

ecpr news

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European Consortium for Political Research
encouraging the training, research and cross-national co-operation of political scientists

We celebrate 10 years of the
Summer School in Methods
and Techniques



Also in this issue...

ECPR Editorial Update
The bankruptcy of Greece
Full report from the 2015 Research Sessions in Nijmegen

Five editors complete terms

At the end of July five editors completed their terms on ECPR publications. For each of them, this marked the completion of six years of shaping the profile of their respective journal or series and through that, the wider mission of the ECPR



Ken Carty: Comparative Politics book series

Ken Carty is Professor Emeritus of Political Science and a former Brenda & David McLean Chair in Canadian Studies (2005-08) at the University of British Columbia.

Ken Carty has been instrumental in the reinvigoration of the ECPR's flagship book series, published with Oxford

University Press. This series has in its life, published seminal works from many leaders of the profession. The ECPR would like to thank Ken for his excellent work in steering this high profile and important series back into the limelight where it rightly belongs

Claudio Radaelli: European Journal of Political Research (EJPR)

Claudio Radaelli is the Anniversary Chair in Politics, Director of the Centre for European Governance and since September 2014 Jean Monnet Chair in Political Economy at the University of Exeter.

Claudio Radaelli was appointed as Co-Editor of the ECPR's flagship journal EJPR, six years ago and over this period his stewardship has ensured that this journal remains

one of the most well respected and highly cited in political science. During his term he has also played a key role in the online development of the Political Data Yearbook into a unique digital resource and has presided over an ever improving Impact Factor. The ECPR would therefore like to thank Claudio for his excellent contribution to the journal.



Luis de Sousa: European Political Science (EPS)

Luis de Sousa is Professor at the Instituto de Ciências Sociais da Universidade de Lisboa.

Luis de Sousa has helped shape and develop the content of EPS over the past six years. Under his co-editorship EPS has continued its development into a unique journal which looks at what it is to be a

political scientist, providing a valuable resource to all ECPR members and the profession as a whole. EPS is a key part of the ECPR's activities and has in recent years become must-read professional journal. The ECPR would therefore like to thank Professor de Sousa for his tremendous contribution to this.



Dario Castiglione: ECPR Press

Dario Castiglione is Associate Professor at the University of Exeter.

Dario Castiglione has been Co-Editor of the ECPR Press since 2009 and a driving force behind its success. During his tenure, Dario has commissioned some important, enduring works

including essay collections by renowned comparativist Peter Mair and by gender politics pioneer Joni Lovenduski – and the forthcoming volume *Citizens in Europe* by Ulrich Preuss and Claus Offe. The success of the Press is thanks in no small part to Dario's untiring efforts and the ECPR would like to thank him for his excellent work.

Jacqui Briggs: European Political Science (EPS)

Jacqui Briggs is Head of School of Social and Political Sciences at the University of Lincoln.

Jacqui Briggs was Associate Editor of *EPS*, with responsibility for the Teaching and Learning section of the journal. This post on the journal is co-appointed by the Standing Group

on Teaching and Learning and is therefore key to reflecting this area of the ECPR's work. Working on her own area, as well as with the rest of the editorial team on the overall strategy and development of the journal, Dr Briggs has been key to EPS's continued success which is demonstrated not only by growing readership levels, but an improving



Impact Factor and ranking year on year. The ECPR therefore wishes to thank Jacqui for her fantastic work.

Martin Bull to chair ECPR panel at APSA

ECPR Director Martin Bull will be chairing our panel at the APSA Annual Meeting this year in San Francisco.

The Panel, titled, Responses to Political Corruption: the Anti-Corruption Record will take place on Saturday September 5, 2:00 to 3:45pm, Parc 55, Sutro.

Papers will include:

Alessia Damonte, Claire Dunlop and Claudio Radaelli, 'Hindering Corruption via Administrative Accountability'

Ellen Gutterman, 'Banning Bribes Abroad: U.S. Enforcement of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act'

Gabriela Borz and Natalia Matukhno 'Policy Responses to Corruption within the EU Framework: the Case of Conditionality and Post conditionality'

Luís de Sousa, 'New Trends in Political Financing Regulation in Europe: the Role of Supervisory Bodies'

Andreas Bågenholm, 'The Policy Impact of "Anti-Corruption" Parties in Central and Eastern Europe 2002-2014'



ECPR Press author shares her expertise on the Greek bailout crisis

The expert views of ECPR Press author Eleni Panagiotarea were much in demand from media networks during the recent Greek bailout crisis. Economic analyst Eleni appeared on Bloomberg Business, BBC News and Greek broadcast channels to offer her opinions on the policy choices facing Greece's Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras and his Syriza party.

Eleni, who is also a fellow of ELIAMEP: The Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy, is the author of recent ECPR Press monograph *Greece in the Euro*, described by the LSE's Professor Kevin Featherstone as 'An informed and balanced account of how Greece and the eurozone got into the mess it's in'.



As the Greek debt crisis rumbles on, expect to see more of Eleni in news bulletins over the coming months. *Greece in the Euro* is available to buy

from the ECPR press by visiting the website www.press.ecpr.eu.



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Prize winners announced

The ECPR has recently awarded the following prizes to mark achievement in the profession

Mattei Dogan Foundation Prize awarded to Maurizio Cotta

The Jury in its Motivation, referred to the various significant contributions Maurizio Cotta has made to European political sociology, both through his research and other academic activities. The Jury noted his important contribution to the field of political sociology via his works on elites, in the footsteps of Mattei Dogan. Maurizio Cotta, who is Professor of Political Science at the University of Siena, has led several significant European research projects (EUENGAGE, INTUNE) that have dealt with elite attitudes towards European integration and the links between public opinion and political and social elites; and has contributed to the revival of the comparative study of parliamentary elites both in Western and Eastern Europe.

Maurizio Cotta is currently professor of political science in the University of Siena and Director of the PhD programme in Comparative and European Politics and of the Master programme "Politics in Europe". – Visiting professor University of Texas at Austin (1989-90); Sciences Politiques Paris (December 1992-January 1993) and European University Institute of Fiesole (1992-1993); Norwegian School of Management (January 1994/5/6) visiting research



fellow Yale University (1980-1981) and Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies at Harvard University (Fall 2000). – Formerly member of the Executive

Committee of the European Consortium for Political Research (1994-2000). Chairman of the Italian Political Science Association (2001-..)

