

ecpr news

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european consortium for political research

encouraging the training, research and cross-national co-operation of political scientists

Joint Sessions 2015: ECPR holds first event in Poland



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25 years of the Political Parties Summer School

Religion in party politics



Expand your networks with the ECPR

Standing Groups and Research Networks bring together political scientists from across the world, providing unique opportunities for networking; and it is now easier than ever to join

These groups provide a forum for discussion and debate over shared areas of interest, and many organise Workshops, Conferences and Summer Schools, providing excellent international networking opportunities.

Being a part of a Standing Group or Research Network can provide opportunities for you to gain new insights into your area of research, as well as open doors to networking opportunities with other academics to further advance your work. Standing Groups often organise Sections and

Panels at ECPR events, and are given priority over other proposals for the ECPR's ever popular Research Sessions.

There are currently over 50 active Standing Groups and Research Networks within the ECPR, spanning a wide variety of research areas and topics. Work has recently been completed on the ECPR website to improve the information available about all Groups and Networks. It is now easier than ever to access full details about each Group, including their aims and objectives, current activities, and links to their website.

The biggest development, though, is that you can now join a Standing Group or Research Network directly via the ECPR website. This can be done with just the click of a button if you have a MyECPR account. If you don't, it only takes a few minutes to create one and then you can start growing your networks immediately.

The updated webpages also feature a number of new functions designed to make managing your membership of ECPR Groups easy, including viewing your membership status across the full list of Groups and Networks.

Listed below are the ECPR Standing Groups and Research Networks. Visit the website to find out more about each of these Groups, and take the next step towards expanding your horizons.

www.ecpr.eu

Analytical Politics and Public Choice

Central and East European Politics

Citizenship

Comparative Political Institutions

Critical Peace and Conflict Studies

Democratic Innovations

Elites and Political Leadership

Environmental Politics

European Union

Extremism and Democracy

Federalism and Regionalism

Gender and Politics

Graduate Student Network

Human Rights and Transitional Justice

Identity

Immigration and Ethnicity

Interest Groups

International Political Theory

International Relations

Internet and Politics

Kantian Political Thought

Knowledge and Governance (Research Network)

Latin American Politics

Law and Courts

Local Government and Politics

Organised Crime

Parliaments

Participation and Mobilisation

Political Concepts

Political Economy

Political Methodology

Political Networks

Political Parties

Political Psychology

Political Representation

Political Sociology

Political Theory

Political Violence

Politics and Technology

Politics and the Arts

Presidential Politics

Public Opinion and Voting Behaviour in a Comparative Perspective

Regulatory Governance

Religion and Politics

South East Europe

Southern European Politics

Teaching and Learning Politics

Theoretical Perspectives in Policy Analysis

Voting Advice Applications (Research Network)

Welfare Politics and Social Policy

Young ECPR Network on Europeanisation (YEN)

Political Parties Summer School celebrates 25th anniversary

The Standing Group on Political Parties' PhD Summer School has become an enduring and vital event; current organisers Kurt Richard Luther and Ferdinand Müller-Rommel discuss why

To mark the occasion of the 25th anniversary, this year's Summer School will include a panel discussion on 'Political Parties in the 21st Century: Challenges and Perspectives for Survival'. The discussants are all former organisers of the Summer School: Kris Deschouwer (Vrije Universiteit Brussel), Hans Keman (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam), Kurt Richard Luther (Keele University), Ferdinand Müller-Rommel (Leuphana University Lüneburg) and Thomas Poguntke (University of Düsseldorf).

The origins of this long-running Summer School lie in an ERASMUS Inter-University Co-operation Programme initiated by Ferdinand Müller-Rommel and Kurt Richard Luther in the late 1980s and chaired by the latter. Membership originally embraced colleagues at two further universities (Kris Deschouwer at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel and Lieven de Winter at the Université catholique de Louvain-la-Neuve), but was subsequently expanded to include

eight countries and 10 university departments with active party scholars, including Lars Svåsand at Bergen University, Jean Blondel and latterly Peter Mair at the European University Institute, Wolfgang Müller at the Universität Wien and Hans Keman at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. The network's activities ranged from student and staff exchange to the development of a joint curriculum on political parties and the operation of a postgraduate 'intensive programme' that eventually became the Summer School as we know it today.

The Summer School's format has remained essentially the same. It recruits approximately 20 research students from universities around the world to a programme taught by an excellent international team of party scholars. It would be invidious to pick out individual names from the extensive list of colleagues who have taught at the Summer School, so we will limit ourselves to stating that it includes a significant proportion of





In 2004, our much missed friend and colleague, Peter Mair, wrote ‘[It has not only] cemented a substantial network of colleagues throughout the profession’, but is ‘one of the greatest success stories of international postgraduate education. ... Its alumni include some of the leading young party scholars in contemporary political science’

those who have made – and continue to make – seminal contributions to the discipline. The majority of the summer schools have lasted two weeks. During this time, the student participants have benefited from cutting-edge lectures by established party researchers, as well as from the opportunity to present and receive useful feedback on papers based on their own research. As such, it constitutes one of the most important fora for intellectual interaction between senior academics and talented doctoral students working in the fields of comparative European politics.

As noted in a report written by student participants, it provides ‘a great opportunity to meet with and learn from other young scholars working in this important area of Political Science. ... [is] intensive ... instructive [and] good fun’. Former participants also frequently stress the longer-term benefit of the international networks of contacts they made at the Summer School. A significant proportion of the hundreds of Ph.D. students who have participated in the Summer School since 1991 have obtained senior tenured positions at universities in Europe, the USA, Asia and beyond. Many of them now send their

own PhD students to the Standing Group’s Summer School.

For the first ten years or so and from 2013-2015, the Summer School was hosted by the Leuphana Universität Lüneburg. In the intervening period, it was hosted for three years by Keele University (Director: Kurt Richard Luther); by the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (Director: Hans Keman); jointly by the Vrije Universiteit Brussel and the Université Libre de Brussel (Directors: Kris Deschouwer, Emilie van Haute and Jean-Benoit Pilet) and by the European University Institute in Florence (Directors: Peter Mair and Thomas Pogunke).

