

Sociology as Struggle and Reconciliation Science, Communism and Conflict in the Politics of Mauno Koivisto, 1950s to 1960s

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Mauno Koivisto, the president of Finland 1982–1994, defended his doctoral dissertation about the industrial relations in the port of Turku in 1956. This article focuses on the relationship between his social science and politics. During the post-war years, industrial relations were intensely politicized, feared to lead to revolutionary situations with the Soviet Union providing covert aid to the communists. Koivisto had participated as a social democratic activist in the port's struggles during the late 1940s. As a doctoral researcher, Koivisto explored these tensions by social scientific means. Koivisto's brief academic career is examined against three internationally prominent research strands of the 1950s: industrial sociology, radicalism studies, and rationalization. Koivisto contributed to the intellectual transformations of the 1960s no longer as an academic but a politician. Nevertheless, the direction of change was similar in social science and politics. Continuities between Koivisto's social science and politics can be perceived in problem-solving models and thought-patterns, enabled by close interaction between science and politics. Particular attention is paid on Koivisto's views on communism, political conflict, and desirable social order. The dissertation's modernist empiricism was in Koivisto's later political career mixed with more ideological conceptions of communism, possibly inherited from his youth experiences.

Keywords: Industrial Sociology, Radicalism, Communism, Mauno Koivisto, Conflict Regulation

Art and encounters: Participants' experiences in the participatory governance of the EU

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Participatory practices are increasingly common. The European Union seeks to promote participation through programmes that fund citizens' activities in different fields. These projects aiming at involving citizens in the EU activities are part of the EU's participatory governance. This article examines the EU's participatory governance at the grass roots level, in one project. The analysis focuses on European Citizen Campus (ECC), a project organizing students' artistic activity, funded through the EU's Culture programme in 2013-2015. While participation is often discussed in an abstract way, this article complements the discussion with an ethnographic microanalysis, investigating how an EU programme is implemented at the local level and how do participants experience it. It explores how participation appears in the EU's participatory governance and what meanings participants give to citizenship, the main theme of the project. Ethnographic research indicates both continuities and significant differences between participants' conceptions and the conceptions expressed in the official texts of the project and in the policy documents regarding the Culture programme. The project is perceived as a space for politics and democracy only in a limited way. Instead, participation appeared nominal and tokenistic and meant governmentality aiming at strengthening participants' belonging to the EU.

Keywords: citizenship, democracy, European Union, participation, participatory governance