Stein Rokkan Prize awarded to Marius R. Busemeyer

The 2015 Stein Rokkan Prize for Comparative Social Science Research has been awarded to Marius R. Busemeyer, Professor of Political Science at the University of Konstanz, for his book *Skills and Inequality: Partisan Politics and the Political Economy of Education Reforms in Western Welfare States* (2014, Cambridge University Press). In this book Busemeyer's central ambition is to show that education and training systems are central

to understanding the evolution of Western European welfare systems. The Jury felt that the book constitutes a 'very substantial and original contribution in comparative social science research', as stipulated as the main criterion for the award of the Stein Rokkan Prize.' More detail of the judges report can be found [here](#).

The Stein Rokkan Prize is awarded each year by the International Social Science Council (ISSC), the

University of Bergen and the ECPR.

Marius Busemeyer studied political science, economics and public law at the University of Heidelberg, where he received his PhD in 2006. He served as a researcher at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies in Cologne, between 2006 and 2010. His research focuses on comparative political economy, welfare states, public spending, social democratic parties and theories of institutional change.



ECPR Lifetime Achievement Award goes to Rod Rhodes

The ECPR has awarded its 2015 Lifetime Achievement Award to R.A.W (Rod) Rhodes, Professor of Government (Research) at the University of Southampton and at Griffith University. In its laudation the Jury noted Professor Rhodes' 'exceptional record in the many areas of the profession: from teaching and publishing to advising and disseminating.' The Prize will be presented to Professor Rhodes at the General Conference in Montreal.

Rod Rhodes is Professor of Government (Research) at the University of

*Southampton (UK); Adjunct Professor of Governance and Public Policy at Griffith University (Brisbane, Australia); and Emeritus Professor of Politics at the University of Newcastle (UK). He is a life Vice-President and former Chair and President of the Political Studies Association of the United Kingdom; a Fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia; and an Academician of the Academy of Social Sciences (UK). He has also been a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, editor of *Public Administration: an international quarterly* from 1986 to 2011, and Treasurer of the Australian Political Studies Association, 2004-2011.*



Jean Blondel PhD Prize awarded to Jovana Mihajlovic Trbovc

The 2015 Jean Blondel PhD Prize for the best thesis in politics has been awarded Jovana Mihajlovic Trbovc (University of Ljubljana and Peace Institute Ljubljana) for her thesis: 'Public Narratives of the Past in the Framework of Transitional Justice Processes: The Case of Bosnia and Herzegovina'.

The judges were: Petra Meier (University of Antwerp), Christoph Scherrer (University of Kassel) and Birte Siim (University of Aalborg); Birgit Sauer (University of Vienna) represented the ECPR and acted as chair. They were unanimous in their choice and reported as follows:

Jovana Mihajlovic Trbovc examines the processes of transitional justice in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The thesis challenges assumptions about 'transitional justice' by studying the prosecution of war crime perpetrators in the 1992 to 1995 war. Different from assumptions that once the 'truth' about these crimes is publicly presented, it becomes part of the common public memory of the country, the dissertation shows that memory-making became a new battleground between the three dominant ethno-national elite groups in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Hence, the thesis shows that memory-making was not a process of transnational justice. The dissertation embodies a number of innovations: it critically assesses and introduces the concept of 'transitional justice' into political science, and in doing so bridges nicely legal and political science fields; and by selecting important case studies to analyse collective memory-making contributes to a political science concept of collective memory. Jovana Mihajlovic Trbovc

enhances studies about transitional justice by taking a nuanced qualitative approach; the thesis analyses meaning production of ethnic elite groups in the processes of transitional justice and is able to show how ethnicity became an important factor in the peace process. A significant research effort the thesis undermines such assumptions as 'truth' being easily detected in processes of transition, but shows how truth is part of

on-going hegemonic struggles, paving the way forward to further research. Finally, the thesis is nicely constructed, the qualitative research has been very well carried-out, and on the whole is a pleasure to read.





Planning your time at the 2015 General Conference

To help you get the most out of the 2015 General Conference, we have developed a number of resources for participants to plan their conference attendance.

ECPR Website

The most up to date conference information can be found on the ECPR website (<http://ecpr.eu/>) or Conference App. There are a number of ways you can use the website to plan your conference attendance:

- The Schedule of Activities is a day-by-date timetable of events, including session times and information about the Council meeting, Roundtables, Plenary lecture and receptions.
- The Academic Programme contains the full Section, Panel and Paper listings for the conference. You can browse or search by Section, Panel or Paper.
- The Timetable allows you to search for a particular Panel or activity by time or keyword so you can easily plan out your day.
- You can also check your MyECPR account for your Section/Panel/Paper details.

Conference App

The Conference App has a fully searchable and browsable academic timetable which allows you to seek out those Panels and Papers most relevant to your research and then add them to an 'Agenda' to create a bespoke timetable for the whole conference. Updated in real time and

including a 'Notifications' function that provides instant updates on conference news and important information, you can stay up to date at all times. And to help you connect with colleagues and make new contacts, a 'Chat' function allows you to instantly contact other participants. The App runs on iOS and Android devices, to download it visit the Apple iTunes or Google Play stores and search for 'ECPR General Conference 2015'.

Mobile friendly PDF

A mobile friendly PDF of the academic programme is available on the website. If you are accessing it via a mobile phone or tablet, you will need to have a PDF reader installed such as Acrobat Reader.

Printed Conference Programme

Printed Conference Programmes have only been produced for those participants that requested one at the time of registration. The content of the printed Programme is correct as at the time of going to print on the 7 July, but often small changes can occur right up until the start of the event. A 'Programme update' sheet listing all changes to the programme since the 7 July, will be available at Registration.

Welcome Address and Plenary Lecture

The welcome address/plenary lecture will take place on Thursday 27 August between 1800-2000 in the Ernest-Cormier amphitheatre, Pavilion 2900 Roger-Gaudry Building

Michael Ignatieff will deliver the Plenary Lecture, entitled "Illiberal Democracy and Capitalist Authoritarianism: Is Freedom Divisible?" The new authoritarians in Russia and Eastern Europe are gambling that they can offer their citizens private freedoms while denying them public liberty. Are they right? How should liberal democracies respond?

Michael Ignatieff was born and educated in Canada and holds a doctorate in history from Harvard. He has held academic posts at King's College, Cambridge, the University of British Columbia and the University of Toronto. He served as Member of Parliament and Leader of the Liberal Party of Canada. He is currently the Edward R. Murrow Professor of the Practice of Politics, the Press and Public Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School.

