

# Metodi Sotirov

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## 1. Research interests

Main focus of research: policy-making, policy change, policy implementation, policy integration, multi-level governance, foresight of and for policy-making, interplay between public policy-making and non-state governance

Substantive scope of research: sustainable forestry, illegal logging, market-driven forest certification, biodiversity conservation, climate change, bio-energy use, integrated land-use and landscape management

Geographical scope of research: supranational, national and sub-national jurisdictions in Europe

Theoretical lenses of research: theories of the policy-making process, multi-level governance, Europeanization, social psychology, political economy, historical and discursive institutionalism

## 2. Education

University of Freiburg, Germany, 2005-2009: PhD Forest and Environmental Policy (Dr. rer. nat., magna cum laude)

University of Forestry Sofia, Bulgaria, 2000-2002: MSc Forestry Engineer (with distinction)

University of Forestry Sofia, Bulgaria, 1996-2000: BSc Forestry Engineer

Foreign Languages High School Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria, 1991-1996: Diploma of secondary education (with distinction); major: German, English, and Informatics

## 3. Academic career

10/2011 to date: University of Freiburg, Germany,  
Research Scientist and Research Group Leader, Chair of Forest and Environmental Policy

03/2013 to date: Yale University, New Haven, USA,  
Faculty Associate, Governance, Environment, and Markets Initiative, School of Forestry and Environmental Studies

07/2012-10/2012: Yale University, New Haven, USA,  
Laboratory Associate/Visiting Fellow, Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies  
Yale Program on Forest Policy and Governance (Host: Prof. Dr. Benjamin Cashore)

03/2009-10/2011: University of Freiburg, Germany,  
Post-Doctoral Researcher, Chair of Forest and Environmental Policy

10/2005-02/2009: University of Freiburg, Germany,  
PhD Researcher, Chair of Forest and Environmental Policy

## 4. Research projects and grants

07/2013 to date: Member of the Management Committee of the COST action FP1207 “Orchestrating forest-related policy analysis in Europe (ORCHESTRA)” ([http://www.cost.eu/domains\\_actions/fps/Actions/FP1207](http://www.cost.eu/domains_actions/fps/Actions/FP1207))

11/2011 to date: Scientific Coordinator, Member of the Project Management Team, Work Package Leader “Policy analysis and foresight” (WP-3), Responsible for policy science interface (WP 4 Communication): Large scale collaborative research project INTEGRAL “Future-oriented and integrated management of European forest landscapes”, Competitive tender: research grant of 7,0 Mio. EUR, co-funded by the EU’s 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Program for Research, Funding period: 11/2011-10/2015 (<http://www.integral-project.eu>)

06/2010 – 05/2013: Post-Doctoral Policy Researcher, Policy change analysis in a multi-level system of EU biodiversity governance over time: Medium-scale collaborative research project “European Beech Forests for the Future – Ecological, Economic, and Policy Analysis of Beech Forest Conservation under the Natura 2000 Network”, Competitive tender, research grant: 1,4 Mio. EUR, funded by BMBF (German Federal Ministry for Research and Education), EU-ERA-NET (FP-6 and FP-7), 06/2010-05/2013 (<http://www.befofu.org>)

10/2010- 03/2011: Policy Researcher and Co-author, Policy report: Forest Europe/UNECE/FAO State of Europe’s Forests 2011, Status and Trends in Sustainable Forest Management in Europe. Certificate of Appreciation by Forest Europe Liaison Unit Oslo and UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section (<http://www.foresteurope.org>)

04/2010-12/2010: Project Coordinator and lead Policy Researcher, Research project “Socio-economic and policy analysis of energy wood use in Rhineland-Palatine, Germany”, Research grant: 40.000 EUR, commissioned by the Forest research institute Rhineland-Palatine, Germany (<http://www.ifp.uni-freiburg.de/publikationen/arbeitsberichte>)

12/2008-10/2009: Policy Researcher, Research project “EU forest protection study on Implementation of the EU Forest Action Plan: How to Protect Europe’s Forests against Harmful Impacts?”, Research grant: competitive tender: 114.551 EUR, commissioned by the DG Environment, European Commission (<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/forests/fprotection.htm>)