In 2004, our much missed friend and colleague, Peter Mair, wrote of the Summer School that ‘[It has not only] cemented a substantial network of colleagues throughout the profession’, but is ‘one of the greatest success stories of international postgraduate education. ... Its alumni include some of the leading young party scholars in contemporary political science’ (Party Politics, [2004] 10/1, p.105). Not least for that reason, we very much hope it will continue and wish it well for its next quarter century.

Religion in Party Politics

The Standing Group on Religion and Politics aims to answer questions about the political impact of religious actors and to disseminate research findings. Here, Jeffrey Haynes, the Groups Convenor, discusses the role of religion in party politics

A hot topic in the religion and politics field is the role of religion in party politics. Although some serious recent works have cast some light on the relation between religious actors and democratization processes,¹ the religious orientation of political parties is still an understudied subject. This is partly due to the influence of the so-called secularization paradigm in 20th century social sciences, and partly, more specifically, to the problems related to the adoption of the concept of ‘religious party’. This latter is indeed a flawed category, which points to parties which are fully committed to the implementation of a religious worldview, aiming at subverting secular and pluralistic democratic systems: which prevents researchers from taking into account other, softer forms of religious influence on political parties.

Indeed, while fully-fledged ‘religious parties’ are quite rare and marginal in contemporary democracies – at least in the west – the inclusion in the platform of a party of issues aiming at garnering the religious vote is much more common.

An attempt to overcome this theoretical impasse was undertaken in a special issue of the journal *Democratization* in 2013.² The idea underpinning this volume was based on the concept of the ‘religiously oriented party’: which “can be

explicitly religious or formally secular, where religious values in its manifesto are clearly identifiable, where explicit appeals to religious constituencies are made and/or where significant religious factions exist within the party”.³ According to this definition, the role of religion in political parties is not to be conceptualized in binary terms, but as a continuous variable which can be empirically detected by the researcher – notwithstanding the official orientation of the party – and, possibly, measured.

Faith-based Organisations at the United Nations

There is growing scholarly and policy interest in faith-based organisations (FBOs)⁴ and their attempts to influence debate and decision-making at the United Nations (UN). The background to this issue is FBOs’ growing transnational significance. There is increasing scholarly and policy attention paid to FBOs both in the context of post-Cold War ‘religious resurgence’ and, more generally, ‘postsecular’ international relations. The UN is an important focus of the new postsecular international environment involving FBOs.

The UN is a focal point of global public policy for several reasons. First, it is by far the largest inter-governmental organisation (IGO)

with 193 member states, where issues of the age are discussed, including human rights, justice, democracy and development. Second, the UN regularly engages with over 3,500 registered non-governmental organisations (NGOs), which have consultative status with the UN’s Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), ‘the United Nations platform on economic and social issues’ (<http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/index.shtml>).



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Around 10 per cent of NGOs with consultative status with ECOSOC are FBOs. Between 58 per cent and 75 per cent of the more than 300 FBOs enjoying consultative status with ECOSOC are northern-based and Christian. This draws attention to the structure of the UN, where

Religion and Politics

traditionally most power and authority is in the hands of a number of northern (or Western) countries, which share a Christian cultural background, including the USA and most member states of the European Union. But given the generally lowly status of faith issues and actors at the UN, the result of the organisation's secular-liberal foundations and ethos, what means might FBOs employ seeking to be influential? One FBO approach is to be pragmatic – that is, be willing to work with an array of actors, state and non-state, faith-based and secular – in order to try to achieve their objectives. Indeed, as we shall see later, most FBOs at the UN are willing to work with a variety of allies, as long as they share ideological preferences and goals.

Why, how and with what results do FBOs seek to influence policy formation and dissemination at the UN? Seeking to answer these questions, Haynes present the following argument in his recent book. 'The UN has policy making structures and processes dominated by decision makers seeking to make and implement decisions based on their preferences. Many of the

more than 300 FBOs registered at the UN are small and medium-sized entities, without much in the way of individual financial, diplomatic or ideological leverage. Consequently, for most FBOs to try to influence UN policy they need to engage in coalition-building, working with a range of potential partners, both faith-based and secular.

References

¹ See Jeffrey Haynes (ed.), *Religion and Democratizations*, Abingdon, Oxon, and New York: Routledge, 2011; Monica Dufft Toft, Daniel Philpott and Timothy Samuel Shah, *God's Century: Resurgent Religion and Global Politics*, Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 2011; Manfred Brocker and Mirjam Künkler, Guest editors, *Party Politics Special Issue on 'Religious parties and the inclusion-moderation thesis'*, March 2013.

² Later republished in a book as Luca Ozzano and Francesco Cavatorta, (eds.), *Religiously Oriented Parties and Democratization*, Abingdon, Oxon, and New York: Routledge 2014).

³ *Ibid.*, p. 2.

⁴ The Oxford Dictionary defines 'faith' as involving 'strong belief in the doctrines of a body of ideas, which might be religiously-based or secular, based on spiritual conviction rather than proof.' (<http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/english/faith>)



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New editorial appointments at the ECPR

A number of new editorial appointments have been made to key ECPR publications. Below, the incoming editors discuss their plans for their respective publications

Susan Scarrow: Comparative Politics book series

Susan Scarrow is Professor of Political Science and Department Chair at the University of Houston (USA). She is a frequent participant in ECPR Joint Sessions, and has taught several times at the ECPR Political Parties Summer School. Her publications include Beyond Party Members (2014), and Democracy Transformed? (2003, co-editor with Russell Dalton and Bruce Cain), as well as numerous articles and book chapters on political parties, direct democracy, and comparative political finance. She is currently co-leading the Political Party Database Project, a multi-country research network whose members are collecting data on the internal operations of political parties.

