

Workshop Organizer:

Dagmar Soennecken, School of Public Policy and Administration & Department of Social Science (Law & Society Program), York University; PhD, University of Toronto (*EUCE core faculty member*).

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Professor Soennecken's research focuses on comparative politics and public policy in the EU and North America. She is particularly interested in questions concerning law and the courts as well as citizenship and migration and is currently working on two major research projects: The first has generated a book manuscript, tentatively entitled *Empowered Courts and the Fate of Refugees Compared*, and a select number of articles. It investigates the growing influence of the judiciary over refugee determinations in Canada and in Germany from the 1950s to the present. The second project, *Courts and Refugees in the UK: Juristocracy Reconsidered*, for which research is still ongoing, expands the focus of the first to the UK and the European Union level.

Her most recent publication does not talk much about law for a change: "Commentary: Merkel's Integration Rhetoric." *European Union Centres of Excellence Newsletter* Vol. 5, Issue 1 (winter 2010): 5.

In 2009, she, [together with a group of colleagues from across the university, successfully competed for a grant from the European Commission](#) that established a [European Centre of Excellence](#) at York.