



Review of Activities

2012–2015

ecpr

European Consortium for Political Research

Contents

About the ECPR	2
Report from the Chair	4
Vice Chair's Report	6
Treasurer's Report	8
Executive Committee reports	10
Council	21
Director's Report	22
Central Services	24
Membership	26
Prizes	28
Funding	30
Joint Sessions of Workshops	32
General Conference	36
Research Sessions	39
Methods School	42
Graduate Student Conference	46
Graduate Student Network	49
ECPR Press	50
EJPR	54
EPSR	56
EPS	58
Comparative Politics	60
Standing Groups and Research Networks	62
Executive Committee 2015–2018	82

About the ECPR

Established in 1970, the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) is an independent, scholarly association that supports and encourages the training, research and cross-national cooperation of political scientists throughout Europe and the rest of the world

The ECPR is a non-profit organisation with its administration (Central Services) based in Colchester in the United Kingdom. It is a registered charity in the UK (Charity Number 299615) and as such operates within the guidelines of the UK's Charity Commission and UK Charity law. The Executive Committee and all officers of the ECPR are therefore accountable to the Charity Commission.

The actions of the ECPR, its Council, Trustees (Executive Committee) and administration are governed by its Constitution;

the Constitution was last amended in October 2013 and a copy can be found on the ECPR's website http://www.ecpr.eu/Filestore/Files/ECPR/ECPR_Constitution.pdf. As a registered charity, the ECPR is audited every year by an independent firm of accountants. The statements for the period in question can be found on the Charity Commission's website www.charity-commission.gov.uk.

Activities

The ECPR's core activities are organising conferences, workshops, methods training for graduate students, publishing books and

journals, awarding prizes, funding to attend ECPR organised or supported events, providing networking opportunities through its Standing Groups and Research Networks, and the promotion and representation of European political science in relation to governmental, funding and other public bodies.

Membership

The ECPR's membership is institutional and is currently comprised of some 340 universities concerned with the teaching and research of political science. As the ECPR's membership has grown

over the years so too has its reach beyond the borders of Europe, into the Americas, Australia, Asia and the rest of the world. The ECPR operates two types of membership: 'full membership' for institutions based within Europe and 'associate membership' for all institutions based outside of Europe. Associate members have the opportunity to upgrade to full membership. Whilst both levels of membership enjoy similar benefits there are several distinctions. For example, only individuals from full member institutions may stand for election to the Executive Committee, vote in Council elections, act as Workshop Directors for the Joint Sessions of Workshops or host an ECPR event.

The Official Representative

Each member institution must appoint an Official Representative (OR). The ORs' role is to represent their institution in relation to the ECPR as well as representing the ECPR in relation to their institution, ensuring that all staff and students are aware of the benefits available to them. Because the ECPR is an institutional membership association, the role of the OR is key to ensuring the flow of communication between the ECPR and its membership.

The ECPR Council

Comprised of one Official Representative from each full member institution, the Council meets annually at the General Conference. The Council receives and considers reports, including a financial statement of accounts, from the Executive Committee and Director, through discussion of which it carries out its responsibility for the general strategic direction of the ECPR. Extraordinary meetings

may also be called to consider specific issues arising, such as constitutional reform.

The Executive Committee

The Executive Committee (EC) is the ECPR's Board of 12 Trustees, elected by the Council every three years. Each member of the EC is elected for a six-year term, unless they are co-opted, in which case they must stand at the next election in order to continue for a further three-year term. To facilitate continuity the EC members' terms are staggered by three years, meaning that six new members are elected every three years by electronic ballot. The members of the EC are elected from the full member institutions of the ECPR. A Chair-Designate is elected by the outgoing EC the preceding autumn. This ensures that the ECPR is led by someone who already has three years' experience of working on the Executive Committee and for the ECPR.

The Executive Committee is responsible for the day-to-day running of the Consortium as well as the formulation of long-term strategic development plans and activities. To make this task more manageable each member of the EC is given a distinct portfolio for each three-year term. The Executive Committee meets at least twice a year, at the ECPR offices in Colchester in January and at the General Conference in the autumn.

The Director

Amongst the Executive Committee's responsibilities is the appointment of the Director of the ECPR. The Director oversees Central Services by working with the CS Management Group and works across all the

portfolio areas, supporting and advising members of the EC as well as liaising closely with the Chair and Vice Chair on all matters, and taking forward operational matters as and where necessary.