10/2005-02/2009: PhD Researcher, Research project “Changing sustainable forest policy: A policy analysis into Bulgaria’s transformation process”. Competitive research grant: 60.000 EUR, research scholarship by DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service)

## 5. Relevant scientific publications

### *Articles submitted to or under preparation for peer reviewed journals*

**Sotirov, M.**, Sallnäs, O., Eriksson, O. (2013): Linking forest management to actors’ behavior and policy changes in modeling ecosystem services at the landscape level: a conceptual framework and an empirical examination (under preparation)

**Sotirov, M.**, Mashkina, O. (2013): When private governance meets the state: understanding the interplay between FSC forest certification and forest policy reforms in Eastern Europe (under preparation)

**Sotirov, M.** (2013): Understanding policy change across multiple levels of governance: the case of the European Union’s biodiversity conservation policy, 1988-2012 (under preparation)

Borrass, L., **Sotirov, M.**, Winkel, G. (2013): Policy change and Europeanization. Multi-level implementation of the European Union’s Habitats Directive in Germany and the UK (under preparation)

**Sotirov, M.**, Winkel, G. (2013): Towards a cognition-based theory of shifting alliances and policy change: advocacy coalitions, political cultures, and natural resource management (under preparation)

**Sotirov, M.**, de Koning, J., Blondet, M., Borrass, L., Geitzenauer, M., Ferranti, F., Winkel, G. (2013): The politics of conserving Europe’s biodiversity: An analysis of scholarly and expert knowledge on the formulation and implementation processes of Natura 2000 (revise and resubmit)

**Sotirov, M.**, Lovric, M., Winkel, G. (2013): Environmental governance between Europeanization and domestic politics: Analyzing the implementation of EU biodiversity conservation policy in Bulgaria and Croatia (submitted)

### *Articles published in peer reviewed journals*

Winkel, G., **Sotirov, M.** (2013): Whose integration is this? European forest policy between the gospel of coordination, institutional competition, and new spirits of integration. *Environment and Planning C: Government and Policy* (accepted, in press)

De Koning, J.; Winkel, G., **Sotirov, M.**; Blondet, M.; Borrass, L.; Ferranti, F.; Geitzenauer, M. (2013): Natura 2000 and climate change - polarization, uncertainty and pragmatism in discourses on forest conservation and management in Europe. *Environmental Science and Policy* (accepted, in press)

**Sotirov, M.**, Memmler, M. (2012): The Advocacy Coalition Framework in Natural Resource Policy Studies – Recent Experiences and Further Prospects. *Forest Policy and Economics* (16): 51-64

**Sotirov, M.**, Borrass, L., Winkel, G. (2011): Dem Wandel auf der Spur - Theoretische Ansätze zur Analyse von Politikwandel und -stabilität mit Fokus auf das Beispiel waldbezogener EU-Naturschutzpolitik [Chasing the change –

theoretical frameworks of policy change and stability with a focus on the case of European Union forest-relevant nature conservation policy]. *Allgemeine Forst- und Jagdzeitung (German Journal of Forest Research)* 182 (11/12): 215-230

Winkel, G., Gleißner, J., Pistorius, T., **Sotirov, M.**, Storch, S. (2011): The sustainably managed forest heats up: discursive struggles over forest management and climate change in Germany. *Critical Policy Studies* 5 (4): 361-390

Winkel, G., **Sotirov, M.** (2011): An obituary for National Forest Programmes? Analysing and learning from the strategic use of “new modes of governance“ in Bulgaria and Germany. *Forest Policy and Economics* 13 (2): 143–154

Angelova, E., Irimie, D., **Sotirov, M.**, Winkel, G. (2009): Bulgarien und Rumänien in der Europäischen Union – forstpolitische Herausforderungen [Bulgaria and Romania in the European Union – challenges for forest policy]. *Schweizerische Zeitschrift für Forstwesen (Swiss Forestry Journal)* 160 (1): 15-22

