

## The Consortium

SOM is lead by a consortium of seven universities across Europe with considerable experience in the field concerned.



Universiteit van  
Amsterdam  
(Netherlands)



University of  
Bath  
(United Kingdom)



Université Libre de  
Bruxelles  
(Belgium)



Trinity College  
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(Ireland)



University of  
Manchester  
(United Kingdom)



Université de  
Neuchâtel  
(Switzerland)



Universität  
Wien  
(Austria)

## Contact Details

For further information about the project, please visit the SOM website:

<http://www.som-project.eu>

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## Support and Opposition to Migration

**A cross-national comparison of the politicization of migration**



## About the Project

SOM is a cross-national comparison of the politicization of migration

Large-scale migration to European countries led to all sorts of tensions in the receiving countries. The presence of immigrants, however, has not become a politically contested issue everywhere. The ways in which the issue of immigration has become politicized differ significantly across countries.

## Project Aims

- Increase knowledge about conflicts over the social and political participation of immigrants in Western Europe
- Determine why and when potential conflicts become politicized, examining both anti-immigration and anti-racist movements
- Increase knowledge of how institutional conditions constrain processes of politicization
- Provide policy-relevant information by assessing which actions of state institutions are successful in managing conflict on immigration and integration

The project focuses on the role of four types of actors – the state, political parties, movements and the media – in politicizing, or de-politicizing, the issue of immigration in seven receiving countries (Austria, Belgium, Britain, Ireland, Netherlands, Spain and Switzerland).

The dependent variables measure the extent to which and the way in which the issue of immigration became politicized. This will be measured on the basis of claims and counter-claims made by three types of movements: interest groups of immigrants, anti-immigration movements, and anti-racist solidarity groups. A comparative approach will be used to study divergences and convergences between countries.

## Policy Relevance

The consortium ensures that the results of the project are widely disseminated to policy-makers and other interested parties.

SOM compares countries with very different responses to the rise of anti-immigration parties and movements, and will provide insights into the consequences of different strategies, such as co-option or exclusion.

SOM examines patterns of claims-making with regard to the presence of migrants, and how states respond to these claims. This analysis will enable the project to provide unique insights into the determinants of different national policies. It will help understand how different states seek legitimacy through responses to claims-making, and how susceptible they are to populist forms of political pressure.

## Areas of research

- Demographics of migration
- Political opportunity structure
- Media study
- Comparative analysis

## Funding

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