Senior Management Team

Due to the rising volume and complexity of ECPR business, it is not possible for the EC to act easily on a day-to-day basis to meet demands and challenges. During the 2006-09 Executive Committee it was decided to create a Senior Management Team (SMT) drawn from the members of the EC.

Central Services

The ECPR's administration is based in Colchester. Until December 2014 it was based at the University of Essex; from January 2015 it moved to an office building close to the University in Colchester, which the ECPR purchased in the autumn of 2014. The ECPR currently employs 18 members of staff, responsible for the organisation of all ECPR events, its publishing portfolio, the ECPR Press, liaison with the membership, the website and online services, publicity, and the financial management of the Consortium. Managed by the Director and the Management Group, the staff at Central Services work closely with individual members of the Executive Committee on a day-to-day basis to implement their joint portfolio responsibilities.



Chair's Report

Simona Piattoni,
University of Trento

The keyword of my chairship – a commitment that I have shared with the entire EC – has been ‘institutionalisation’. The ECPR had grown fantastically since its inception in 1970, becoming a large and differentiated association organising many different activities that reached more than 10,000 individual senior, junior and future scholars. What had initially been the brilliant idea of some of the founding fathers of European political science has become a large organisation whose members did not know each other before attending one of its events, but who inevitably networked and became acquainted during those events. The ECPR was, at the time of my election, suffering from the pains of a ‘growth spurt’, a *crise de croissance* which threatened to choke its future growth.

Together with the new Executive Committee (EC), we embarked upon a drive to regularise the many often informal and verbal agreements made during the first forty years and to lay the foundations for a more durable institution. This inevitably meant ending some special privileges that had been agreed upon for reasons that were sometimes unknown to us or that were simply due to mistakes (such as the failure to update the fees charged to UK member institutions, which, when this was rectified, certainly aggravated some of them). It also meant streamlining relations whenever possible and enforcing



stricter rules and deadlines, first of all in the collection of membership dues. It further meant reassessing the efficacy of retaining some membership privileges – such as giving a free paper copy of *EPS* to all ORs, instead replacing it with online access to all individual affiliates of institutional members – with the aim of investing the resources thus saved in new and better activities. You will find the outcome of this strategy in the Membership report.

Some of the institutional and organisational innovations introduced by my EC are recalled by the Vice-Chair in his report, so there is no need to repeat them here, and the financial implications of multiplying the ECPR's activities are contained in the Finance report. What I would like to convey in my report is the care with which we have thought through each and every decision. First of all, a word on the re-organisation of Central Services (CS) and its assistance to the EC. As underscored by the Vice-Chair and the Director, the managerial level of

Central Services has been boosted and CS-EC pairings have been established for each portfolio (some, more articulated portfolios, such as Publications, require commensurably more articulated pairings). The aim has been to make CS ever more professional and self-managing, but also to spread these capacities across the board and particularly across a managerial layer that could, on occasion, absorb temporary shortages and step in to help individual portfolio teams. This way, under the supervision of the Director, we aimed at making CS less in need of day-to-day supervision for all ordinary tasks and more proactive in suggesting further improvements.

Moreover, continuing a policy inaugurated by my predecessor, I set out to strengthen the organisation of EC and CS work into subcommittees. These are committees made up of the relevant EC portfolio holder, at least another EC member (and *ex officio* the Chair and the Director), advised by additional individuals as appropriate, which collectively

run each portfolio and report to the EC for all important decisions. Subcommittees are formed in such a way as to encourage cross-pollination of ideas and the exploitation of synergies. ECPR activities cannot be run as independent silos: Standing Groups play a fundamental role in organising the General Conference (hence the EC member for GC is a member of the subcommittee of Standing Groups and vice versa); the Joint and Research Sessions have some obvious contact points (hence the two EC members responsible for those portfolios sit in each other's subcommittee); Graduate Matters and Methods Schools share the same ‘target audience’, graduate students; Membership and Publicity must agree on how to reach existing and potential members and make the advantages of being members of the ECPR increasingly clear. Publications, moreover, has many contact points with many other portfolios and Gender is a mainstreamed concern in all our activities, so a subcommittee is in charge for gender issues. Such a degree of interconnectedness, I believe, has never been attempted before – and could certainly be further improved!