**Sotirov, M.** (2004): State and management of experimental afforestations at the upper timber line on the territory of the Regional Forestry Directorate Blagoevgrad. *Journal of Forestry Ideas* 1-4 (28), Volume 9: 70-80, Sofia

#### *Monographs, books, book chapters, scientific reports*

Winkel, G., Aggestam, F.; **Sotirov, M.**; Weiss, G. (2013): Forest Policy in the European Union. In: Pülzl, H.; Hogl, K. Arts, B.; Kleinschmit, D.; Winkel, G.; Wydra, D. (editors): *European Forest Governance: Issues at Stake and the Way Forward*. EFI Series: What Science can tell us, pp. 52-63

Requardt, A., Baycheva, T., Pelli, P., Dominguez, G., **Sotirov, M.**, Winkel, G., (2011): B: Policies, Institutions and Instruments by Policy Area. In *FOREST EUROPE, UNECE and FAO 2011: State of Europe’s Forests 2011. Status and Trends in Sustainable Forest Management in Europe*, pp. 167-195

Selter, A., **Sotirov, M.**, Volz, K.-R., Hauber, J., Weimar, H. (2011): “Holzenergienutzung in Rheinland-Pfalz - Sozioökonomische Bedeutung und politische Implikationen“. *Arbeitsbericht 03/2011*, ISSN 1865-3863  
<http://www.ifp.uni-freiburg.de/publikationen/arbeitsberichte>

**Sotirov, M.** (2010): *Waldpolitik im Wandel. Eine Politikfeldanalyse im Transformationsprozess Bulgariens* [Changing forest policy: policy analysis into the Bulgaria’s transformation process]. Verlag Kessel: Remagen-Oberwinter.

Winkel, G., Kaphengst, T., Herbert, S., Robaey, Z.; Rosenkranz, L., **Sotirov, M.** (2009): EU policy options for the protection of European forests against harmful impacts. Final report to the tender: ENV.B.1/ETU/2008/0049: OJ 2008/S 112 - 149606. [URL: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/forests/pdf/ifp\\_ecologic\\_report.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/forests/pdf/ifp_ecologic_report.pdf)

#### *Publications in practitioners’ (non-peer reviewed) journals*

Ionov, N., **Sotirov, M.** (2007): Shared responsibility for European forests. *Bulgarian Journal for Ecology and Forestry „Gora“* Nr. 7: 2-4, Sofia

Plugtschieva, M., **Sotirov, M.** (2004): Naturräumliche und waldbauliche Grundlagen sowie Eigentumsverhältnisse in der Forstwirtschaft Bulgariens. *Forst und Holz* 6: 279-282, Hannover

Plugtschieva, M., **Sotirov, M.** (2004): Organisationsstruktur, Aufgaben und Betriebsabläufe der bulgarischen Staatsforstverwaltung. *Forst und Holz*, Heft 6: 283-286, Hannover

Plugtschieva, M., **Sotirov, M.** (2004): Wild, Jagd und Öko-Tourismus in Bulgarien. *Forst und Holz* 6: 286-287, Hannover

Plugtschieva, M., Popsavov, R., Sutter, M., **Sotirov, M.** (2004): Aktuelle forstpolitische und betriebswirtschaftliche Probleme und Ziele in Bulgarien. *Forst und Holz* 6: 288-290, Hannover.

Zakov, D., **Sotirov, M.** (2003): Torrent control in Austria. *Bulgarian Journal of Ecology and Forestry “Gora”* Nr. 6: 22-23, Sofia

## **6. Presentations, scientific papers, international conferences and academic seminars**

**Sotirov, M.** (2013): Understanding policy stability and change across multiple levels of governance: an application of the Advocacy Coalition Framework to the European Union’s biodiversity conservation policy, 1988-2012, 1st International Conference on Public Policy (ICPP), Panel 82: Strategies for Research Design and Analysis in Applying the Advocacy Coalition Framework, Session 3: Policy change, Grenoble, France

Winkel, G., **Sotirov, M.** (2013): Whose integration is this? European forest policy between the gospel of coordination, institutional competition, and new spirits of integration. Paper presented at the 1st International Conference on Public Policy (ICPP 2013); Panel 94: Actors in EU public policy, Grenoble, France

**Sotirov, M.** (2012): Twenty Years of the European Union's nature protection policy: understanding policy stability and change within a multi-level governance system. Full paper presented and discussed at the Politics, Environment and Markets Seminar of the Governance, Environment, and Markets (GEM) initiative, School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, Yale University, New Haven, USA, 26.09.2012.

