

Identity and Immigration in Europe (Wales, 22.-27.7.02)

Institute for European

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Subject: CFP: Identity and Immigration in Europe (Wales, 22.-27.7.02)

Call for Papers: The Developing Discourses of Identity and Immigration in
Europe (Workshop 510)
is a workshop to be held at:

The Eighth International Conference of the International Society for the
Study of European Ideas
European Culture in a Changing World: Between Nationalism and Globalism
Aberystwyth, Wales, 22-27 July, 2002

Europe is in a paradoxical but fascinating situation. As the process of political and economic integration continues with the development of the EU, there is on the one hand a growing awareness of regional identity, while on the other hand the debate on national identity has been stimulated by the integration process and a lively discourse around the question of immigration. The immigration discourse is itself now being further stimulated by the increasing public knowledge of the impact of demographic processes which are bringing about a decline in the active population of all European countries, and also by the imminent expansion of the European Union eastwards. The situation is further complicated by the apparent impossibility of producing sufficient workers for certain sectors of the economy considered of particular importance for the maintenance of national prosperity. As a result, after considerable debate, Switzerland, for instance, now has a clearly enunciated immigration policy with target numbers and a defined policy for the "integration" of foreigners.

This workshop will examine not the nature of identity or culture as such, but the developing discourse(s) of identity and/or immigration in any of the countries of Europe. The proposal is to focus attention in the first instance on the statements of political parties or their representatives (whether national or regional), and secondly on media or popular discourses. The discussion could be informed by any of the variants of (critical) discourse analysis, but other practices of linguistic analysis are also welcome.

Papers could consider, for instance, but need not be limited to: the communication of overt or covert messages of power, of superiority, inferiority, or hostility in the areas of identity or culture, of exclusive claims to (or denial of) territory or attachment to territory, aspects of national or regional culture; alternatively, contributions could address, for example, questions of argumentation, semantic selection, metaphor or simile as part of a process of communicating culture and identity either individually or within a context of migration.

This process of analysis will cast light on questions of identity, culture, or policy towards culture, and stances and attitudes will emerge more clearly, particularly in the areas of regionalism, nationalism, and globalism.

If you are interested in presenting a paper at this workshop, please contact the workshop chair (deadline April 15 2002):

Robert Gould, School of Linguistics and Applied Language Studies, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario K1S 5B6, Canada; email: rgould@ccs.carleton.ca; (613) 520-2600, ext. 2113.

The URL of the conference is: www.aber.ac.uk/tfts/issei2002.

Reference:

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