Working with her co-editors and with Oxford University Press, Professor Scarrow hopes to contribute to the series' long tradition of publishing high-quality cross-national studies of representation and politics. She is particularly interested in studies that investigate institutional responses to new political challenges, and those that shed light on topical areas such as the expanding use of



direct democracy, the regulation of lobbying, or the role of judges in the legislative process. She would be happy to meet with prospective authors at major US political science conferences as well as at ECPR venues.

Susan Scarrow will take over from Ken Carty when he completes his term of office in the summer.

The ECPR's publishing portfolio comprises:

European Journal of Political Research (EJPR)

European Political Science (EPS)

European Political Science Review (EPSR)

Comparative Politics book series

ECPR Press

For more information on all journals, book series and the Press, see the website www.ecpr.eu

Alasdair Blair: *European Political Science*

Alasdair Blair is Jean Monnet Professor of International Relations and Head of the Department of Politics and Public Policy at De Montfort University. He is also Director of the Jean Monnet Centre of European Governance. In 2006 he was awarded a National Teaching Fellow. His most recent book is Britain and the World since 1945 (Routledge, 2015) and with Steven Curtis he is presently completing a book on Global Politics for Edinburgh University Press. He completed his PhD at Leicester University, where he also undertook an MA in Diplomatic Studies. His undergraduate studies were taken at Aberdeen University.

Professor Blair feels that he is extremely fortunate to succeed Jacqui Briggs who has played a major role in

raising the profile and standard of work submitted to the journal. He would welcome submissions dealing with comparative studies between universities on teaching and learning, as well as encouraging scholars to engage in debates with existing work. He would also welcome conceptual and theoretical articles, as well as submissions reflecting the state of the discipline and the changing nature of universities. The latter might bridge the world of political theory and teaching and learning.

Alasdair Blair will take over from Jacqui Briggs when she completes her term of office in the summer.



Daniel Stockemer: *European Political Science*

Daniel Stockemer is Associate Professor in Comparative Politics in the School of Political Studies at the University of Ottawa. His research interests include political participation, political representation, and right-wing extremism in Europe, as well as quantitative and qualitative research methods. Since becoming a professor in 2010, he has published more than 40 peer reviewed articles, one monograph and one edited volume. In addition, he tries to serve the discipline of political science in various functions. Among others, he has served on several conference committees, as a reviewer for international grants, as well as the local organiser of the annual meeting of the Canadian Political Science Association in 2015.

As a co-editor of *EPS*, Daniel Stockemer has three goals: (1) to further strengthen the journal as an outlet for cutting edge research that crosses disciplinary boundaries and that is of interest to a general cross-sub disciplinary audience. (2) to solicit more articles on the profession, including comparative articles that compare the discipline of political science in Europe to the political science profession on other continents including North America, Asia or Latin America. (3) to seek to make *EPS* an outlet for sharing data, by encouraging the publication of datasets in the journal.



Daniel Stockemer took over from Heather Savigny when she stood down at the end of 2014.

Cas Mudde: *European Journal of Political Research*

Cas Mudde is an Associate Professor in the Department of International Affairs at the University of Georgia. He was the founding chair of the Department of Political Science at the University of Antwerp and the co-founder of the ECPR Standing Group on Extremism & Democracy and the Routledge Studies in Extremism & Democracy. He won the Stein Rokkan Prize in 2008 and was the Friedrich Wilhelm Bessel Research Award in 2015. His most recent book publications include the readers Political Extremism (4 Volumes, SAGE, 2014), Youth and the Extreme Right (IDEbate, 2014), and the co-edited Populism in Europe and the Americas: Threat or Corrective for Democracy (Cambridge University Press, 2012). He

is currently working on two books: (with Cristóbal Rovira Kaltwasser) Populism: A Very Short Introduction for Oxford University Press and (with Sivan Hirsch-Hoefler) The Israeli Settler Movement: Assessing and Explaining Social Movement Success for Cambridge University Press.

Building upon the many existing strengths of the *European Journal of Political Research*, Professor Mudde hopes to push the journal even further by encouraging authors and reviewers to emphasise the broader theoretical relevance of their contributions, and to attract more manuscripts on less addressed issues of comparative European politics (e.g. traditional party



families, extraparliamentary politics) and that speak to different academic literatures (e.g. electoral behaviour and policy-making).

Cas Mudde will replace Claudio Radaelli when he completes his term of office in the summer.

Ian O'Flynn: *ECPR Press*

Ian O'Flynn is a Senior Lecturer in Political Theory at Newcastle University, UK. His main research interest is in exploring the implication of deliberative democracy for multicultural and multinational societies. He is the author of *Deliberative Democracy and Divided Societies* (2006) and his articles have appeared in journals such as *British Journal of Political Science* and *Political Studies*. He was a postdoctoral research fellow at the University of Essex and has also held visiting positions at Harvard University, the University of Pennsylvania and the Australian National University.

Of his appointment, Dr O'Flynn says 'In recent years, the ECPR Press has made great strides in consolidating its place in academic publishing. However, the Press will continue to face formidable competition from established university presses. It will also need to be well-placed to respond to a volatile economic market. I believe these challenges can be met by commissioning both the very best scholars and the most experienced referees. Alongside monographs, edited collections will have an important role to play in further enhancing the Press's reputation, and I am particularly keen to support collections that strike a balance



between established and early-career researchers.'

Ekaterina Rashkova: *European Political Science*

Ekaterina R. Rashkova is an Assistant Professor of Comparative Politics at the University of Innsbruck, Austria. During the 2015-2016 academic year she will be a EURIAS Research Fellow at the Netherlands Institute of Advanced Study (NIAS). She earned her PhD from the University of Pittsburgh, USA, in 2010 and was awarded a three year post-doctoral fellowship at Leiden University, the Netherlands. Her current research focuses on the effects of regulation on party system development and gender representation. Her work compares new and established democracies and has appeared, amongst others, in International Political Science Review, Party Politics, and Political Studies, as well as in several edited book volumes.

