

## Call for Papers

**Titel des Papers:** Earning citizenship. Economic criteria for naturalisation in nine EU countries

**Einreicher/in bzw. Einreicher/innen**

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**Abstract (300 Wörter)**

In several European countries, access to citizenship via naturalisation is conditional upon the payment of substantial fees or proving a certain level of income. Thus, if not acquired by birth, citizenship as political membership depends on the economic performance of an individual. In this paper, economic criteria for naturalisation (income, employment and welfare benefit requirements and naturalisation fees) are scrutinised in nine European countries (Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Netherlands, Sweden and the United Kingdom) over the period from 1985 to 2014. After describing their empirical variation, the paper investigates in which contexts they are more or less strongly developed. The results show that naturalisation fees in particular developed more strongly over time. Differences in economic criteria for naturalisation can be explained by different power resources of far-right parties, while other institutional, structural and political factors have only very limited explanatory power.

**Keywords**

citizenship, naturalisation, migration, policy analysis, economic inequality