

Abstracts

J.A.A. van Doorn

**Measuring the tension: remarks on 25 years
Beleid en Maatschappij**

Looking back on 25 years of *Beleid en Maatschappij*, the hypothesis is defended that the approach chosen by the founding editorial board, that perceived the relationship between policy and science as one that is characterised by tension, has been upheld despite considerable change in society and the development of a more autonomous policy making. The function of the journal has changed, however. While in the 1970s the journal warned against extreme politicisation, in the 1990s the journal warns against depoliticisation.

Frank A.G. den Butter

**Economics as a behavioural science and its role
in policy analysis**

This article discusses the use of economic analysis in policy preparation. The focus is on the important role of model based calculations in policy discussions in The Netherlands. After Tinbergen's first

macroeconomic model for The Netherlands in 1936, three generations of policy models can be distinguished. The interaction between policy and economic analysis is illustrated by the fact that the transition to a new generation of models coincided with major policy changes. Models are both used for forecasting and for calculating the effects of proposed policy measures. In the latter case the use of models is a surrogate for controlled experiments which cannot be conducted in the economy on a large scale. Large gaps exist between the scientific attitude towards the use of economics in policy analysis and its actual use. Therefore intermediaries and a good institutional setting are needed in order to endorse a successful interaction between policy analysis and economic science.

Carel Dieperink

From open sewer to salmon river

The international regime for the river Rhine is generally considered a unique regime. In this article the author tries to draw lessons from the development of the Rhine regime. In order to do this a frame of

reference is found in two files of literature. The first file is labelled 'regime theory' and consists of studies dealing with the development of international regimes concerning water quality issues. According to these studies the characteristics of the problems, the societal values concerning environmental affairs and the role of transnational interest groups, scientific analysis and progress, and the possibilities for interstate interaction could explain regime development. The second file, the 'negotiation theory' first suggests that the presence of options to make a trade-off could have a positive impact. Beside this, it focuses on the tactics negotiating parties might use.

The Rhine case reveals that most factors have had a positive impact. The stimulating factors found are combined in three conditions that improves the chances of regime-development: the presence of an alert, creative and convincing downstream party, the existence of good international relations in the catchment area and the presence of an international river commission, that can generate and distribute information and facilitate negotiations between riparian states.

Trudie Knijn and Monique Kremer
Gender and the caring dimension of welfare states: towards inclusive citizenship

This article will bring care to the centre of analysis of welfare states. It argues that modern welfare states have shaped needs and rights of care givers and care receivers and have done so in ways that contribute to gender inequality in citizenship rights. In the article this will be explored through a comparative analysis of three countries, each representing one of the ideal-types of Esping-Andersen's typology of welfare states; Britain being qualified as a liberal welfare state, Denmark as a social-democratic welfare state and the Netherlands as coming close to corporatist welfare state. Each country represents different patterns of organising care. Due to the focus on care as an integral part of citizenship, the Danish welfare state has come closest to gender equality, although there are striking tendencies towards convergence in these countries.

A.H.F. Elling and P. de Knop

The social integrative meaning of sport: a matter of interpretation?

In the last three decades sport has become a more integral dimension of society. Not only intrinsic meanings of sport participation, but also several ascribed functions have increasingly been positively valued over the years. The social integrative function of sport has nowadays been valued as one of the most important meanings and functions, especially in relationship to the development of a pluralist and multicultural society. A critical reflection of the complex relation between sport and social integration is central to the content of this paper. It is argued that the relational processes of integration and segmentation are both closely connected to the *intrinsic*, values of sport (the *Eigenwellichkeit*,) and to the social embeddedness. A theoretical framework is developed in which the overall process of social integration is distinguished from the process of social integration through sport (into other social practices). These different aspects and their sometimes paradoxical integrative meanings are illustrated by examples related to different social groups that are central to governmental policies concerning sport stimulation and or anti-discrimination (e.g. ethnic minorities and disabled people). Economics as a behavioural science and its role in policy analysis

Hans Oversloot
Cultural theory: a sympathetic evaluation by an outsider

In 1990 Thompson, Ellis and Wildavsky published a by now famous and widely discussed book *Cultural theory*. According to the three authors cultural theory would be a big leap forward for the social sciences. Since 1990 several researchers (policy scientists, political scientists, sociologists) have based their research on the concepts and categories presented by Thompson, Ellis and Wildavsky. In this article Oversloot discusses these concepts and categories as well as the ongoing empirical research projects inspired by cultural theory. He argues that researchers who want to use cultural theory will face serious operationalization problems (e.g. 1. what is the appropriate level of analysis: the state? cultures or subcultures?