As the new incoming editor of *EPS*, Dr Rashkova's primary goals will be to increase the journal's readership and improve its overall scholarly standing. She believes that the manner in which the profession changes and where it is headed are important not only to those who are yet to find an academic job, but also to those who have an established career already. In order to draw new attention and encourage more rigorous debate, she will work towards seeing topics ranging from the influence of (social) media on teaching, or the availability and sources of funding on research, to 'why are there fewer women than



men in political science departments around the world' on the pages of *EPS*.

Ekaterina Rashkova will take over from Luis de Sousa when he completes his term of office in the summer.



Sarah Birch is Professor of Comparative Politics at the University of Glasgow. Her research is focused on political ethics, including electoral integrity, ethical reasoning in politics, and corruption perceptions. She has authored or co-authored six monographs as well as articles in journals such as the European Political Science Review, Comparative Political Studies and the European Journal of Political

Sarah Birch: *European Political Science Review*

Research. She served as Co-Editor of the British Journal of Political Science from 2002-2011. In 2013 she was elected a Fellow of the British Academy.

Sarah Birch is very much looking forward to working with the editorial team of the *European Political Science Review* to help maintain the excellent standard already established by the journal and to develop it further. With the global political science community growing rapidly in numbers and skills and the world facing new political challenges, Professor Birch feels this is an extremely exciting time to be studying politics. 'The digital age has vastly

increased the amount and types of data at the disposal of political scientists, and we are only just beginning to come to terms with the possibilities this entails. At the same time, the balance of global power is rapidly shifting, resource-depletion is looming ever larger on the horizon of world problems, and established political orders are under strain. Our skills as scholars will be put to the test in this new era, and I am keen to help the *EPSR* to achieve its full potential as an outlet for the very best work on these topics and others.'

Sarah Birch joins the *EPSR* as an Associate Editor, working with Co-Editors Wil Hout and Carlos Closa.



Avigail Eisenberg is a Professor and Chair of the Department of Political Science at the University of Victoria. Between 1990 and 1999 she was a member of the Department of Political Science at the University of British Columbia. She has held visiting fellowships at the University of Edinburgh, Université de Montréal, Universitat de Pompeu Fabra and at the

Avigail Eisenberg: *European Political Science Review*

Rockefeller Centre in Bellagio Italy. Her research focuses on political pluralism and contemporary debates about diversity. She is the author of two books and editor or co-editor of six others including, most recently Recognition versus Self-Determination.

Avigail said of her appointment 'It will be a pleasure to contribute as associate editor to the *European Political Science Review*. I am looking forward to working with the editorial team to attract cutting-edge research from junior and more established scholars which helps to advance debates in the discipline and, in particular, to attract scholarship that combines political theory and

public policy analysis. The *EPSR* is already a leading venue for political research, and so my aim is to build on its existing strengths while ensuring that the journal continues to publish work about political issues that matter in the world today.'

Avigail joins the *EPSR* as an Associate Editor, working with Co-Editors Wil Hout and Carlos Closa.



Elisabeth Gidengil is Hiram Mills Professor in the Department of Political Science at McGill University and founding director of the Centre for the Study of Democratic Citizenship. She is a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and a former president of the Canadian Political Science Association. She was educated at the London School of Economics, New

Elisabeth Gidengil: *European Political Science Review*

York University and McGill University and holds an honorary doctorate in political science from Laval University. She was a member of the Canadian Election Study team from 1992 to 2008 and was principal investigator for the 2008 study. Her research focuses on voting behaviour, political engagement and political communication, with particular interests in gender, ethno-racial minorities and immigrants. She has co-authored or co-edited eight books, as well as numerous journal articles. Her most recent book is Canadian Democracy from the Ground Up.

Professor Gidengil says she 'is excited to have the opportunity to work with the *Review's* editorial team. I am looking forward to helping

the editors attract high-quality submissions on topics that interest a wide variety of readers across the major subfields of political science. The discipline is evolving rapidly.' Adding that she is 'keen to see the journal be a prominent part of this by publishing articles that challenge conventional understandings, use innovative designs to address thorny questions of causality and take advantage of novel sources of data to engage with questions that matter.'

Elisabeth Gidengil joins the *EPSR* as an Associate Editor, working with Co-Editors Wil Hout and Carlos Closa.

Karim Knio: *European Political Science Review*

*Karim Knio (PhD University of Birmingham UK) is Senior Lecturer in Politics at the International Institute of Social Studies of Erasmus University Rotterdam. His research focuses on the political economy of governance with a focus on regionalism and trade. He also has interests in EU democracy promotion programs, politics of crises management and Lebanese politics. He is the author of *The European Union's Mediterranean Policy: Model or Muddle? A New Institutional Perspective*, published by Palgrave Macmillan in 2013. His forthcoming book with Springer is entitled, *The South China Sea and Asian Regionalism: A Critical Realist perspective*.*

Looking to the future of the journal, Karim says ‘The editorial team of EPSR is looking forward to maintaining the intellectual plurality of the journal, and strengthening its rigorousness with an eye for more theoretically informed scholarly pieces.’

Karim joins the EPSR as an Associate Editor, working with Co-Editors Wil Hout and Carlos Closa.



Liam Weeks: *Political Data Yearbook*

*Dr Liam Weeks is a lecturer in the Department of Government, University College Cork and an Honorary Fellow at the Department of Politics and International Relations at Macquarie University in Sydney. He has a PhD from Trinity College Dublin (2008), and is a former Irish Research Council Marie Curie Fellow (2010-13). He has been a Visiting Fellow at the University of Sydney, Macquarie University and Swinburne University in Melbourne. His research interests lie in comparative politics, particularly elections and political parties. He is currently completing a monograph, *Independents in Irish Democracy*, to be published by Manchester University Press in 2016.*

Dr Weeks says of the future of the PDY ‘The steps taken with the online version of the PDY in the past few years have been terrific, for which much credit must go to the editors. The PDYi interactive contains a wealth of information, and scholars no longer have to rely on the publication of the annual hard copy for data. Ideally, we would like to expand the PDY to include more countries and more data. In particular, we would perhaps like to expand the years covered by the datasets to include all democratic elections since 1945. Our aim is for the website to become the go-to reference point for comparativists and for those teaching elections and parties.’





