



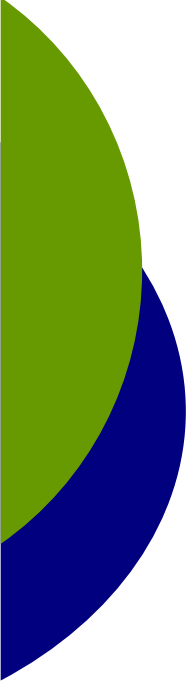
First Summerschool Leeds, 5.-13. July 2007

Christoph Görg (UFZ):

**Multi-Level Governance in the EU:
structure, challenges
and governance failures**

Shifts and challenges



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- A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide, consisting of two overlapping semi-circles: a green one on top and a blue one on the bottom.
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- from **legal** sciences ⇒ **normativity**
 - to **political** sciences ⇒ “reality”/**real functioning**
- ⇒ **interests** of actors and
power relations important

Shifts and challenges




starting point:

- the EU as an „**unique system** of multilevel environmental governance“ (Jordan 2005: 2)
 - ⇒ no historical predecessors
 - ⇒ no similar supranational entity
- How to deal with this singularity?
- Part of a bigger transformation process?

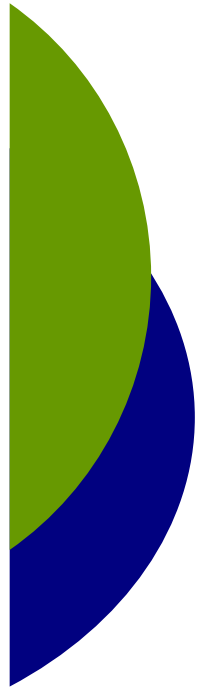
Shifts and challenges



research on European integration

- **intergovernmental vs. supranational** approaches
 - ⇒ specific character of this supranational entity? 
 - both approaches have disadvantages
 - ⇒ character of **statehood**?
 - ⇒ **MLG makes a difference**?

intergovernmentalism vs. supranationalism



Levels of
authority

international

supranational

national

sub-national

influenced
by?

relevance?

controlled
by?

Shifts and challenges



research on European integration

- **intergovernmental** vs. **supranational** approaches
 - ⇒ specific character of this supranational entity?
- both approaches have **advantages** and **disadvantages**
 - ⇒ **MLG** makes a difference?