If you have any further questions about the General Conference, please email generalconference@ecpr.eu

Research methods training at the ECPR: Supporting the next generation

Since its establishment in 1974, the ECPR has been the leading European research organisation in political science, explains the ECPR's Executive Committee members responsible for the Methods School

In the more than four decades of its existence, the field of political studies has undergone several developments and diversifications. Young scholars now face an increasingly complex and competitive environment both in their own field and in the academia more generally.

About a decade ago, the ECPR started making conscious investments in events and programmes designed primarily for the rising generation of political scientists. In the governance of the ECPR, they are now given a new portfolio called the 'New Generation'. Its main components are, first, the Summer School on Methods and Techniques, now accompanied by the Winter School, which, since 2006 and 2012 respectively, have trained a generation of political scientists in the use of up-to-date methods across different paradigms and approaches. Second, the Graduate Student Conference since 2006, and the Graduate Student Network, can be described as largely

student-organised activities that help build capabilities in virtually all aspects of the profession, from research to publishing and job markets, and from teaching to networking and organising events.

The Methods School and the Graduate Student Conference and Network combine the input and wishes of young scholars with the resources available for the ECPR and its Executive Committee. In the case of the Methods School, in particular, much of the credit to its Academic Convenors, Instructors, and Teaching Assistants. In addition to 'pure research', ECPR's New Generation highlights various aspects of the profession, including publishing, teaching, and general professional development. Currently, the 'social relevance' of research is discussed all across the social sciences, which raises interesting viewpoints also for junior scholars regarding the quality of public debate and the possibilities of research to influence



Above: Members of the ECPR Executive Committee responsible for the Methods School, Olafur Th. Hardarson and Petri Koikkalainen.

political decision-making. In line with the original mission of the ECPR, theoretically and methodologically solid research must nevertheless remain the core around which the other tasks and missions of political scientists should be grouped.

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Summer School in Methods and Techniques

CELEBRATING

10 YEARS



Celebrating 10 years of the summer school

This Summer School was the tenth and last to be held at the University of Ljubljana. Not only did it therefore provide the normal curriculum of training, but it also included a number of special events to mark this important milestone

The 2015 Summer School in Methods and Techniques brought together over 330 young academics from across Europe, providing them with dedicated training in research methods skills across a wide range of topics. Being the 10th anniversary of the Summer School, as well as the final time the event would be held in Ljubljana, a number of special activities were also held to recognise this milestone.

Participants could choose from a comprehensive programme of over 37 hands on courses covering a diverse range of topics, including data analysis, research design and data collection, many of which were fully booked. Under the expert guidance of experienced instructors and teaching assistants, participants were able to take part in either one week, two week, or refresher courses, designed to equip them with the skills needed at the start of their career.

The 10th anniversary offered an ideal opportunity to reflect on the last decade of Methods Schools and how they have developed to best suit the needs of young academics looking to hone their research skills. This was illustrated by Dirk Berg-Schlösser (past Chair of the ECPR's Executive Committee who was heavily involved in the establishment of the Methods School) and Bernhard Kittel (Academic Convenors) who delivered the key note speech, 'Looking back at 10 years of the Methods School'.

SUMMER SCHOOL

One of the highlights of this year's Summer School was the Methods Slam, a unique event which allowed participants to put both their research and presentation skills to the test. Four presentations were given, all with the theme of 'shocking', with the first prize being awarded to Wolfgang Luhan, who generously shared the prize money amongst the other three participants. Those more artistically inclined could take part in a poster competition, which was won by Svenja Timmins for his poster on Territorial stigma and youth in Europe's steel cities.

The city of Ljubljana has provided

a stunning setting for the Summer School over the last decade, and this year many of the participants made the most of their surroundings by visiting Lake Bled and Lake Bohinj and Postojna Cave. Other social activities included tours of Ljubljana, hiking trips, and a welcome barbeque.

All of the courses on offer at the Summer School are designed to complement those at the Winter School, which will next be taking place at University of Bamberg from 26 February to 4 March 2016. For more details, please visit the ECPR website.





Short Intensive Refresher Courses

- SA101. Introduction to SPSS - Gregor Petrič,
- SA102. Introduction to the Use of R - Luka Kronegger
- SA103. Linear Algebra and Calculus - Anton Cedilnik
- SA104. Basics of Inferential Statistics for Political Scientists - Janez Stare
- SA105. Introduction to Programming for Social Scientists - Nils B. Weidmann
- SA106. Introduction to STATA - Anže Burger
- SA107. Introduction to NVivo 10 - Marie-Hélène Paré

Main Courses

- SB101. Research Designs - Samo Kropivnik
- SB102. Case Study Research: Method and Practice - Ingo Rohlfing
- SB103A. Process-Tracing Methodology I – Foundations and Guidelines - Rasmus Pedersen
- SB103B. Process-Tracing Methodology II – Evidence and Empirical Testing in Practice - Derek Beach
- SB104. Qualitative Comparative Analysis and Fuzzy Sets - Patrick Mello & Carsten Schneider
- SB105. Mixed Methods Designs - Dr. Bojana Lobe
- SB107. Causal Inference in the Social Sciences - Elías Dinas
- SB108. Introduction to Interpretive Research Designs - Peregrine Schwartz-Shea
- SB109. Experimental Research: Methodology, Design and Applications in the Lab and the Field - Wolfgang Luhau
- SC101. Expert Interviews for Qualitative Data Generation - Alenka Jelen
- SC104. Issues in Political, Policy and Organizational Ethnography - Dvora Yanow
- SC105. Internet-Based Socio-Political Data: Research Designs and Methods - Laura Sudulich
- SD101A. Qualitative Data Analysis: Concepts and Approaches - Marie-Hélène Paré
- SD101B. Qualitative Data Analysis: Concepts and Approaches - Marie-Hélène Paré
- SD102A. Analysing Discourse I – Analysing Politics: Theories, Methods and Applications - Michal Krzyżanowski
- SD102B. Analysing Discourse II – Analysing Politics: Theories, Methods and Applications - Michal Krzyżanowski
- SD103. Content Analysis - Kostas Gemenis
- SD104. Multivariate Statistical Analysis and Comparative Cross-National Surveys Data - Bruno Cautres
- SD105. Multiple Regression Analysis: Estimation, Diagnostics, and Modelling - Bernhard Kittel
- SD106. Introduction to Generalised Linear Models - Federico Vegetti
- SD107. Correspondence Analysis - Philippe Blanchard
- SD201. Analysing Political and Social Sequences - Philippe Blanchard
- SD202. Event History and Survival Analysis - Janez Stare
- SD203. Applied Multilevel Modelling - Zoltán Fazekas
- SD204. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for the Social Sciences - Francisco Freitas
- SD205. Introduction to Network Analysis using Pajek - Vladimir Batagelj
- SD206. Introduction to Structural Equation Modelling - Jochen Mayerl
- SD207A. Advanced Topics in Applied Regression: Modelling Issues - Levi Littvay
- SD207B. Advanced Topics in Applied Regression: Data Issues and Causal Approaches - Levi Littvay