Lech Walesa welcomes the ECPR's first visit to Poland

The Joint Sessions of Workshops were held in Warsaw this March; the first time they have taken place in Eastern Europe. Former Executive Committee member responsible for organising the event, Manuel Sánchez de Dios, reflects on an historic Joint Sessions

The Joint Sessions is a unique format in the world of political science. In every event there are usually 25 Workshops, each one gathering together a group of around 16-20 of specialists in the same area, from around the world, across 4-5 days, to discuss a key topic. Each participant must present a Paper, which is then discussed by the other participants, providing excellent feedback for them to take away. In every Workshop there is a mixture of younger through to senior scholars, which provides varied and rich perspectives. Through the Workshops dense networks are created, producing strong links of friendship among participants that can remain for decades. Some Workshops end by producing a book, some others create research projects and some others are the platform for a Standing Group of the ECPR.

To direct a Workshop remains very competitive; 96 Workshop proposals were received for Warsaw and 25 were approved. Being an international event proposals are required to be submitted by two people from different countries.

The majority of participants come from Europe but there are participants from every part of the world; the JS are particularly appreciated in North America – in Warsaw 12 participants came from the US and 12 from Canada.

The 2015 Joint Sessions were the first to be held in Eastern Europe, and only the second ECPR event ever to be held in this region (after the 2005 General Conference in Budapest). It was excellently organised by the department of political science of the University of Warsaw. Taking inspiration from its location, the ECPR wanted to focus on Central and East European politics at this year's JS and there were two Workshops on that topic. One was number 11: Political Systems in Central and Eastern Europe and Southern Europe – Comparative Studies; and the second number 15: Structures of Political Competition in Post-Communist Democracies: If Not Cleavages, Then What? As a result we had a 46 participants from those countries, which was very important.

The average number of participants per Workshop is 16-17; Workshop

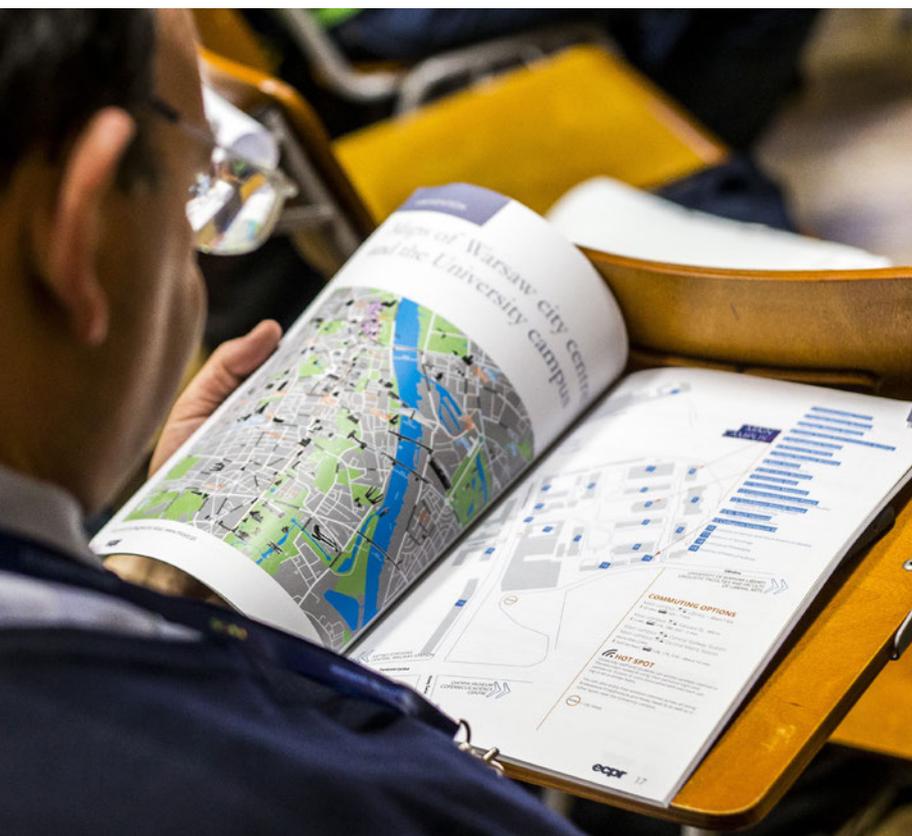
1 Accountability Without Parties? The Effects of Dealignment on Accountability in Electoral Decision-Making was the most well attended this year, with 27 participants. High profile participants on hand to be interviewed by the Polish press included: Philipp Schmitter, Leonardo Morlino, Hans Keman, Guy Peters, Sven Steinmo, Attila Agh, Tapio Raunio, André Blais, Gilberto Capano, Pere Vilanova and Paul Heywood.

The highlight of this year's Joint Sessions had to be the speech given by former President of Poland, Lech Walesa, who was taking part in a Roundtable chaired by Simona Piattoni with an introduction from Stanisław Sulowski (who also delivered the annual Stein Rokkan Lecture). Speakers included Andrzej Antoszewski, Leonardo Morlino and Simona Guerra. The Roundtable addressed the question *What helps consolidate the transition to democracy?* Lech Walesa talked about the difficulties of the Polish transition to democracy and also about the international politics of East Europe nowadays.