The keyword of my chairship [...] has been ‘institutionalisation’

Also, the transformation of the ECPR into a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) is aimed at the same general goal, thanks to the effort of a Constitutional Review Group (see report). The many needs

of the ECPR Standing Groups have been given attention, continuing the focus of the previous EC. You will find a detailed account of the intense dialogue with, and ensuing reform of management of, the Standing Groups in the relevant report. Scholarly events are clearly the main activity of the ECPR. While for the Joint Sessions the effort has been to try to hold them in locations we had never visited before – and particularly the locations of our Central and Eastern European members – for the General Conference the challenge has been to find member institutions that were willing and capable of hosting such large events. As the General Conferences are aiming to become the main appointments for political science professionals, we have tried to enrich their programmes with additional services each year. The Methods Schools have also doubled their offer (as initiated under the previous EC) and the Research Sessions have renewed their service to already established groups of scholars aiming at a scholarly publication. Last but not least, Publications is the area in which we have sought to establish the most ramified and intense synergic relations with all other areas of the ECPR, something that should emerge from the relevant report.

Finally, among the specific tasks of a Chair is that of entertaining relations with other political science associations, and in this regard I and other members of the EC have regularly attended APSA, IPSA, ISA, EISA, EPSA and various PSAs, I

have attended the first Pan-American Conference of AMECIP in Mexico and we have established a friendly contact with the Asian Consortium for Political Research (ACPR). The Director and I have also networked with other associations in the social sciences and humanities through EASSH. Another task of the Chair is that of organizing the committees in charge of selecting the winners for the (by now) eleven prizes that the ECPR either directly awards or assists other associations in awarding. While this is one of the most pleasant tasks of a scholar, it is nonetheless a most time-consuming one, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have served in the many ECPR juries.

In taking leave from the role of Chair of the Executive Committee of the ECPR during the 2012-15 period, I would like to thank the Director, Martin Bull, for his unfailing collaboration and professionalism, all the past and current members of Central Services for their commitment and enthusiasm, and of course the fellow members of the current Executive Committee who have, for a longer or a briefer spell, shared with me work and responsibilities during these three very intense years. My final thought goes to the members of the ECPR, the institutions and the Official Representatives – so to Council and its Speaker – in full knowledge that without them the ECPR would not exist and could not keep improving itself.



Vice Chair's Report

Niilo Kauppi,
Institut d'études
politiques, Strasbourg

The ECPR is an ongoing project, and there is always something to fix or add.

Since the beginning of my term as Vice Chair in 2012, there has been no shortage of work. Partly this has been due to the rapidly changing landscape in which professional organisations have to operate. Moving parts have included the evolving policies of other professional organisations such as the EPSA; the shifting financial basis of our member institutions in the midst of the crisis; the shrinking funding of the EU and national funding agencies; developments in electronic publishing and legal frameworks; and last but not least, the expectations colleagues in member institutions have of the ECPR and what membership should bring to them. Partly we have all been busy because of the internal need to streamline the organisation, and specifically to fine tune the division of labour in Central Services (CS) and develop cooperation between CS and the Executive Committee (EC) while taking into account their needs.

The Vice Chair, along with the Director, assists the Chair, and with the Treasurer takes part in most of the ECPR's subcommittee work. Since 2012, several projects have



been underway. These have included: transforming the ECPR from a Charity to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO); balancing the ECPR's accounts; providing new guidelines for the Standing Groups; recruiting a Director; finding a new home for Central Services; increasing the publishing activity of ECPR; creating the position of Speaker of the Council; and finding venues for the ECPR's numerous events (General Conferences, Joint Sessions, Research Sessions, as well as the Summer and Winter Schools, and the Graduate Student Conference).

Transforming the ECPR into a CIO will give us the opportunity to update the ECPR constitution, which has already required a few *ad hoc* amendments but which is still both too detailed and not comprehensive enough. Balancing the budget has involved adopting a new budgeting policy. The increase in the number and activities of Standing Groups has required developing a regulatory framework,

following other organisations such as APSA. Recruiting new editors for the ECPR's growing publications activity is a constant challenge that requires a lot of proactive work from CS and EC. Central Services has also expanded, and moved location.

From my perspective all these very diverse activities fall under a broader umbrella, the institutionalization of the ECPR, which is also a process of professionalisation and diversification. The challenge has consisted in developing the organisation without losing sight of the main mission of ECPR, promoting European political science by providing our members with the services they expect from us.

I have wholeheartedly supported the Chair's approach to streamlining the operations of ECPR. It is absolutely necessary given the rapid expansion of ECPR activities. This objective has meant attempting to move away from increasing micro-management to a flattening of the organisation in terms of pairing Central Service

specialisation with Executive Committee portfolios. The goal has been to transform the ECPR into a flexible, self-regulating organisation. As a result, and ideally, the EC should spend more of its time using the experience of its members to draw up the broad strategies of the ECPR. In the EC, one crucial element has been to make sure that there is a fit between the previous experience of new EC members and the portfolios they are assigned. This has enabled each one to find a job that s/he is comfortable with, and thus a full usage of individual strengths. Naturally every new cohort of Executive Committee members is eager to leave its mark, adding to the already existing tasks.