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Oaths were thus
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Oath of Office in The Netherlands | 55

During the Middle Ages, oaths were obligatory under many circumstances. They ranged from the pledging of loyalty between a king and his people to a city concerning public function, as well as in connection with the work of soldiers, brewers, butchers, inn-keepers, apothecaries and even brothel-keepers (Kramer 1989: 118). A refusal to swear in economic dealings, the requirement of oaths to contract grew with the development of the legal system. In the political and public setting, however, oaths remained of great importance. The oath-taking of a member of a public body or collection (Friesenbuhl 1928: 1970: 61). Although their gravity can hardly be underestimated, oaths were just as often not taken seriously. Stories about cheating and perjury abound, not least in Greek mythology. Plato and, later, Cicero would even complain that belief in the gods

#SSMT15... in your words

A brief round up of what you were tweeting and saying about the 2015 Summer School...

Sam Bennett @sambennett · Aug 7
Group pic. #ssmt15



Michał Krzyzanowski @MichalTweets · Aug 3
Analysing Discourse & Politics @ECPR #ssmt15 Week 2 in full swing with group work on UK media, politics immigration



Alona Dolinsky @alonadoli · Aug 6
great meeting new people who share research interests. I'm writing again! :) @ECPR #ssmt15

Patrick A. Mello @patrickamello · Aug 1
A great first week at @ECPR #ssmt15 behind us - thanks to all involved and goodbye Ljubljana (sunny again, after all)!

Alexander Bor @szasulja · Jul 31
Just finished a great course on Causal inference w/ @EliasDinas at #ssmt15. I'm exhausted, but definitely feel smarter than a week ago!

Julian Dederke @julianddk · Jul 29
Opening next competition @ECPR summer school in #ljubljan: Who takes #ecpr #dragonselfie with the most people on it?

dieter stiers



Svenja Timmins @SvenjaT · Jul 27
Attending the Methods Slam at @ECPR #ssmt15. Interesting presentation to kick off... Wonder where this is going?!



Alona Dolinsky @alonadoli · Aug 6
great meeting new people who share research interests. I'm writing again! :) @ECPR #ssmt15

Ingo Rohlfing @ingorohlfing · Aug 7
Thank you, organizers, coordinators and staff in #Ljubljana, you did great work and it has been wonderful over the years #ssm15 @ECPR

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.

The ECPR Methods School, the first ten years: Still growing and innovating

At the heart of the Summer School are the Academic Convenors. Charged with creating a summer school that could fill a gap in methods training in Europe Bernhard Kittel and Benoît Rihoux worked closely with the ECPR to shape the academic structure of the SSMT. Now joined by Derek Beach, here they talk about how it all began, and where it's still going

The ECPR Methods School 'adventure' was initiated back in the autumn of 2004, shortly after Bernhard Kittel, Jonathon Moses and Benoît Rihoux had launched the ECPR Standing Group on Political Methodology. The ECPR Chair, Dirk Berg-Schlosser, approached the convenors in the view of launching an ECPR-run methods training event.

The concept was summarised as follows: (1) an annual event organised in the summer; (2) as affordable as possible (best 'value-for-money' for ECPR members); (3) complementary to local and national training venues; (4) targeted towards political science and neighbouring disciplines; (5) targeted towards PhD students and junior researchers; (6) covering the whole range of methods, from qualitative/interpretive to quantitative/formal; (7) covering both epistemological, research design, data collection and data analysis topics; (8) fostering openings, debates and cross-fertilisation across methodological traditions (methodological pluralism);

(9) meeting high standards of pedagogical excellence; (10) with a diverse pool of expert instructors from all across greater Europe (a European 'centre of gravity') and some U.S.-based as well, with diversity in terms of gender and generations; (11) providing ECTS Credits.

This concept was approved by the ECPR Executive Committee (EC) and Bernhard Kittel and Benoît Rihoux became Academic Convenors (ACs) in charge of putting together the academic programme, working in close connection with an EC member, Ursula Hoffmann-Lange.

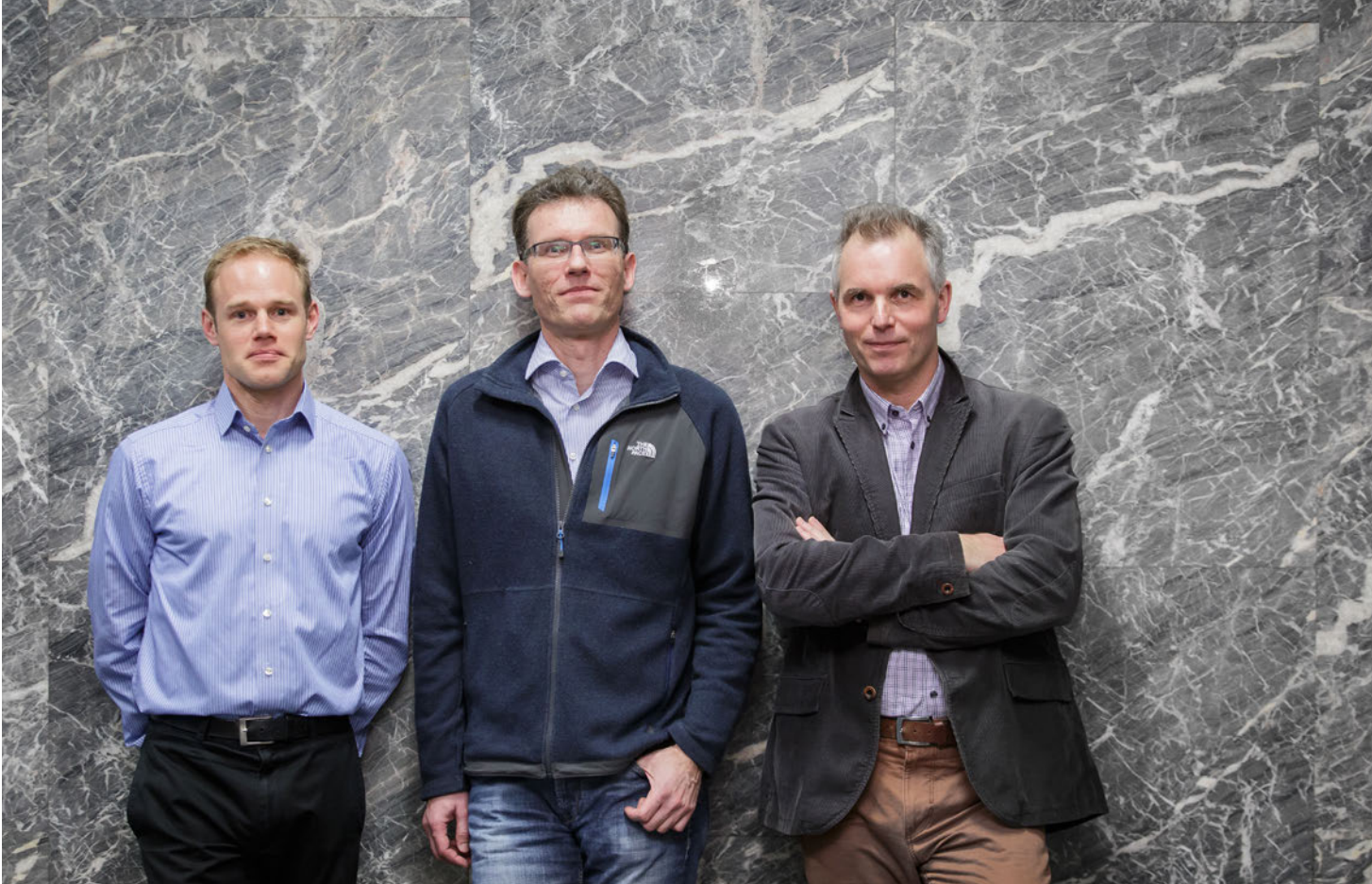
The Summer School, 2006-2011, growing and diversifying