**Sotirov, M.** (2012): Twenty Years of the Largest Network of Protected Areas in the World: who gets what and why in the multi-level governance of the European Union's biodiversity conservation policy? (Invited) Presentation to the Yale Forest Forum Leadership Seminar Series, Global Institute of Sustainable Forestry, School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, Yale University, New Haven, USA, 13.09.2012.

De Koenig, J., Winkel, G., **Sotirov, M.** (2012): Legitimizing change and stability: on the influence of climate change on European biodiversity policy. Paper presented at the 7th International Conference in Interpretive Policy Analysis: Understanding the Drama of Democracy: Policy Work, Power and Transformation, 05-07.07.2012 in Tilburg, the Netherlands.

**Sotirov, M.** (2012): Understanding policy change within the EU multi-level governance system: the case of forest biodiversity conservation under the EU nature protection policy Natura 2000. Paper presented at the IUFRO conference on "Assessing forest governance in a context of change", held in Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina, May 8th-11th, 2012. Paper abstract included in the IUFRO conference proceedings.

**Sotirov, M.** (2011): How foresight work can help policy making? Case of European forest landscapes management. (Invited) Keynote presentation to the COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology) Strategic Workshop Foresight on Future Demand for Forest-based Products and Services, 13 September 2011, Sekocin Stary, Poland.

**Sotirov, M.,** Winkel, G. (2011): Looking beyond the trees – European interdisciplinary research on the edge between society (policy) and forests. (Invited) Keynote presentation to the International Conference "Conservation and Management of Forests for Sustainable Development: Where science meets policy" organized by the University of Leuven (KU Leuven) in cooperation with Inverde, EFI, University of Gent, University of Antwerpen, Metaforum Leuven, FWO Flanders, CLIMOS, European Commission. Leuven/Belgium, 24.11.2011)

**Sotirov, M.,** Mashkina, O., Volz, K.-R. (2010): When Private Governance Meets the State: Understanding the Interplay Between Forest Certification and Forest Policy Reforms in Eastern Europe. International Conference on Emerging Economic Mechanisms: Implications for Forest-Related Policies and Sector Governance (in the framework of COFO-World Forestry Week), FAO Headquarters, Rome, 6-8 October 2010. Full conference paper published in the pre-conference proceedings.

Winkel, G., **Sotirov, M.** (2009): Towards a Common Forest Policy? Reflecting on the Europeanization of forest policies across the European Union. (Invited) Presentation at the SLU, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, on 12.11.2009 in Uppsala, Sweden.

**Sotirov, M.** (2009): Sustainable forest management and policy in change: policy analysis in context of transformation in the case of Bulgaria. Paper presented at the 15th International Symposium on Society and Resource Management (ISSRM): Meet old and new worlds in Research, Planning and Management, BOKU, Vienna, Austria. Paper abstract: [http://www.issrm09.info/popup\\_session.php?SessionID=24](http://www.issrm09.info/popup_session.php?SessionID=24)

Winkel, G., **Sotirov, M.** (2009): An Obituary for National Forest Programmes? An analysis on the strategic use of National Forest Programmes in Bulgaria and Germany 2009 (Change in Governance as Collective Learning Process: Management, Politics and Ethics in Forestry. IDDRI, Centre for Philosophy of Law, AgroParisTech-ENGRE & Regional Council of Lorraine, 24.06.09, Nancy.