“The ECPR is an ongoing project, and there is always something to fix or add

Simona's leadership and the considerable input of members of the EC and especially the CS made all of this possible. But the ECPR's success is more than organisational. Overall the ECPR has succeeded in

developing a truly multicultural work milieu that successfully integrates colleagues from different academic cultures, getting them around the same table with the same purpose, following Jean Monnet's vision of European integration. Simona succeeded in creating a 'we' feeling around our common purpose. The challenge will be to make sure that new EC members are integrated at all levels, that they appropriate for themselves the organisation's objectives, and that all members stay on board as active contributors to European political science.



Treasurer's Report

Richard Katz,
Johns Hopkins University

The Finance subcommittee had two major objectives for the term of this Executive Committee. The first was to establish a sound financial basis going forward for the significant expansion of activities and services begun under the two previous Executive Committees. The second was to improve the standard of financial reporting and control so as to minimise the possible recurrence of the kind of problems that arose in 2009 and were confronted by the previous Executive Committee, and, more generally, to increase the standard of financial services.

The priority of ensuring long-term financial stability in some measure stems from the decisions of previous Executive Committees to undertake a number of laudable and even necessary initiatives, including the launch of the *European Political Science Review (EPSR)*, the addition of a winter methods school, the move to an annual General Conference, improved online presence and IT services – and the additional staff required to support these expanded activities. This was then complicated by the impact of the world-wide and eurozone financial crises, and by significant, and unanticipated, legal expenses. In response, the Executive Committee has been particularly attentive to controlling costs of existing activities and to avoiding new initiatives that cannot be supported with existing revenues.



One specific area in which reform was necessary was that of membership fees. To address this:

- We have eliminated the discrepancy between fees charged to British members and the fees charged to everyone else. The membership fee is now set exclusively in euros, and converted to sterling for the convenience of British members.
- We are taking steps to return the OECD Associate Member fee to its original level of 50% of the full member fee.
- We are eliminating the special low rate for members from CIS countries, so that they will be charged the same fee as members from Central and Eastern Europe.

With regard to registration and other fees for ECPR events:

- We have adopted a policy that the registration fees for individuals from non-member institutions will always be at least 150% of the fees charged

for participants from member institutions.

- We have adopted the objective that each event should be self-supporting, or else make a strong justification for subsidy from the surpluses of other activities, with all activities strictly monitored for efficiency.
- We have discontinued providing financial support to methods schools that compete with our own schools.

With regard to oversight:

- We have increased both the speed and the frequency with which financial reports are generated and reviewed.

The overall financial position of the ECPR is sound. Over the three year period from the end of 2010 through to the end of 2013, the net assets of the ECPR grew by roughly 13%, to £1,176,253. Over the same period, gross income increased by 34.8%, while expenditures increased by 40.7%, largely due to the additional staff and other start-up costs of new

activities that can be expected to generate correspondingly increased income once they become fully established. Notwithstanding the more rapid growth of expenditures, the ECPR finished 2013 with a small net surplus.

The overall financial position of the ECPR is sound

The ECPR investment portfolio, managed by Broadstone Pension & Investments Ltd, was at the end of

2013 valued at £734,881. The ECPR maintains additional reserves in the form of bank deposits, with the aim of having total reserves equivalent to approximately 12 months' regular expenditure.

Looking to the future, the ECPR can anticipate two significant budgetary challenges. The first, and most immediate, is the result of the expiry of the ECPR's lease with the University of Essex for its office accommodation – for which we had been paying substantially less than the market rate. Although the University offered the ECPR space in its new 'Knowledge Gateway' project, this would have been at commercial rates. The rent offered would, after an initial discount, rise to nearly twice what the ECPR has been

paying in the second year, a figure that is exclusive of rates, utilities, and common area service charges, with additional increases in years four and five, followed by an 'upward only' rent review at the end of year five. After careful consideration the Executive Committee decided that the only financially viable option was to purchase a building to house Central Services.

Like many scholarly associations, the ECPR derives significant income from its journals – in particular from the *EJPR*. Although no one knows exactly what the impact of Open Access Publishing will be for the journal income of scholarly associations, the potential is clearly there for this to be dramatically reduced.