The first ECPR 'Summer School in Methods and Techniques' (SSMT), was launched with a course programme containing 10 topics in a two-week (30h) format. Through the intermediation of Bojana Lobe, then a PhD student at the University of

Ljubljana, negotiations were launched with the Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Ljubljana, Anuska Ferligoj. Ljubljana was eager to host this new event, the location was appealing in many ways and meeting good standards in terms of infrastructure and local staff. So Ljubljana it would be!

The first SSMT (2006) was an immediate success, with 155 participants attending the nine confirmed courses. It was a steep learning curve to run this first event. The administrator on the ECPR side was Emer Padden, under the supervision of Clare Dekker.

Between 2007 and 2011, the SSMT grew and further diversified in different ways. Courses in new formats were added: three-day intensive refreshers (18h) and one-week (15h). Also introduced was the 'Monday mix' lectures as part of the plenary programme – 90' full lectures for each course on the first day, accessible to all other SSMT participants. By 2010 the Summer School had reached almost 350



participants, with a broad majority coming from ECPR member institutions across greater Europe (and some from other continents as well), attending a total of 30 courses (six refreshers, seven one-week, 17 two-week). In only a few years' time, the SSMT was already beginning to gain recognition as a top methods training venue. The growth was not always easy to manage, and it was all very work-intensive, but we gradually developed an excellent teamwork and task-sharing between the ACs, the EC portfolio holder, the ECPR staff member and the Ljubljana local team.

2012- : Developing the full 'Methods School', Summer and Winter

By 2010, it had become clear that the demand was growing, and the capacity of Ljubljana would not enable the SSMT to grow much beyond 400 participants. Besides, the evaluation surveys suggested that at least some participants – especially PhD students in their first year – were keen on following a sequence of courses, ideally during their first year as junior researchers. From there on, the ACs proposed to launch a second, fully connected and complementary

event, the ECPR Winter School in Methods and Techniques (WSMT). Those plans were accepted by the EC. By then, there had also been some rotation in terms of EC portfolio holders (Vello Pettai, then André Kaiser), Central Services staff (Sarah Goodman, then Denise Chapman), local academic organiser (Samo Kropivnik and Bojana Lobe, then Samo Kropivnik alone) and local administrator (Neli Dimc, then Sabina Otonicar).

We thus sent an open call for a WSMT host. The University of Vienna was eventually chosen, with Sylvia Kritzinger as local academic organiser. The first WSMT was held in February 2012 and got off to a fast start, with more than 270 participants attending 17 one-week courses and four shorter (7.5h) software courses. In the process, the ACs also started to develop 'training tracks' across the two events, from epistemology/research design to software to introductory to more advanced courses.

In the process, the Methods School became a larger, more demanding project to steer. Therefore the team was expanded with a third AC, Derek Beach, and an 'Academic

advisory board' (AAB) was installed, comprising five methods experts (and fellow instructors) acting as a sounding board and coming up with new ideas. The Central Services team was expanded, with two administrators, Anna Foley and Becky Plant. In February 2015, the WSMT moved to the University of Bamberg and drew a record number of 400 participants. EC portfolio holders continued to rotate around the project: first Simona Piattoni, then Birgit Sauer, and now, recently, Olafur Hardarson and Petri Koikkalainen.

Standing strong – and looking ahead: sharp, innovative, pluralist

It is not immodest to state that the ECPR Methods School has been quite an achievement so far. It has developed, fine-tuned and expanded, over the years, a sharp, international, pluralist academic concept. The Methods School has grown and consolidated in many ways. At the 2014 SSMT and 2015 WSMT, altogether 650 participants followed no less than 66 courses, all formats considered. Over its first decade, the Methods School has provided a learning/networking

