

The University of Hong Kong



Department of Politics and Public Administration

Presents

# Non-Domination through Citizenship

Republican scholars such as David Miller defend restrictive citizenship regimes by reference to the normative importance of the state. In this paper, I employ a republican framework to justify the extension of citizenship status to most long-term residents. I agree that membership in a state matters greatly – at least when that state works to reduce the domination of individuals by third parties, such as factions, corporations and the like. However, the claim that membership in such a state is essential for shielding individuals from domination commits republicans to an inclusive membership policy. After all, the state's law must be non-arbitrary, and it can be so only insofar as individuals have the necessary means at their disposal to force the government to take their interests into account, and to challenge decisions in a democratic forum. When non-citizen residents are subject to the law in a republican state, that law has in an important sense been coercively imposed upon them. I argue that, with a few exceptions, long-term residents have a prima facie claim to citizenship, and I discuss several alternative ways in which states may be able to meet their obligations.

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Barbara Buckinx is the Kassel Foundation postdoctoral fellow at the Goethe University Frankfurt. She received her Ph.D. in Politics from Princeton University in 2010 and has held fellowships at Frankfurt's Center for Advanced Studies 'Justitia Amplificata' and the Political Theory Project at Brown University. Her main research interests are global political justice and immigration and citizenship. Her work has appeared or is forthcoming in Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy, Ethics and International Affairs, and Global Justice: Theory Practice Rhetoric. An edited book on Domination Across Borders is currently under review with Cambridge University Press, and she is working on a book manuscript, Reducing Domination in Global Politics, in which she articulates an approach to normative global governance that has at its core the ideal of freedom as non-domination.

**Date: May 24, 2012 (Thur)**

**Time: 4:30 pm**

**Venue: 631 Meng Wah Complex**

*(Tea & coffee will be served at 4:15 pm)*

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