2015 Workshops

- 01 Accountability Without Parties? The Effects of Decision Making
- 02 Analysing Parliamentary Behaviour in European Union
- 03 Can Democratic Innovations Improve the Quality of Democracy?
- 04 Comparative Approaches to Identity Change: Migration and Nationalism
- 05 Citizenship, Diversity, Participation and Education in Europe
- 06 City Leadership and Austerity: Political Strategies and Urban Governance
- 07 Conceptualising and Comparing Interest Groups and Social Movements
- 08 Design and Non-Design in Policy-Making: When do we need it?
- 09 In the Engine Room: Linking Perspectives in the State
- 10 Actors
- 10 Political Engagement in the Web 2.0 Era: Co-Production and Participation
- 11 Political Systems in Central and Eastern Europe and the Balkans
- 12 Pragmatic Approaches to Peacebuilding: The Role of the State and Civil Society
- 13 Social Policy by Other Means: Alternatives to State Provision and Comparative Perspectives
- 14 Spatial and Network Interdependence in Politics and Urban Governance
- 15 Structures of Political Competition in Post-Communist Europe: What?
- 16 The Causes and Consequences of Male Over-Representation in Politics
- 17 The Civic Turn in European Immigrant Integration: A New Paradigm?
- 18 The EU and Contested Statehood in its Neighbourhood: The Case of Ukraine
- 19 The Intricacies of Accountability: Horizontal, Vertical and Diagonal
- 20 Corruption
- 20 The New Politics of Taxation
- 21 Political Theory and Parties: Towards a Conceptual Framework
- 22 The Politics of Non-Proportionate Policy Response: The Case of the EU
- 23 The Quest for Legitimacy in World Politics – International Law and Norms
- 24 Transnational Advocacy, Public Opinion, and the Role of the State: Explanations
- 25 What Citizens Want From Democracy: Popular Alternatives





Alignment on Accountability in Electoral Decision-

Union Affairs

of Democracy?

Macro, Meso and Micro Perspectives

in Times of Change

for Local Governing in Times of Crisis

and Interest Group Systems

and How Policy Design Matters

Study of Intergovernmental Organisations as

Production in Election Campaigning

and Southern Europe – Comparative Studies

Welfare for Redistribution and Insurance – Historical

Authoritarian Democracies: If Not Cleavages, Then

Representation

Policies

Neighborhood: Actorness, Presence and State-Building

Vertical and Diagonal Mechanisms to Combat

Empirical and Normative Appraisal of Political Parties

International Organisations' Self-Legitimations

Politicisation of International Organisations: Patterns

Attitudes to Existing Political Processes and their



Your Joint Sessions

A brief round up of what you were tweeting and saying about your Joint Sessions 2015...

Julia Barbados @JBarbarace · Mar 30
#ECPRjs15 afternoon pic



1 retweet 1 like

Milos Gregor @anselmoCZ · Mar 30
So many familiar faces around here! @DrDGL #ecprjs15



2 retweets 2 likes

presidentialactivism @pres_activism · Mar 30
Thinking about it, this is probably the first time I have seen one of my 'research subjects' up close ;-)#ecprjs15

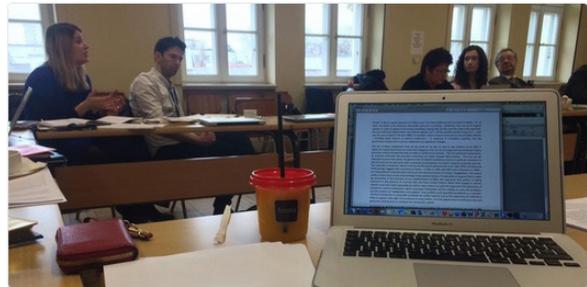


2 retweets 4 likes

Clodagh Harris @clharris_ucc · Apr 1
Highlight of the #ecprjs15 in Warsaw so far was Monday evening's roundtable at which former President Lech Walesa was guest of honour.

2 retweets 1 like

edenictolis @edenictolis · Apr 2
Last day #ecprjs15 @ECPR great experience!



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Aleksandra Galus @olagalus · Apr 2
Starting a joint presentation on @ECPR! Civic Education via Democracy Assistance #ecpr #ecprjs15 #democracy



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Philipp Köker @PhilippKoeker · Mar 30
Great atmosphere at the post-roundtable reception sponsored by @Palgrave_ & @WileyPolitics @ECPR #ecprjs15



2 retweets 1 like

You can follow us on Twitter @ECPR all year and take part during events using the event hashtags (check the website for details). We also have a Facebook page and YouTube channel where you can see past Stein Rokkan and Plenary Lectures.



Arco Timmermans
Leiden University

Which Workshop are you in?
#22 The Politics of Non-Proportionate Policy Response

What appeals to you most about the Joint Sessions?

‘The in-depth discussions on a set of papers with a fixed group of colleagues.’

How many Joint Sessions have you been to?

‘Approximately 10.’

What are your impressions of Warsaw?

‘Positive - good to be at this venue, interesting.’



Daniel Oross
Corvinus University of Budapest

Which Workshop are you in?
#9 In the Engine Room: Linking Perspectives in the Study of Intergovernmental Organisations as Actors

What appeals to you most about the Joint Sessions?

‘The Joint Sessions enables you to have a more in depth discussion about the papers that participants present than at any other conference.’

How many Joint Sessions have you been to?

‘1.’

What are your impressions of Warsaw?

‘It is a lovely city “under construction”, it changes every year. Next to the important/interesting touristic sites there is always “something new” to discover.’

Nina Belyaeva
National Research University Higher School of Economics, Moscow

Which Workshop are you in?
#05 Citizenship, Diversity, Participation and Education in Times of Change

What appeals to you most about the Joint Sessions?

‘The focus on the topic of your Paper, opportunity to interact with colleagues with similar interests.’

How many Joint Sessions have you been to?

‘This is my third one.’

What are your impressions of Warsaw?

‘Love it, been many times before, guiding our group to good dining places!!’

Prizes awarded in Warsaw

A number of prizes were awarded during the Joint Sessions

Jean Blondel PhD Prize

Carolina Plescia

Trinity College Dublin
and Universität Wien

*Split-Ticket Voting in
Mixed-Member Electoral
Systems: A Theoretical
and Methodological
Investigation*

Carolina Plescia examines the why and the how of split-ticket voting, combining methodological analysis of the New Zealand and Scottish parliamentary elections, a comparative study across ten mixed-member electoral systems, and two in-depth case studies (regional elections in Japan and Italy).