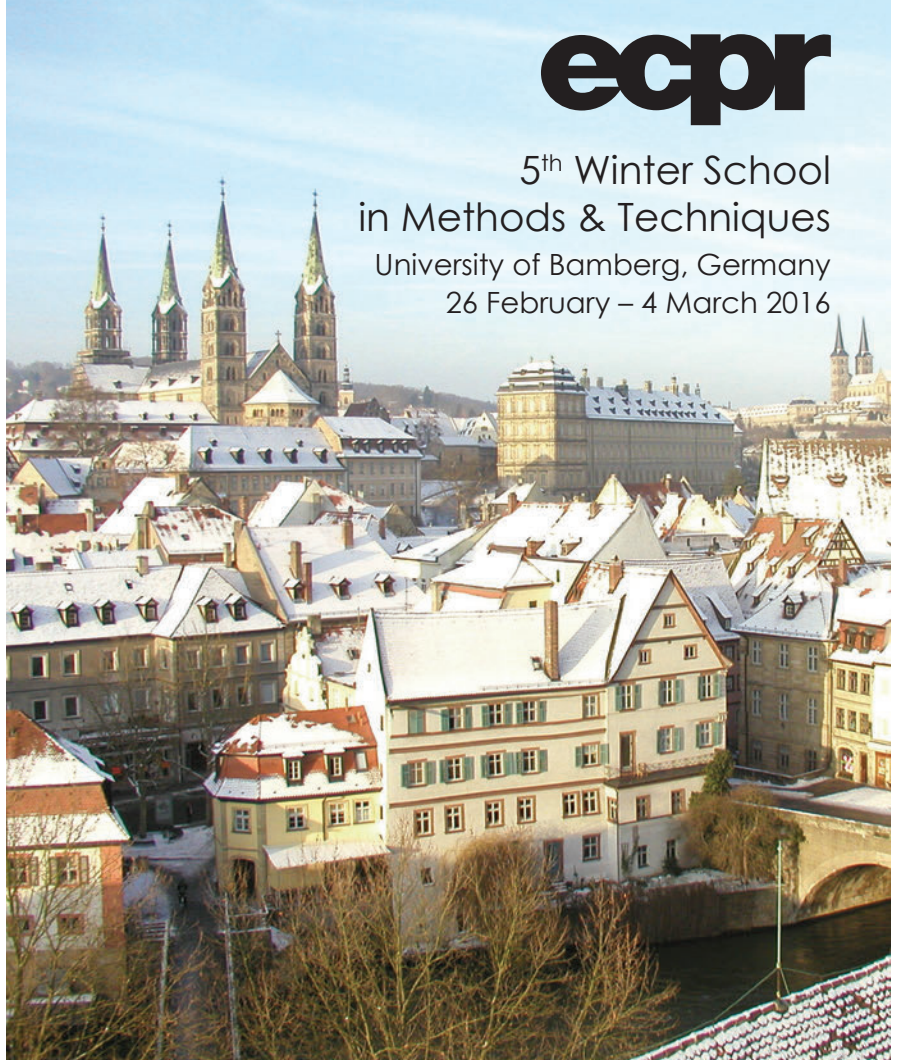
5th Winter School in Methods & Techniques

University of Bamberg, Germany

26 February – 4 March 2016

experience to about 3,000 advanced students as well as researchers (also more senior ones), and this has contributed to the career-building of many of them. Event after event, courses on emerging, original or 'niche' topics have been offered – thus: the Methods School also contributes to agenda-setting in the discipline. The plenary programme has also been further developed, with shorter 'course tasters' sessions, lunchtime 'brown bag' debates and a participants' poster competition. At the 10th Summer School this year a 'methods slam' formula will be explored.

So: what next? The school will continue to aim for world-class excellence in methods training. The participants' fees will continue to be set as low as possible ('no profit' logic – just strive to break even financially). The Methods School will further develop its emerging reputation as a hub for methodological pluralism, contributing to the development of the discipline as a whole.



www.ecpr.eu



Bamberg Graduate School
of Social Sciences





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6th Graduate Student Conference

University of Tartu,
Estonia, 10 – 13 July 2016

Tailored to graduate students looking for their first conference experience, networking and academic development, this conference offers lectures, roundtables, themed Sections and Panels in political science, theory, international relations and European studies.



UNIVERSITY OF TARTU

The bankruptcy of Greece - a partisan negotiation trap

Despite all efforts, the negotiations to avoid Greek bankruptcy have failed. With the announcement to recommend a rejection of the reforms demanded by the so-called creditor institutions, the Greek Prime Minister Tsipras undermined the basis for further negotiations, says Thomas König of the Standing Group on the European Union

In the referendum on Sunday 6th of July, the overwhelming Greek majority followed the Prime Minister's recommendation, who promised that a No-vote will improve the Greek bargaining position in the negotiations with the creditor institutions. From a partisan point of view on European integration, the chances for a solution are not particularly high because the institutions and some national parliaments have to approve an agreement. Compared to the dominant intergovernmentalist perspective on European integration, which focuses on the socio-economic interests in interstate bargains, the partisan approach emphasizes the role of political parties for European integration, which pursue ideological interests to compete for public support in their domestic arenas. For the approval of an agreement, this partisan approach predicts a "bargaining trap", because the opposing ideological interests exclude to find approval in both the Greek and other domestic parliaments.

In recent years much has been written about the economic rationality of the monetary union and the Euro crisis. Can economies with very

different levels of competitiveness share a common currency? And should less competitive countries like Greece leave this monetary union? The pros and cons of a monetary union are intensely debated in the economic literature: while Greece is slipping into recession and perhaps into economic chaos as a member of the monetary union, U.S. economists wonder about the austerity programme of the creditor institutions for the highly indebted Greek country. On closer inspection, European economists point to the long-term definition of the Greek debt repayment. The comparative view suggests another peculiarity of the monetary union because the economic development in the Eastern European states reveals that countries with lower economic competitiveness can survive in a common currency area with the more competitive Northern countries, such as Germany, the Netherlands and Austria. In the Eastern European countries the political consideration of having a strong membership in the European Union is dominating economic claims, which may be associated with painful reforms if necessary.

But what about the partisan approach in the case of Greece? Which ideological interests do the stakeholders pursue, who negotiate the 'Greek game' that can possibly lead to Greece's exit from the Euro zone and the European Union? In order to understand this game it is necessary to identify the partisan actors and their ideological interests. Following intergovernmentalism, the actors of European integration would be member state governments with individual leaders such as Prime Minister Tsipras and Chancellor Merkel who negotiate a socio-economic solution that improves their countries against the status quo. While this approach may explain the back and forth of the negotiations in the recent months, it has little to say on the announcement of a referendum and the failure of the negotiations. On closer inspection of this situation from a partisan perspective, we find on the one side the newly elected Greek coalition parties, and on the other side not only the creditor institutions but also the (coalition) parties of Germany, France, Spain and Italy and some Western and Eastern European countries, which have implemented painful cuts in their welfare systems to overcome crisis. The partisan

rationality of these actors can be defined very simply, if one grants own political survival as a condition for approving a reform package.