ECPR audited accounts 2011–2013

Audited Turnover 2011–2013

Year	Revenue	Expenditure	Balance
2011	£1,480,902	£1,214,845	£266,057
2012	£1,185,110	£1,236,845	-£51,735
2013	£1,574,568	£1,573,164	£1,404

Averaged Income

Item	Amount	% of total income
Membership Subscriptions	£476,558	33.71%
ECPR Press	£82,130	5.81%
Other Income	£50,433	3.57%
Methods Schools	£238,653	16.88%
Publications	£304,927	21.57%
General & Graduate Conferences	£260,825	18.45%
Total	£1,413,527	

Averaged Expenditure

Item	Amount	% of total expenditure
Personnel	£458,152	34.15%
Executive Committee	£106,912	7.97%
Other administrative	£147,363	10.98%
ECPR Press	£52,061	3.88%
Publications	£74,742	5.57%
Methods Schools	£217,624	16.22%
General & Graduate Conferences	£173,093	12.90%
Joint & Research Sessions	£20,856	1.55%
Grants & Prizes	£77,828	5.80%
Communications & Publicity	£12,987	0.97%
Total	£1,341,618	

Executive Committee Reports

The ECPR's Executive Committee is comprised of twelve senior academics elected from the ECPR's membership. Each member serves a term of six years, with half of the ECPR standing down every three years. Each EC member is allocated a portfolio to work on for a three-year term

Other members whose reports precede these: Simona Piattoni, Università degli studi di Trento: Chair, International Events, Prizes and Awards; Niilo Kauppi, Institut d'études politiques, Strasbourg: Vice-Chair, Publications; Richard Katz, Johns Hopkins University: Treasurer.



Klaus Goetz, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München
General Conference



Ólafur Th. Hardarson, University of Iceland
Membership



Manuel Sánchez de Dios, Universidad Complutense de Madrid
Joint Sessions



Birgit Sauer, University of Vienna
Public Relations, Lobbying and Publicity, Methods School



Jonas Tallberg, Stockholm University
General Conference



Luca Verzichelli, Università degli Studi di Siena
Research Sessions, Publications



Rudy Andeweg, Universiteit Leiden
Standing Groups, Constitutional Review



Mary Farrell, University of Plymouth
Graduate Student Conference

Membership

The ECPR's members are the lifeblood of the organisation: individual scholars at all stages of their careers from many countries and attend events, publish work, run and participate in Standing Groups and Networks, access and share rich networks; and their universities pay the membership fees which not only allow their staff and students to participate, but allow the ECPR to function. Without its members there would be no ECPR and the last three years have seen a stronger emphasis placed on membership than

ever before, both through revisions of policy at EC level and increased staffing at CS level. This EC has focused its efforts on increasing the differential treatment between member and non-member affiliates so as to make ECPR membership all the more valuable, while still providing significant opportunities for non-members to participate in ECPR activities. Significant work has also been done to improve retention and growth of membership and, despite financial difficulties for many universities, this has resulted

in a steady increase in members over the past three membership years, of seven percent to 343 in 2013/14 (for full figures see the Membership section later in the Review).

While most ECPR members are political science institutions in Western Europe, the number of member institutions from Central and Eastern Europe increased in this period, as did the number of Associate Members. A constitutional amendment passed by the previous Executive Committee allows Associate Members to upgrade to Full Member status after a period of six years' consecutive membership – in this period four members have upgraded in this way (from Australia, Canada, Israel and the United States).

At the heart of the ECPR's membership are the Official Representatives (ORs) who, because of the institutional membership format of the ECPR, play a pivotal role in the governance of the Consortium through their seat on Council and through the ambassadorial role they play within their institution for the ECPR. Development of the relationship with the ORs has also been a priority for this EC, especially as it has been in a position to implement the constitutional changes carried through by the last EC which have brought about annual meetings of the Council and the chairing of Council by a Speaker elected by ORs (see below). The ORs have responded magnificently to these changes and we feel we are witnessing a revitalisation of Council and the ORs. We thank them for their pivotal work for the ECPR.



Constitutional Review

In the past three years, several articles of the ECPR Constitution have been amended. At the Antwerp Council meeting, nine amendments were proposed: to create a single Director, replacing the two roles of Academic and Administrative Director; to put in place a procedure for handling allegations of misconduct by members of the Executive Committee; to create the office of Speaker of the ECPR Council; to specify the procedure for electing a Chair of the Executive Committee; to have annual Council meetings; and standardise and clarify several organisational features. The constitutional amendments were put to an electronic vote (since the Council was inquorate to pass constitutional amendments at Antwerp) and were passed with a nearly 50 percent turnout among Official Representatives. All amendments were approved by a majority of between 89 and 99 percent.

