

CCIS WINTER SEMINAR SERIES:

PROFESSOR PAUL STATHAM

Of

The Sussex Center for Migration Research, University of Sussex, UK

Wednesday, February 22nd, 2017

12pm

ERC Conference Room 115

How Ordinary People View Muslim Group Rights in Europe: Significant ‘Gaps’ Between Majorities and Muslims?

Taking four countries—Britain, the Netherlands, France and Germany—with distinct state approaches and public debates over accommodating Muslims, we study the views of ordinary people from the majority and Muslim populations on Muslim group rights. We compare their responses to questions on mosque-building, teachers wearing religious symbols, and religious classes in schools, to determine whether there is a significant ‘gap’ between the majority and Muslim minorities. Findings show significant ‘gaps’ between the majorities and Muslims over Muslim group rights in all countries, with the majorities less supportive. Importantly, it is a shift by the majority population against Muslim group rights that produces this ‘gap’ as the question moves from provision for Christians to Muslims, while Muslims hold similar views over rights for Christians and their own religion.



Paul Statham is a political sociologist, Professor of Migration and Director of the Sussex Centre for Migration Research (SCMR) in the School of Global Studies at the University of Sussex, UK and Visiting Professor at CUNY Graduate Center. He is also Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies (JEMS). Statham’s current research focuses on: the political accommodation of Islam and Muslim minorities in their societies of settlement; and marriage, lifestyle and retirement migration between Europe and SE Asia (Thailand). He has written a number of collaborative monographs, edited volumes, more than 30 articles in refereed journals, and 30 book chapters including *Contested Citizenship* (Minnesota UP 2005), *The Making of a European Public Sphere* (Cambridge UP 2010), and *The Politicization of Europe* (Routledge 2013).

For more information contact ccis@ucsd.edu or call 858-822-4447

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