

Partnering for mobility? : three-level games in EU external migration policy

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STELLINGEN

behorend bij het proefschrift

Partnering for mobility?

Three-level games in EU external migration policy

door Natasja Reslow

1. In order to understand EU external migration policy outcomes, decision-making should be conceptualised as a three-level game. The levels are linked through two interactions. Agreement is possible when the win-sets of the actors overlap.
2. The Commission appears to have a central position in the policy-making process on EU external migration policy, but this is paradoxically the weakest position, due to its high cost of no agreement.
3. When EU member states sign bilateral migration agreements with third countries containing labour migration schemes, they undermine the Commission's negotiating position with these third countries on a Mobility Partnership.
4. The Mobility Partnerships should be renamed. EU member states have ensured that the partnerships have nothing to do with mobility, and the EU approach towards third countries shows few characteristics of a genuine partnership approach.
5. The requirement for third countries to sign EU-wide readmission agreements as part of a Mobility Partnership is an onerous one. Serious incentives must be offered if readmission agreements are to be a requirement.
6. It is necessary to build bridges between rationalist and constructivist explanations of policy-makers' decisions. Empirical reality does not always fit into researchers' rigid theoretical frameworks.
7. Case studies, when properly designed and carried out, are not subordinate to quantitative methods.
8. The EU has a moral obligation to cooperate on return issues only with third countries that are equipped to guarantee migrants' rights and well-being.
9. The Dutch Ph.D. system, whereby candidates get a formal position at the faculty and are expected to teach and take part in other faculty business, should be maintained.
10. The EU's Erasmus programme has created the first generation of young Europeans. It should therefore be strengthened.