fill out all relevant sections with care, as matchmaking and networking events will be based on these responses.

Registration, is open until February 20, 2022. If you would like to present a poster or do a mini-presentation, please reach out to us at epicur-research@mail.uni-freiburg.de

You can contact the EPICUR organizing team (epicur-research@mail.uni-freiburg.de) for all questions.

EPICUR

EPICUR, *the European Partnership for an Innovative Campus Unifying Regions*, is a first-generation European University Alliance, dedicated to shaping European Society in Transition through the development of collaborative inter- and transdisciplinary teaching and learning. With support of Horizon 2020, EPICUR establishes a complementary research and innovation agenda. Initiating a bottom-up process, **EPICUR aims to connect Early Career Researchers (ECRs)** in new European networks. With the help of several open fora – the so-called EPICamps - EPICUR seeks to foster the formation of research groups across disciplines and national borders, who address one of three societal (EPI-) challenges: **sustainability, mobility/migration/identity, public health**. Under the umbrella of these EPIChallenges, EPICUR will organize six EPICamps throughout 2021/22, each narrowing in on different aspects of these broad themes and inviting a diverse round of researchers and societal partners to exchange ideas. Following the EPICamps, researchers in collaboration with external partners, will have an opportunity to compete for grants to grow their emerging research networks (the EPICradles) and transform research ideas into EPIClusters: collaborative, challenge-based research projects run by ECRs.

EPICamps – New Collaborative Formats

As societies struggle to address and govern increasingly complex challenges which defy the bounds of modern states, governmental institutions, such as the European Union, turn to research communities to provide answers. According to the European Commission (EC) and its funding schemes, this requires a new – larger and more intensive – collaboration between researchers across Europe and in all research fields. With its support of European University Initiatives, the EC thus seeks to contribute to the establishment of research collaborations reflecting the diversity of Europe.

Expanding the concepts of traditional scientific conferences and workshops, **EPICamps will be open gatherings engendering new partnerships and serving as seedbeds for research ideas beyond the scopes of single disciplines or fields**. Thus, EPICamps will feature various formats, ranging from short presentations and panel discussions to academic matchmaking events and interactive ad-hoc discussion rounds, from virtual posters and project exhibits to search/offer blackboards. EPICamp will offer emerging scholars the opportunities to present their research, interests, and ideas as well as discover and meet with peers who complement and expand their work. To foster manifold exchanges, the EPICamps – in addition to thematic sessions – will also give room to researchers and non-university partners to connect over questions of methodology, tools, ethical queries and data management, didactics, science communication and other aspects of academic pursuits.

Equity – Diversity - Inclusion

EPICUR is an alliance dedicated to the values of equity, diversity, and inclusion and aims to provide a space that is welcoming and encouraging to all scholars, particularly those, which have been traditionally underrepresented in academic environments. We, therefore, welcome all suggestions and ideas that help us make this event as inclusive and useful to the EPICURian community of researchers as possible, with special regard paid to the need of early career researchers. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with us at any point before, during or after the EPICamp.