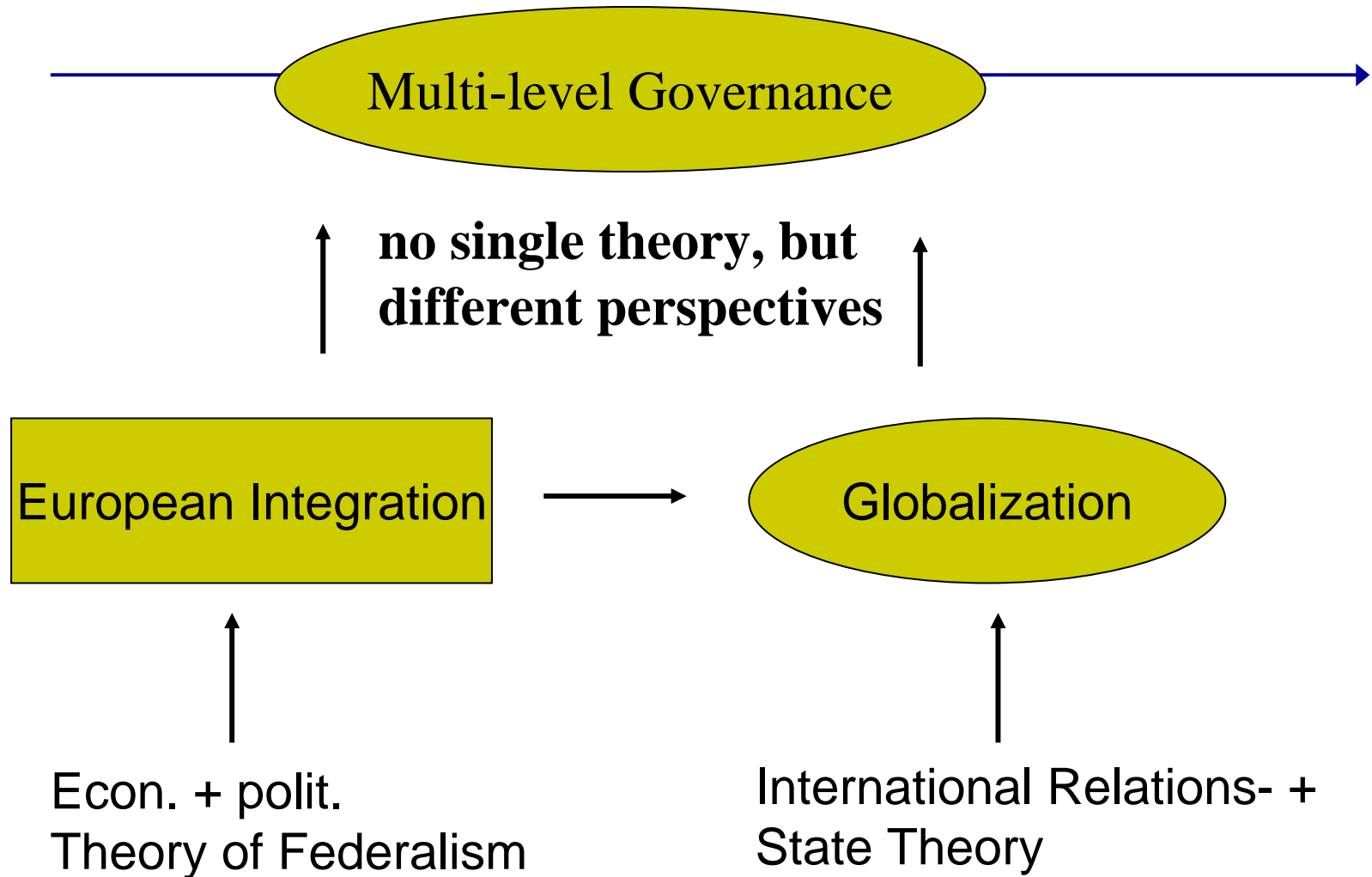
MLG in political sciences



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- different (sub-)disciplinary sources



Sources of MLG-approaches



MLG in political sciences



-
- different (sub-)disciplinary sources
 - main characteristics: transformation of the (national) state



Transformation of the national state



- end of the “Westphalian Order”
 - ⇒ **sovereignty** of national states
- but: sovereignty was always bounded (**normative**)
- and: sovereignty does **not disappear**
 - ⇒ relationships between national and supranational level crucial
- **transformation** of the state
 - ⇒ statehood at different **institutional levels**

MLG in political sciences



-
- different (sub-)disciplinary sources
 - main characteristics: transformation of the (national) state
 - “hollowing out” (B.Jessop), but not disappearing of the national state



“hollowing out” of the state



- linked to **globalisation** process
 - ⇒ driver and result
- changing **relationships** between **state** and **society** (economy, culture, etc.)
 - ⇒ economic + political **spaces incongruent**
- **limited steering** capacity
 - ⇒ state as one actor among others
 - ⇒ **Governance** as steering mode
- but national states **still important**
 - ⇒ as **actors** and as **terrains** of conflict

MLG in political sciences



-
- different (sub-)disciplinary sources
 - main characteristics: transformation of the (national) state
 - “hollowing out” (B.Jessop), but not disappearing of the national state
 - complexity of ML-systems – different versions of MLG



Versions of Multi-Level Governance

(Marks/Hooghe 2004)



Type 1:

- Dispersion of jurisdictions (federalism)
- Limited number of levels
- Durable architecture (e.g. constitution)
- Interplay between levels more or less regulated

⇒ **Strong coupling**

Type 2:

- Task/function specific: problem solving
- Many levels/territorial scales
- Flexible design
- Overlapping regulation impacts

