Governance in Areas of Limited Statehood: Contributions to Theory Building



Contact: thomas.risse@fu-berlin.de

Research Questions

1. How can we explain the effectiveness and legitimacy of governance in areas of limited statehood, and what consequences arise from this type of rule?

2. What are the theoretical implications of our findings on the effectiveness, legitimacy, and consequences of governance in areas of limited statehood?

Project Team



Implementation

Based on these general questions, we have concentrated our research on three core areas:



Synthesis and Aggregation

Al maintains constant dialogue with the other research projects of the SFB 700 in order to compile their results systematically. Our goal is to distill the decisive conditions of success for effective and legitimate governance in areas of limited statehood, as well as to weigh the consequences of these new forms of rule. We rely on the help of four projects that represent central interdisciplinary perspectives within the SFB. Together with Al, these projects consolidate the expertise of the entire Research Center in relation to the following aspects:

Empirical-Quantitative Contribution

Al adds to the empirical work of the SFB 700 with a comprehensive statistical analysis of quantitative data sets on governance in areas of limited statehood. The SFB 700 investigates specific causal paths to effective and legitimate governance, for example the influence of the degree of institutionalization, empirical legitimacy, or social trust. Whenever possible and appropriate, these causal paths are tested through empirical-quantitative analyses. Time series and multilevel analyses using compiled secondary data (e.g., from the Afrobarometer or the UN) and SFB-internal data sources statistically underpin the theoretical work of the A1 project and the entire SFB 700.

Contribution to the SFB 700

B2 Börzel focuses on governance contributions by external actors; B9 Ladwig applies the know-how of the SFB to normative questions of evaluating governance in areas of limited statehood; B7 Schuppert examines the consequences of normative plurality for governance; and D9 Rinke looks at the role of trust relationships in constellations of limited statehood.

Theory Construction

Based on these synthesized findings, A1 reflects upon the central concepts of the SFB **700** and consolidates them into a theory on governance in areas of limited statehood. For example, one important question seems to be the significance of social trust for effective and legitimate governance: Is social trust a source of empirical legitimacy? How does social trust develop "among strangers"? Under what conditions do political communities show solidarity with each other, and is this even necessary for effective rule? Other important questions include the active role of addressees in the governance process (appropriation, resistance, translation, localization); different types of (residual) statehood; and the possibilities of meta-governance (to coordinate governance actors and mediate among different norms and claims).

Provision of Governance Services as a Function of Statehood



Al sees itself as a central synthesis project, systematically compiling the research findings of the other projects and consolidating them into a theory on governance in areas of limited statehood.



DFG Collaborative Research Center (SFB) 700

www.sfb-governance.com





Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung