Call for Papers

Discrimination in and by educational institutions in migration societies

Joint Panel of the Section for Research on Migration and Racism and the Section for Sociology of Education

at the Congress of the Austrian Sociological Association: "Critical Times". July 3-5, 2023, WU Vienna

Since the work of Pierre Bourdieu, it is known that educational organizations do not compensate for social inequalities, but (re)produce them. For the analysis of social inequalities in migration societies, works on structural and institutional discrimination are crucial. In this context, a wide variety of pedagogical fields and their institutions have already been addressed, including elementary education, schools, social pedagogy, and adult education. Given the multitude of current crises, however, it is necessary to examine the continuities and changes in legal and political frameworks as well as the structures and arrangements of institutional work in order to analyse educational disadvantages in migration societies.

Investigating the organization and structures of the various educational sectors (from elementary to adult education), including the individual pedagogical units, different factors can be analysed that point to discrimination in and by educational institutions. Such possible factors are: Which expectations of normality do the acting parties share? Which professional self-conceptions, action logics and routines of teachers can be found in the field? How do pupils and students experience participation, belonging, and racist and other forms of exclusion and how do they integrate these experiences into their identity?

We are looking forward to submissions of contributions that are related to this thematic field. Particularly appreciated are contributions that critique Eurocentric perspectives on educational organizations and their structures using concepts such as Critical Race Theory or Critical Whiteness Studies. Contributions can present both theoretical and empirical findings and/or critical discussions from the perspective of educational practices or policy making.

Possible contributions may include, for example, the following topics:

- Continuation of educational disadvantages in migration societies, experiences and perceptions of racism and discrimination in Austrian educational institutions. Diverse pedagogical fields can be discussed, such as social pedagogy, higher education, school, or adult education.
- Changing logics of action and in the organization of educational institutions, as well as exclusion mechanisms (for example, through language policies) that have been reinforced by crises (COVID-19, inflation) in education.
- Impact of these changes on people with migration history, as well as reactions to exclusion mechanisms, such as anti-racist or practices criticising racism.
- Approaches and actions that counteract exclusion mechanisms.
- Significance of different theoretical approaches (such as the postmigration society (Foroutan 2019) or approaches of the Critical Race Theory) in the Austrian education system.

Please send abstracts (max. 2,000 characters, including spaces) by 17 March 2023 to migration@oegs.ac.at.