⇒ **Loose coupling/
networks**

Challenges of Multi-Level Governance

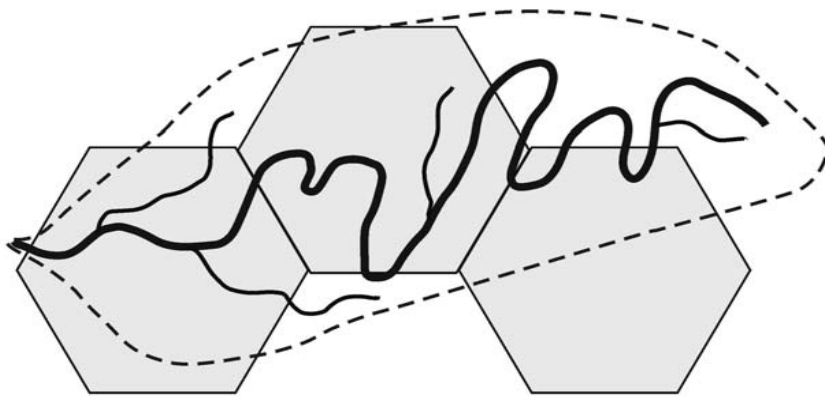


- Entanglement of levels
- Relationship to environmental problems:
 - “Institutional fit”
 - “Problems of (horizontal and vertical) interplay”
 - “Cross-scale interactions/discordance”



“Problems of fit”

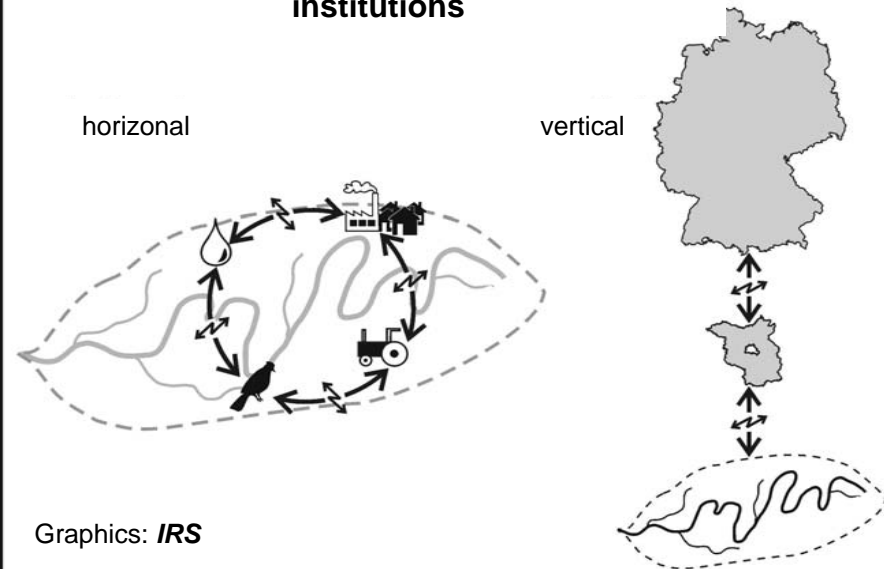
Problems of incompatibility between institutional arrangements and biogeophysical systems



Graphics: *IRS*

“Problems of interplay”

Problems of interaction between different institutions



Graphics: *IRS*

Source: Moss 2003

- Interactions across ecological scales
- and between social and ecological scales
- Scale discordance: distributional effects across levels/scales

Challenges of Multi-Level Governance

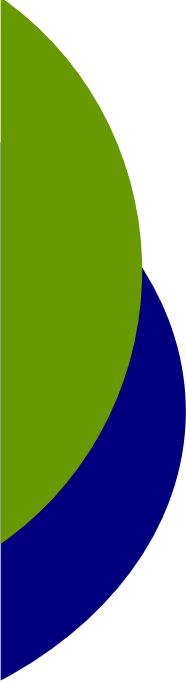


- Entanglement of levels
- Relationship to environmental problems:
 - “Institutional fit”
 - “Problems of (horizontal and vertical) interplay”
 - “Cross-scale interactions/discordance”
- threat of “**governance failures**”



governance failures

(Jessop 2002)

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- **similar** to **market** or **state failures**
 - interconnectedness/entanglement of levels
 - deficient knowledge about **societal context**: manageable?
 - **reproduces complexity**: “noise”, “participation overkill”
 - **scale jumping** of stronger actors
 - **power relations** within and **between** levels/scales of action?