Subsequently it was decided that the annual Council meetings should be held at the, now also annual, General Conferences, instead of at the Joint Sessions, with a view to increasing the opportunities for ORs to attend meetings. In order to avoid problems with the scheduling of the election of Executive Committee members, this necessitated a further constitutional amendment, which was tabled at the 2013 Council meeting in Bordeaux and subsequently approved by electronic voting (since the Bordeaux Council was inquorate to pass a constitutional amendment) by 99 percent on a turnout of 43 percent.

The introduction of a Speaker of Council necessitated elections for that office. Rules were drawn up for this purpose and David Farrell was elected as the ECPR's first ever Speaker of Council with 52 percent of the votes.

Meanwhile, work has started on changing the legal status of the ECPR under UK Charity Law, currently defined as a 'Charitable Trust'. Recently, the Charity Commission introduced the possibility for UK charities to adopt a new legal status, that of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). After exploring the advantages and disadvantages of both legal statuses, the Executive Committee decided that it was time to transform the ECPR into a CIO, and this process is underway. The change will involve a rewriting of the ECPR Constitution

as well as a comprehensive review of ECPR operations from the perspective of the change of legal status (personnel procedures, contracts, pensions and so on). The transformation can only go ahead after a positive vote from the ECPR Council to which the necessary documentation will be submitted during the term of office of the next EC.



Standing Groups

Standing Groups are of growing importance to the ECPR. The number of Standing Groups is now 45 and they are increasingly active. They contribute to Joint Sessions and General Conferences by proposing or sponsoring Workshops and Panels, but many also organise their own conferences. Almost all of them have websites linked to the ECPR website, some of which are highly developed. The activities reported by Standing Groups range from publishing newsletters and scholarly journals, and awarding prizes, to organising Summer Schools. The number of Standing Group Summer Schools is expanding, with eight applications for an ECPR grant in 2012 (five awarded) and 12 such applications in 2013 (nine awarded). The budget for these activities has been increased in response to this growing demand. The enthusiasm and commitment

of the Convenors and Steering Committees of the Standing Groups and the activities they generate are an indication of the vibrancy of ECPR beyond its centrally-organised events. The more prominent role of Standing Groups has highlighted issues of reporting and financial accountability, on which this Executive Committee has received important legal advice and on which it has acted. Standing Groups are not independent legal entities, and under UK Charity Law the Executive Committee bears full responsibility for all their activities and financial transactions. In addition, Standing Groups have become very diverse. Some have a very narrow focus while others have a broad scope. They range in size from 20 to 2200 members. Some have a constitution of some form, while the governance of others has been left to informal arrangements, often

relying on a single highly committed Convenor.

Because of these developments the previous Standing Group Guidelines and Procedures have been replaced by a new Standing Group Framework. The new regulatory framework has been developed in close contact with the Standing Group convenors: a special meeting with Standing Group convenors to discuss the changes was held during the Bordeaux General Conference, and many convenors sent in their comments and suggestions after a first draft had been circulated to them. The new Framework that is now in place (and is published on the website) aims to maintain the autonomy of Standing Groups to develop their own academic activities while streamlining procedures and governance structures. In future, ECPR Standing Groups will be relatively broad-based, with a fairly large membership and a wide range of activities. A new organisational category, ECPR Research Networks, has been introduced for groups with a more narrow focus, a smaller membership, and/or fewer activities to allow innovative initiatives that do not (yet) meet the criteria to form a Standing Group.

A further development has been the creation of a new organisation, the European International Studies Association (EISA), by members of the Steering Committee of the Standing Group on International Relations (SGIR). There are also other fields and sub-disciplines for which organisations exist parallel to the ECPR, and this should not be seen as problematic in itself. Indeed, the Executive Committee would welcome future cooperation between EISA and ECPR in general, and the ECPR's Standing Groups in the field of international studies



(such as the Standing Groups on International Relations, on Critical Peace and Conflict Studies, and on International Political Theory) in particular. However, the steering committees of SGIR and EISA currently overlap, and the Executive Committee regrets the developments which have seen the SGIR's rich legacy of activities, such as the Pan-European Conferences on International Relations, transferred to EISA, or effectively ended, as with the SGIR website. The current Steering Committee of the SGIR has further demanded the transfer of the *European Journal of International Relations (EJIR)* to EISA. The position of the Executive Committee is that ECPR continues to regard the study of international relations as an integral part of political science and remains committed to seeing conferences, Workshops and Panels in this field, as well as a journal, all

