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Organisation : Charlotte Halpern (IEP Grenoble / Pacte, FNSP)
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Atelier 4 – Instruments et légitimation

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The use of secondary data in the study of cultural diversity policy tools at the urban level

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abstract

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Projet rEr (Réseau État Recomposé) de l'axe prioritaire Les recompositions de l'Etat, de l'action publique et des modes de gouvernance
Le Starting from late 1990s, the term cultural diversity has been very important in the public debate and in cultural policy-making. Different disciplinary perspectives in contemporary liberal democracies have been focusing the importance of coexistence of diverse cultures in terms of cultural rights, citizenship and political transformation in the sometimes difficult accommodation of cultural minorities or specific ethnic areas in national and international contexts. Similarly to multiculturalism, diversity issues has been debated in the policy arena as they were questions for regulation and for affirmative actions by national governments, mainly focusing policy tools at state level. Nonetheless, other studies discussed how diversity manifests its cultural features, economic impacts, social implications at the urban level, while having a loose focus in explaining what are the tools of diversity policies and how they can structure public action and include diverse population and movements in public life. Drawing on and ongoing research work in comparing policy tools for urban diversity in five European Capitals (Helsinki, Paris, Rome, Tallin and Budapest), the paper discusses the potentials of using secondary data for policy tool analysis at the urban level, given the fact that they may derive from supranational, national regional or local programs. A large number of secondary sources (i.e. documentary sources regarding the examined diversity policies and tools, official records, press and literary reviews, existing data collections including social and economic statistics) are available in this policy field, but they were conceived and produced from different perspectives and for different reasons. The paper discusses the use of the policy tool as a unit of analysis, whether it facilitates the subsequent step of transnational policy comparison, what kind of conclusions one can infer from this technical and political analysis and what are the advantages in a more systematic data collection in Europe regarding the specific questions of diversity.

References