The dissertation uses individual and aggregate data (proving, in the process, that a composite approach provides more accurate understanding); a comparative rather than case study approach (though illuminated by the two case studies at the end); separating intentional versus forced split-ticket voting; and using the Scottish and New Zealand legislative elections to test the reliability of the predictive model.

A significant research effort, Plescia's thesis undermines such assumptions as the one-party preference, and points the way forward to further research. The jury considered the quantitative and qualitative research to be well carried out, and the



whole dissertation to be elegantly constructed and a pleasure to read.

Hans Daalder Prize



Christiane Barnickel

European-University
Viadrina

*Legitimation Policies in
the Course of European
Integration: Post-
Democracy on the Rise?*

The committee consider this paper to be topical and highly relevant to the concerns of

the discipline. It offers a coherent, well-informed discussion of the literature, supported by a contextual background and a theoretically rich set of arguments balanced by empirical findings.

Barnickel's well constructed, focused paper outlines a methodology and conclusions that suggest a rich vein of research for future exploration.

Rudolf Wildenmann Prize

Michal Parížek

Charles University
in Prague

*International
Organisations' Quest for
Information: the Politics
of Secretariat Staffing*

This Paper was presented at the 2014 Joint Sessions in Salamanca. Michal Parížek was awarded the Prize from a field of eleven candidates, all of whom submitted excellent papers.

Taking the principal-agent approach, Parížek analyses how international institutions work, and how they are controlled by their secretariats. He presents a clear, intuitive observation: powerful member states control the staff of international organisations (IOs) and use this control to minimise

delegation costs by aligning the interests and views of their agents with their own. This hampers the efforts of IOs to collect the information they need about their client countries.

Without personnel from client countries, IOs cannot access soft information about institutional, social, and cultural conditions. As a consequence, tension arises between the requirement of powerful states to control IOs through their staffing policy, and IOs' need for information about the countries with which they work. In his empirical study, Parížek found that, indeed, the pattern of IO staffing is aligned very closely to the size of the population and the economy of the client country. But from the perspective of access to information about client countries,



this is a dysfunctional pattern of representation. As a result, many IOs act partly against the formal rules and over-represent developing countries. While powerful states attempt to control IOs through their staffing policies, the quest by international organisations for information about their client countries modifies the general representation patterns.

Stein Rokkan Lecture



Stanisław Filipowicz

University of Warsaw

*Marketplace or Public
Arena? Truth and Policy-
Making in Democracy*

The annual Stein Rokkan Lecture, by Stanisław Filipowicz asked the following questions: Is liberal democracy equipped to come to terms with the pressure of uncertainty that seems to dominate today's climate of opinion? Can it provide a clear and convincing message to counterbalance the doubts and disappointments? Can we overcome the crisis of democratic

legitimacy, sticking with traditional principles, drifting on the currents of routine wisdom and expertise? Is democratic policy-making based on reliable 'truths' that can ensure a sense of purpose and security? Or is it involved in a drama of contingent, petty manoeuvring?

This lecture aimed to identify fundamental contradictions underlying late modern, democratic policy-making. Displaying their philosophical undertones, Professor Filipowicz focused on connecting political matters to more fundamental questions, referring to the predicament of late modernity.



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Planning ahead for the next Joint Sessions, and the next...

This year's Joint Sessions also saw the formal transition between Executive Committees, it therefore presented the perfect opportunity for the new EC member responsible for the Joint Sessions, Kris Deschower, to learn the ropes

I was in Warsaw for the Joint Sessions of Workshops. It was of course not the first time that I went to the Joint Sessions. I have participated very often as a Paper giver, as a Workshop Director and during a few years also as a Journal Editor. Yet until now I had never really reflected on what goes on behind the scenes.

As a participant one can enjoy the uniqueness of the Joint Sessions. No other conference offers us the possibility to sit around the table with the same people for several days, discussing thoroughly each other's work. Everybody who once was part of a Workshop knows how enriching this is. One always returns home very tired and full of new ideas. For the participants the Joint Sessions are to a large extent a small and intense conference. Most of it happens within the one Workshop in which you participate.

Yet exactly to make that happen, to give each Workshop the time and

the facilities to work hard without bothering about anything else, a lot of preparatory work is needed, both by the Executive Committee of the ECPR and by the local organisers. For the next three years Luca Verzichelli and I will be responsible for the Joint Sessions and for the Research Sessions. I am very much looking forward to contributing to these great events, and I was therefore in Warsaw to look around and to learn. And I returned home a bit tired (but obviously far less than the Workshop participants) and with some new ideas.

Each of the Joint Sessions goes through a long phase of preparation. To organise good Joint Sessions every year, the ECPR needs to plan some time ahead. Local organisers also need more than one year to plan the event, to mobilise the means and the people, to convince academic and other authorities that their place is the right place to host the Joint Sessions. One of the things I did in Warsaw was therefore talk to colleagues who

are thinking of organising the Joint Sessions after 2017. When they then send in a formal proposal, that needs to be studied carefully and compared with other proposals. A long list of items need to be checked, from transportation possibilities, availability of hotels rooms, rooms for the Workshops meetings, auditoria for plenary sessions, space for a book exhibition, the location for the Workshop Directors' dinner and many other smaller and larger issues that have to be clarified before the preparation can start.

The Workshop participants actually do not need to know about this. They should just come to the Joint Sessions to enjoy the scientific exchanges that are enabled by them. I saw in Warsaw a very good example of what successful Joint Sessions look like, and I learned a lot about what is needed to keep this fantastic tradition alive.