Gender

The Event Participation Study produced by the previous EC laid the foundations for further work into the representation and participation of women in the ECPR and wider profession over the past three years. The results of the 2012 study showed that overall, across all ECPR events 41.7 percent of participants were female. A closer look shows that at graduate level female attendance is generally higher (208 women vs 188 men at the 2013 Winter School for example) but that the Joint Sessions are still largely male dominated (in 2006 only 26.5 percent of Workshop Directors were female, rising to 41.2 percent in 2011 and within this period only 35.3 percent of participants were female). More recent research has shown that in 2014, 40 percent of Standing Group

organised by a strong and vibrant Standing Group. While the members of the SGIR Steering Committee are, of course, free to form any extramural organisation they like, and as individuals to leave the SGIR whenever they like, the Executive Committee insists that the SGIR itself is an integral part of the ECPR, and an important institution for future generations of IR scholars within the ECPR. If members of the Steering Committee feel unable or unwilling to contribute to an active SGIR within ECPR, they should allow others to take on that responsibility. As regards the *EJIR*, it is currently published 'under the auspices of the Standing Group on International Relations of the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR)', and copyrights are held by Sage and ECPR together. Having taken legal advice, the Executive Committee sees no reason

to change that, but hopes to reach an amicable agreement in the interest of the further development of the study of international politics.



convenors were women; since 2000 only 23 percent of all EC members have been women and since 2004 just 27 percent of all ECPR Press authors have been women. Addressing these imbalances at the level of governance of the ECPR is therefore a priority for future ECs.

With the aim of further understanding these disparities so they can be addressed, the EC established a 'Gender Task Force' in 2013, including the members of the EC subcommittee on Gender (Martin Bull, Niilo Kauppi, Simona Piattoni, Birgit Sauer and Jonas Tallberg), and occasionally an expert on gender issues from the ECPR Standing Group on Gender and Politics.

Data on gender has never before been collected as standard by the ECPR, so the Gender Task Force is

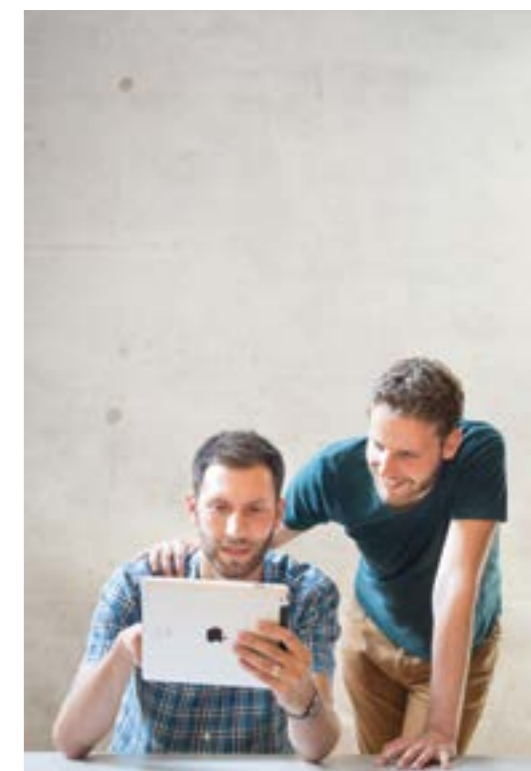
working with staff at Central Services to develop ways to systematically gather sex-segregated data for committees, Standing Groups, events and publications of the ECPR going forward. Where the data is available it has been included in the individual activity reports throughout this document.

One notable development of this period was the inclusion by the EC of the 'Gender PhD prize' into the official list of ECPR awards. This prize has been awarded since 2013 by the Standing Group on Gender and Politics to an outstanding PhD thesis in the field of Gender Studies.

Website

In terms of communicating with our members and the outside world the website is the public face of the ECPR; it is also the mechanism for conference registrations, payments and management of people's relationship with the ECPR. The website is fundamental to everything at the ECPR, since the 'back end' database that powers it is also used by every member of CS staff to manage their work - to organise events, to track membership levels, to receive payments and to publicise activities. A fundamental review of the website was conducted in the autumn of 2011 and it was concluded that, with the technological platform on which it was based - it could not deliver the

enhanced functionality that the ECPR required. The decision was therefore made to re-write the website from source, a process that has been long, difficult and complex and resulted in the creation of a Central Services IT Team of three web developers and a Web Implementation Group (WIG) which discusses and prioritises the web needs of the organisation. The work continues today, although several important milestones have been passed and the website now offers a level of enhanced functionality which provides both staff and members with much better user experiences than the website of the past.



