A new wave of basic income realization: the co-production of transformative knowings

Panelists:
- Alexander de Roo, VBI & BIEN
- Sjir Hoeijmakers, effective altruism
- Ronald Mulder, MIES
- Steven Strehl, Mein Grundeinkommen

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Session set-up

- Introduction: ‘Realizing’ the Basic Income (10’)
- Panel discussion (60’):
  1. Evidence & political/scientific authority
  2. Communication & framing
  3. Fragmentation & convergence
- Plenary discussion (fish bowl, 20’)

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What is a Basic Income?

- *Individual* income entitlement...
- To all citizens... *(universal)*
- *Unconditionally*...
- And more or less *sufficient* for subsistence
What is basic income?
Introduction: ‘Realizing’ the Basic Income

Basic Income, an odd case of TSI:

*How to convince government to make it real/implement?*

Pel & Backhaus (under review): Analysis of BI ‘realization’ as gaining (mutually reinforcing) *political & scientific authority* for BI as transformative knowing.

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Four ‘waves’ of realisation strategies

Waves realization strategies:
1. social critique
2. scientific underpinning
3. policy entrepreneurship
4. ‘New wave’ in realization strategies:
   - Crowdfunding
   - Internet activism
   - Petitions & referenda
   - Experimentation initiatives

BI debate, A discursive ‘peat-fire’: Difficult to extinguish, little transformative impact. 4th wave: adding different fuels to feed the fire
Questions inspiring us – and this session

• How are the transformative knowings of social innovation realized?

• Which claims to and contestations of expertise are involved in the apparent ‘waves’ of Basic Income activism - and how do they co-produce the realization of transformative knowings?

• What are the broader implications of the observed tensions in expertise for TSI?

➢ Relevance for other TSI initiatives: claims to expertise and communication of new knowings and framings.
Panel debate – 3 themes

How can BI be ‘realized’, i.e. gain mutually reinforcing political/scientific authority?

3 discussion themes:
1) Evidence & political/scientific authority
2) Communication & framing
3) Fragmentation & convergence
1. Evidence: political/scientific authority

- What kind of evidence is needed?
- Who crucially needs to become convinced of BI feasibility, and what counts as evidence for them?
- What kind of evidence do experiments (fail to) deliver? (& do we need more of them)?
2. Communication & framing

- *What means/ways of communication are currently needed to gain political/scientific authority?*

- *Which persistent inappropriate framings should be avoided?*

- *What are the stories untold?*
3. Fragmentation & convergence

• What is ‘healthy disagreement’, or: Along which ‘fault lines’ is fragmentation fruitful?

• In what ways may fragmentation pose a threat to the ‘common cause’ of BI realization?

• How to achieve a desirable interplay of ‘realization’ strategies?
Fish Bowl discussion
More on the Basic Income

- http://basicincome.org/
- https://basisinkomen.nl/
- https://www.mein-grundeinkommen.de/
- https://onsbasisinkomen.nl/
- http://basicincome.org/research/basic-income-studies/
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