If you look from this partisan perspective on the Greek side more closely, it is noticeable that the government coalition of the radical left SYRIZA and the right-wing populist ANEL Party of Independent Greeks only share an interest in Euroscepticism. Basically, such a coalition of Eurosceptic parties has very little room for manoeuvre in relation to the claims of creditor's institutions, because their only unifies their coalition while concessions would risk the survival of their government and perhaps their parties. From an institutional perspective, it is worth noting that this coalition has reached a majority by a peculiarity of the Greek electoral rules, which assign fifty additional parliamentary seats to the largest party. Fifty additional seats mean that many backbenchers are part of the SYRIZA majority who must approve the "reforms" in parliament. Backbenchers, however, have little party discipline, which explains why a surprisingly large electoral victory of a party like SYRIZA comes along with low governmental effectiveness. In other words, it is very unlikely that Prime Minister Tsipras has a majority in his party (and even less likely in the ruling coalition) that will approve the claims of the creditors.

But if the Greek government has little room for manoeuvre, shouldn't then the other side make more concessions to find a socio-economic solution that improves both sides against the status quo? Obviously, the intergovernmental solution does not exist. Firstly, the International



Monetary Fund can hardly introduce major special rules for Greece that it does not apply to other indebted countries such as Argentina. But even if the International Monetary Fund would no longer be part of the Greece game, the other partisan players can hardly show courtesy. Again, on closer examination, these parties are under pressure of their constituencies at home. The parties in government in crisis countries such as Portugal, Spain or even France see their survival threatened by more concessions to Greece, in particular when they have already lost public support due to painful cuts in their welfare systems.

The pros and cons of a monetary union are intensely debated in the economic literature

But even in non-crisis countries such as Germany, the public mood has changed and public opinion tends more and more towards Grexit.

Although such changes of public opinion are usually less decisive in times of economic growth, and although the decline of the populist Eurosceptic party AfD decreases the pressure on the German coalition government, Chancellor Merkel is well-known to adjust her attitude to public opinion. The best example of this is probably the abandonment of nuclear energy, although the chancellor and her party prolonged the maturities of nuclear reactors a few months before the change of public opinion in the aftermath of Fukushima..

Against this background, the partisan perspective provides a more sceptical view on the future of the Greece game. The announcement of a referendum is only a logical consequence of this partisan approach, with which Prime Minister Tsipras' party(ies) want to ensure their political survival irrespective of the socio-economic implications for Greece. The majority of the Greeks followed Prime Minister Tsipras' recommendation and voted against the claims of the creditors in the hope to improve their bargaining position. However, the partisan perspective suggests that the more important the bargaining issues are for the parties of the other side, the less they will be inclined to make concessions.

Helping research projects flourish in Nijmegen

The first of three years of Research Sessions at Radboud University Nijmegen began this summer with six groups taking the opportunity to meet in a fully ECPR supported environment to take their projects forward.

Following three years at the University of Essex, the Research Sessions moved to Nijmegen this year, where they will reside until 2017. This small event is heavily subsidised by the ECPR and is a key benefit of membership, providing opportunities for research groups to meet face to

face and work exclusively on their project.

Six groups met this year in Nijmegen; all endorsed by ECPR Standing Groups and all looking at different research questions and at differing stages of their projects. For some, this was a first meeting to establish

a long term collaboration; for others it was an opportunity to finalise a publishing proposal; for others it was an opportunity to draft grant applications. A summary of the six groups and their projects can be found on the following pages.



EASE-Project: Elites and their Societies - Longitudinal and Comparative Perspectives

Chair: Lars Vogel,
Friedrich-Schiller
Universität Jena

Endorsed by the
Standing Group on
Parliaments

Members of the group

Jose Real-Dato, Universidad de
Granada

Daniel Gaxie, Université de Paris I –
Panthéon-Sorbonne

Elena Semenova, Freie Universität Berlin

Trygve Gulbrandsen, Institute for
Social Research, Oslo

Luca Verzichelli, Università degli
Studi di Siena

The EASE project aims to analyse political elites as both creators and creations of current changes and long term developments in contemporary democracies. More precisely it deals with the interdependency of salient social and political developments of societies with the socio-demographic characteristics and the recruitment patterns of the respective legislators. It will take a longitudinal approach to distinguish between long- and short-

term trends and a cross-national comparative perspective to analyse the mediating impact of the varying institutional settings. It adds to our understanding of representative democracy by analysing the results of elite behaviour in its dynamic interaction with the structural configuration and the behaviour of those individual and collective actors who constitute the population.

The Research Sessions in Nijmegen gathered researchers wishing to embark on enduring collaboration in terms of data collection, sharing and integration, scientific debate on the mentioned topic and common publications. The session is regarded as first step to constitute a core-group, in which other researchers are subsequently involved to cover as many countries as possible and to transcend the geographical focus on Europe.

After the Research Sessions the group plans to draft a proposal and to submit it to a major research institution.



EU Agenda-setting beyond the European Commission

Chair: Markus Haverland, Department of Public Administration, Erasmus University Rotterdam

Endorsed by the Standing Group on the European Union

Members of the group

Petya Alexandrova, Hannover Universität

Marcello Carammia, University of Malta

Sebastiaan Princen, University of Utrecht

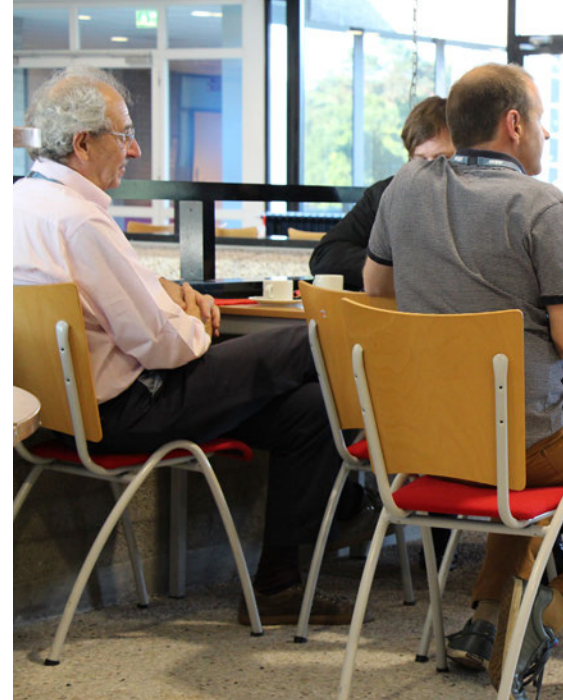
Diane Fromage, European University Institute

This group met work on a publishing project that focuses on EU agenda setting taking issue with the alleged importance of the European Commission as the agenda setter. A special issue proposal will be submitted to the *Journal of European Public Policy* in May. Prior to this, initial concepts or drafts of papers were discussed at

a preliminary workshop under the auspices of the Jean Monnet Center of Excellence at the University of Florida in March. This second meeting served to discuss the revised versions of the papers and to work towards the synthesis of the results to create a more holistic shared research project. This effort will include ensuring that all contributions are linked through a shared focus on the core theme of the changing character of agenda setting in the EU. Potential redundancies and lacunae, and the development of a future research agenda for an extended concluding chapter.