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Joint Sessions of Workshops

Scuola Normale Superiore
Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna
University of Pisa

24 – 28 April 2016

#ecprjs16

*Bringing together political science scholars from across
the world for a week of intensive, fruitful collaboration.*

**For more information go to www.ecpr.eu and choose
'Joint Sessions / Pisa 2016'**

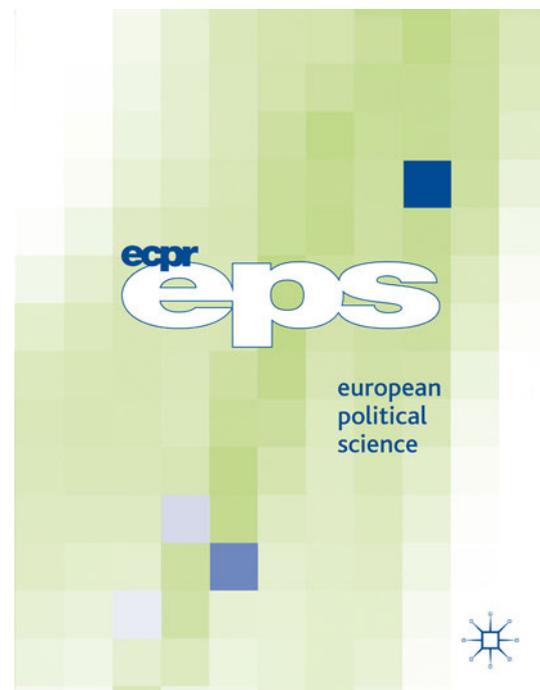
Diversity and Inclusion in European Political Science

The ECPR's professional journal, *European Political Science (EPS)* is pleased to announce a call for papers soliciting theoretical and empirical papers on diversity and inclusion in European political science

Issues of diversity and inclusion are some of the most complex phenomena that modern societies are facing. How to provide an accommodating culture that includes people, regardless of sex, disability, sexual orientations, or socio-economic classes is one of the most pressing challenges of the 21st century. These challenges are not foreign to the discipline of political science. In fact, promoting diversity and inclusion in the profession is a goal shared by many, but actually achieving this goal is often hard to do.

A report labelled 'Political Science in the 21st Century', which was published in 2011 by the American Political Science Association, provides a rather dire picture of the state of diversity and inclusion in American Political Science. According to the report, the discipline lacks teachers and researchers 'with backgrounds from the full range of positionalities,

including race, class, gender and sexual orientation that are most often marginalized in societies.' The report also laments that questions of race, gender, inequality and diversity are not frequently discussed in disciplinary journals. How is the situation in Europe? What does the discipline, including political science associations, departments and journals, do to value and promote diversity? What initiatives have been taken in the profession in Europe to promote diversity and inclusion and how successful have they been? How does Europe fare in terms of diversity with regards to North America? Are there differences with regards to diversity and inclusion in the profession within European countries? What data is there to measure diversity in the profession? Is diversity or lack thereof sufficiently discussed in European journals and publications? Normatively, what should be done to achieve greater inclusion?



EPS is soliciting theoretical and empirical papers on diversity and inclusion, defined at large, in European political science. Abstracts of proposed papers (200-500 words) should be sent to Daniel Stockemer (dstockem@uottawa.ca) by 15 September 2015, the deadline for full papers is 31 December 2015. Articles will be published in a thematic issue or symposia between April and December 2016.

For further information on *European Political Science (EPS)*, visit <http://www.palgrave-journals.com/eps/>

For questions concerning the call for papers, please contact Daniel Stockemer at dstockem@uottawa.ca

EPS is now available exclusively as a digital download, free of charge for all ECPR members. If you are a member and don't have access to *EPS* please contact membership@ecpr.eu.

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An ECPR year on a page (or two)...

Winter School, Joint Sessions, Research Sessions, Summer School, Graduate Student Conference, General Conference, *EJPR*, *EPSR*, *EPS*, ECPR Press, Comparative Politics series, funding, prizes, Standing Groups..., the ECPR can cram a lot into a year, all of which can enhance and support your career.

ECPR membership is institutional and is open to any university concerned with the teaching and research of political science. The individuals within that institution, from Masters students through to Emeritus Professors, can then access the full range of membership benefits.

The membership year runs from 1 October to 30 September; invoices for the 2015/16 membership year will be sent to all current members on 1 June.

If you are not a member and would like to join we would love to hear from you. Please contact membership@ecpr.eu.





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Summer School in
Methods and Techniques
University of Ljubljana
Slovenia
23 July – 10 August 2013

General Conference
Sciences Po Bordeaux
France
1–7 September 2013

Workshop in
Mixed Techniques
University of Vienna
Austria
15 February 2014

Workshop of Workshops
University of Salamanca
Spain
19 April 2014

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Dates for diaries

Research Sessions

Radboud University Nijmegen 30 June - 3 July 2015

Summer School in Methods and Techniques

University of Ljubljana 23 July - 8 August 2015

25 June 2015 Deadline for registration

Montreal General Conference

Université de Montréal 26 - 29 August 2015

1 Jul 2015 Deadline for programme amendments

Pisa Joint Sessions of Workshops

Scuola Normale Superiore, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna and University of Pisa 24 - 28 April 2016

1 Aug 2015 Paper proposals open

1 Oct 2015 Funding applications open

1 Dec 2015 Paper proposals close

2 Dec 2015 Registration opens (TBC)

18 Jan 2016 Funding applications close (TBC)

31 Jan 2016 Registration closes (TBC)

Graduate Student Conference

University of Tartu, Estonia, 10 - 13 July 2016

1 July 2015 Call for Section Chairs

Prague General Conference

Charles University in Prague, 7 - 10 September 2016

15 Sep 2015 Call for Sections opens

17 Nov 2015 Deadline for Section proposals

1 Dec 2015 Call for Panels and Papers opens

16 Feb 2016 Deadline for Panel and Paper proposals

10 Mar 2016 Deadline for Section Chairs to approve/decline Panels and Papers

25 Mar 2016 Academic Convenors finalise the academic programme

1 Apr 2016 Online registration and payment begins

1 Apr 2016 Accept/decline confirmations sent out

17 May 2016 Deadline for registration and payments for participants to appear in the academic programme

1 Jul 2016 Deadline for programme amendments

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9th General Conference

26 – 29 August
2015

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