Winkel, G.; **Sotirov, M.;** Rosenkranz, L. (2009): Options for an EU Forest Protection Policy 2009. Poster presentation, 41<sup>st</sup> meeting of the forest policy scientists (Forstpolitikwissenschaftlertreffen). Wageningen University, 31.03.-02.04.09, Wageningen, the Netherlands.

Winkel, G., **Sotirov, M.** (2008): National forest programmes: old wine in new skins? A critical discussion of the democratizing potential of NFPs in Bulgaria and Germany. Paper presented to the UNITAR-Yale Conference on Environmental Governance and Democracy. Institutions, public participation and sustainability: bridging research and capacity development. May 10-11, Yale University, New Haven, USA, Full paper: <http://www.yale.edu/envirocenter/envdem/documents.htm#track22>

**Sotirov, M.** (2008): Long-Term Harmony? Reflections on Policy Change Governance in Sustainable Management of Natural Resources through Participatory Processes. Paper presented to the International Conference on the Human

Dimensions of Global Ecological Change. Long-Term Policies: Governing Social-Ecological Change, February, 22-23, Berlin, Germany. Full paper: [http://web.fu-berlin.de/ffu/akumwelt/bc2008/papers/bc2008\\_32\\_Sotirov.pdf](http://web.fu-berlin.de/ffu/akumwelt/bc2008/papers/bc2008_32_Sotirov.pdf)

**Sotirov, M.** (2004): Developments in the forests and the forest product sector and the contribution of international cooperation. Report to the meeting of the FAO/UNECE Team of specialists on countries in transition, Warsaw, Poland, March 2004

## **7. Teaching, 2005-2013**

Teaching in graduate and undergraduate Master's and Bachelor's courses at University of Freiburg as well as at ETH Zürich, SLU Uppsala, and TU Dresden (invited guest lectures). Main topics of teaching:

- Forest and environmental policy analysis
- Theories of the policy-making process, multi-level governance, and transformation research
- Environmental, biodiversity and forest policy in the European Union
- Forest and environmental policy in Central and Eastern Europe countries

## **8. Service to the academic profession**

- Reviewer for international peer-reviewed scientific journals: the Policy Studies Journal, Journal of Comparative Policy Analysis, Journal of Regulation and Governance, Journal of Global Environmental Change, Journal of Environmental Planning and Management, Journal of Forest Policy and Economics, Scandinavian Journal of Forest Research, The German Journal of Forest Research (Allgemeine Forst- und Jagdzeitung).
- Reviewer for the National Science Foundation of Portugal, Assessor for the Australian Research Council

## **9. Professional experience before assuming academic career**

01/2002-09/2005: Senior expert international co-operation in forestry and nature protection matters, Ministry of Agriculture and Forests, National Forestry Board, Sofia, Bulgaria. Main tasks: Co-ordination, cooperation and communication on national forest policy processes; Harmonization with EU policy and law in the field of the forestry and rural development, Management of international projects (GTZ, DEZA, EU - PHARE, INTERREG, TAIEX, World Bank).

01/2001-12/2001: Forestry Engineer, Mike Trading Ltd., Razlog, Bulgaria. Main tasks: organization, implementation and supervision of forest utilization and timber harvesting projects.

10/2000-08/2001: Professional Project Assistant, GTZ German-Bulgarian Forestry Project "Support for the Forest Restitution and Forest Management, Sofia, Bulgaria

## **10. Professional training before assuming academic career**

08/2003: Bulgarian-Swiss Forestry Program in cooperation with DEZA and the Swiss Federal Technical High School (ETH) Zürich, training in multifunctional forest management planning in Switzerland (Graubünden, Sankt Gallen, Thurgau, and Zürich)

10/2002 and 01/2003: GTZ German-Bulgarian Forestry Project in cooperation with educational and experimental forestry enterprise Diemelstadt, Hessen, Germany. Training as organizer and instructor for sustainable forest management and mobile forest school for private forest owners

08/2002: Cantonal Forest Service Graubünden, Chur, Switzerland, In-service training and field activities in multifunctional forest management planning, protective forest management, sustainable forestry, protected forest areas management.