The Research Sessions provided the opportunity to discuss the revised paper with a core group of authors from the special issue, with additional participants involved through Skype. The session provided the opportunity to draw up the introductory article and the comprehensive concluding article that also aims at developing a new research agenda beyond the special issue/book.

After the session a final round of comments/revisions by e-mail/skype should suffice to have a high level, innovative and coherent set of papers that will leave its mark on the discipline either as special issue or as book.





Policy moods and institutions – a comparative approach

Chair: John Bartle,
University of Essex

Endorsed by the
Standing Group on
Comparative Political
Institutions

Members of the group

Agusti Bosch, Universitat Autònoma
de Barcelona

Anthony McGann, University of
Strathclyde

Sebastian Dellepiane Avellaneda,
University of Strathclyde

Paolo Bellucci, Università degli Studi
di Siena

Tinette Schnatterer, Universität
Konstanz

This group has been working together for some time, and used the Research Sessions to build on meetings held at previous ECPR events. It was first envisaged in a panel at the Glasgow General Conference (P343 The Comparative

Macro Polity: Policy Agendas and Policy Moods), following a meeting during the Pisa General Conference 2007 (Panel PN197, Macro polity-I).

The Research Sessions were used by this group to bring together scholars who have been working on ‘policy mood’ to: agree standards relating to the collection of data and discuss the creation of a new data resource similar to the Manifest Project Database; compare methods of estimating the policy mood; assess the impact of political institutions (inter alia political parties, electoral systems, constitutions, welfare systems etc.) on the policy mood; assess the impact of the policy mood on institutions (especially governments, political parties and elections); and compare findings with MARPOR and Policy Agendas Projects.

The group also aimed to establish a comparative framework for several stand-alone ‘policy mood’ research projects and begin work on a book on Moods and institutions – a comparative approach to be submitted either to ECPR Press or the OUP Comparative Politics series.



Religious Actors in the Fourth Wave of Democratization: Constructive, Obstructive or Destructive?

Chair: Julia Leininger,
German Development
Institute

Endorsed by the
Standing Group on
Religion and Politics

Members of the group

Mirjam Kuenkler, Princeton
University

Murat Somer, Koç University

Subrata Kumar Mitra, National
University of Singapore

André La Liberté, University of
Ottawa

Thomas Koelble, University of Cape
Town

This group met to work on a book proposal aimed at building on their previous work to systematize the role religious actors have played in the democratization processes of the Fourth Wave across all three phases of the democratization process (erosion of authoritarian rule, transition, and consolidation) and across a diversity of cases from all major religious backgrounds. This work has been published in the journal *Democratization* (2010, 16, 6) and a volume edited by Julia Leininger (2014); the group also organised a Panel at the 2009 General Conference in Potsdam. Compared their previous work, which focused on Muslim and Christian cases, the proposed volume of this group adds cases from other world religions, notably Buddhism, Orthodox Christianity, and Hinduism. It also, importantly, will systematize not only the contribution of religious actors to democratization, but also to de-democratization processes and



Micro-cues to macro-moods: Validating social media data to track Euroscepticism



Public Opinion and Voting Behaviour in a Comparative Perspective

Members of the group

Heinz Brandenburg, University of Strathclyde

Robert Johns, University of Essex

Maarja Lühiste, University of Leicester

Peter Selb, Universität Konstanz

This group aims to explore the potential of how social media data can be harnessed to measure public opinion. The benefits are considerable: this form of ‘big data’ promises a low cost, real-time, continuous monitor of public mood. Yet there are serious problems of validity and representativeness to be overcome before that potential can be realised. This network brings together experts from social media research

and survey methodology – the ‘new’ and ‘old’ schools of public opinion research – to further develop an innovative method that translates data from micro-blogs and social media into measures of public opinion that are comparable to already-established measures.

The Research Sessions provided the opportunity for this established network to draft a full funding proposal and to assess longer-term funding options, as well as to identify opportunities to disseminate and discuss its progress with the scientific community en route. The group plans also to present papers at the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR), the largest annual gathering of survey professionals and public opinion academics around the world, at the ECPR General Conferences and at other major gatherings; they also have a workshop proposal under consideration for the Joint Sessions in Pisa, 2016.



Studying the causes of populism

Chair: Sarah De Lange, University of Amsterdam

Endorsed by the Standing Group on Extremism and Democracy and the Standing Group on Latin American Politics.

Members of the group

Cristobal Rovira Kaltwasser, Universidad Diego Portales

Kirk Hawkins, Brigham Young University

Levente Littvay, Central European University

Nina Wiesehomeier, Universidade de Lisboa Instituto de Ciências Sociais

Ryan Carlin, Georgia State University

This research project is embedded with the ECPR network. The project team had its first meeting at the ECPR General Conference 2014 in Glasgow and will meet again at the ECPR General Conference 2015 in Montreal. The point of departure for the project is an ideational (discursive, ideological) definition of populism as a Manichaean discourse that sees politics as a struggle between a reified 'will of the people' and a conspiring elite. Their main question is to explain what makes varying levels of populism appear on the political stage of any country.

The project consists of two distinct phases and aims at building a collaborative, long-term scholarly network. The first phase is a preparatory one and is comprised of two conferences (one at the end of April this year at the London Centre of Brigham Young University and one scheduled to be held at Brigham Young University in Utah in January 2016) leading towards an edited volume. The second phase consists

of the development of a series of large grant proposals which were drafted at the Research Sessions.



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Charles University in Prague
7 – 10 September 2016



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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
City of Vienna
16
February 2014

Workshops of
Salamanca
City of Salamanca
Spain
19 April 2014

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Dates for diaries

Montreal General Conference

Université de Montréal 26 - 29 August 2015

5th Winter School in Methods and Techniques

University of Bamberg 26 February – 4 March 2016

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
28 Oct 2015	Call for Panels and Papers

6th Research Sessions

Radboud University Nijmegen Summer 2016 (dates tbc)

11th Summer School in Methods and Techniques

Central European University, Budapest 28 July – 13 August

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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