Evaluation Globe project
and its comparative results in Europe

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The Institutionalization of Evaluation in Latvia and Europe
Latvian Evaluation Society Conference
29.06.2020 (Virtual)
CEval-Project by Reinhard Stockmann and Wolfgang Meyer

✓ **Goal**: Global stocktaking of Institutionalization of Evaluation

✓ **Scope**: Establishment of Evaluation in National Societies

✓ **Approach**: Expert Ratings using a shared analytical approach
The Political System

- Government
- Administration
- Executive
- Legislative
- M+E Offices
- Judicative
- Civil Society
- Audit Office
- Audit Office
- Legal System
- Evaluation Practice
- Implementation (Policies, Programs)
- Decision Making (Planning, Programming)
- Evaluation Use
- Evaluation Rules
- Legal Framework (Laws, Acts, Decrees)

June 2020
The Social System

- Political System
- Mass Media
- Public Discourse about Evaluation
- Evaluation Demand
- Civil Society
- Evaluation Use
- Provider
- Services
- Interest Groups
- Mobilization
System of Professions

Civil Society

Education

Market

Evaluation Trainings

Universities

Evaluation Journals

Communication

Evaluation Standards

Evaluation Unions

Regulation

Organization

Politics

VOPEs
### Research Dimensions: Institutionalization of Evaluation in different Sub-Systems

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**EVALUATION GLOBE – Sequence of events**

**Autumn 2016:**
Panel at EES-Conference in Maastricht, NL

**Winter 2018:**
Completion of European country studies

**Spring 2020:**
Publication of European Volume

**2020:**
Start working on volume „Africa“

**Autumn 2018:**
Presentation of findings at EES-Conference in Thessaloniki, GR

**Spring 2019:**
Editors provide comparison

**Summer 2020:**
Editors provide comparison

**Autumn 2017:**
Panel at RELAC-Conference in Guanajuato, MEX

**2018:**
Start working on volume „Americas“

**Winter 2019:**
Completion of Americas country studies

**Autumn 2020:**
Presentation of findings at AEA-Conference in Portland, USA

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June 2020
Adj. Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Meyer
The Institutionalisation of Evaluation in Europe
Editors:
Stockmann, Reinhard, Meyer, Wolfgang, Taube, Lena

Price: 103.99 EUR

1990s as the 'overall' starting point for the institutionalisation of evaluation in Europe
Two main drivers
- New Public Management & Evidence-Based Policies on national level
- EU-adhesion policy on European level

Development of evaluation rooted in
- disciplines like education & public planning
- external / international funding
- Project and program management (performance instead of impact measurement)

Current trends: slowdown and even stagnation due to
- De-rationalisation of policies ("fake news")
- new nationalism ("EU-crisis")
Different understanding of evaluation in different sectors (vagueness of concept)

Evaluation is an administrative not a political issue (“policy driven evidence” instead of “evidence driven policy” – instrumentalization for control)

In civil-society, evaluation is rarely used as a management instrument (fear of state control)

Not visual as a profession on its own (lack of research and development)
Evaluation Regulations

No overall national regulations / laws ... 

with the remarkable exception of: Switzerland, Netherlands 

but many & very diverse sectoral regulations / laws

Sectors with high rates of EU funding or other external donors, e.g. the development sector

Policy planning & education are the sectors with the most elaborated regulations
Use in Civil Society

Civil society knows about evaluation ...

- evaluation of own work / projects (with learning purpose)
- participation as stakeholders or respondents

... but the use is rather limited

- mainly in designated processes not regularly
- needs-oriented
  → „Civil society only participates, if there is a benefit“ (Romania)
- Civil society mainly uses evaluation to criticize the government, not as an opportunity to constructively develop policies
Evaluation as a Profession?

Nucleus is the Voluntary Organizations of Professional Evaluation ...

• Almost all countries in Europe have active VOPEs
• But they are still very small and slowly growing

... but the linkage to the academic system is rather limited

• There are some Evaluation study programs and Journals in Europe
• But it is difficult to establish a specialized academic program in small European countries
Thank you for your attention!

Adj. Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Meyer