Publicity

The ECPR's membership model means that effective communication with the individuals that use the organisation and the institutions that pay for the membership is vital. The past three years have seen the portfolio of Publicity further integrate itself into the work of the Executive Committee and Central Services. Developments during this period have been aimed at maximising the impact of publicity while keeping costs to a minimum; in this vein for example, the frequency of *ECPR News* was increased from biannually to quarterly, the contents were revised and it moved to digital publication only. In addition to the review of *ECPR News*, two new regular email bulletins were added to the schedule: a quarterly Publications bulletin, highlighting the breadth of the ECPR's publishing portfolio; and a jobs bulletin. The

latter has proved particularly popular with members and non-members alike, providing an additional benefit for members and a new revenue stream (non-members pay to advertise jobs within it).

Through MyECPR we currently have around 17,000 individuals signed up to the mailing lists, which gives us an indication of the size of the community ECPR is serving.

Digital marketing continues to be the main focus of our efforts because of its high effectiveness and low cost. The last three years have seen a significant growth in our usage of Twitter; this is now an extremely effective way to communicate with the membership and our number of followers continues to grow (as of January 2015 we are at just over 5,000 followers).



Publications

Academic publishing is an increasingly complex and challenging industry yet the ECPR's own publications remain at the forefront. Perhaps the single most significant challenge to publications has been Open Access (OA), and the British government's mandate that all research funded by UK research councils, and all research to be formally assessed in the Research Excellence Framework, be published in OA format. Much work has been done over the past three years to ensure our established journals can adapt to accommodate OA research while maintaining their profile and protecting the revenues they generate, since this forms a considerable part of the ECPR's overall income. We will need to continue to follow developments in this area.

Impact Factor continues to be considered a gauge of success for a journal and in 2013 the *European Journal of Political Research (EJPR)* achieved an IF of 2.152, an increase of 56 percent on the previous year which put it at number eight in the table of social science journals.

Investigation into wildly fluctuating Impact Factors over the past few ECs had shown that in some years *Political Data Yearbook (PDY)* articles were counted in the denominator and some not. To prevent this distortion continuing the *PDY* was separated from the *EJPR* by ISSN. 2013 also marked the 40th anniversary of the journal, one of the ECPR's highest profile and longest standing activities. In 2014 the frequency of publication was reduced from six to four issues, creating cost savings which offset a simultaneous increase in the trim size of the journal that allowed for an additional three-four articles to be published each volume (15 percent extra content) at no extra cost to the subscriber.

A most significant development in the

portfolio this term was the launch of the *PDY-Interactive*. Years of rich and unique data on parties and elections has been carefully sorted and digitised and is now available free of charge online to search and download.

The ECPR's professional journal, *European Political Science (EPS)* was accepted in the Social Science Citation Index, and by 2013 was placed at 69 in the table, a rise from 118 the previous year. The continuing success of *EPS* led the EC to evaluate the demand for the print copy that has historically been sent to all Official Representatives. Since all members are provided with free online access to the full archive of *EPS* content it was agreed to discontinue this from 2015, thus making a cost saving that can be reinvested into other ECPR activities.

European Political Science Review (EPSR) continues to establish itself as a major general journal in political science in an increasingly difficult market. 2013 saw a drop in its Impact Factor but confidence for this still

young journal is high, moving from three to four issues a year in 2014 and with a fresh editorial team in place from 2015.

Over this period the ECPR published two book series, Research Methods (Palgrave Macmillan) and Comparative Politics (Oxford UP). While the Comparative Politics series continues to go from strength to strength, maintaining its reputation as the place to publish cutting edge work, the Research Methods series had been faltering in recent years, publishing very few volumes. With the two founding editors standing down in 2013 the decision was taken to close the series with Palgrave Macmillan and consider ways it could be reinvigorated under the ECPR Press.

ECPR Press continues to have four core series 'Monographs', 'Essays', 'Classics' and 'Studies in European Political Science'. The Press has expanded considerably, publishing a record 23 books in 2013. As of 2014 all new ECPR titles are available as eBooks.

Joint Sessions

Every spring since 1973, the ECPR has held the Joint Sessions of Workshops, an event recognised as one of the major highlights of the international political science calendar. In 2012 the Joint Sessions were hosted by the University of Antwerp (Belgium) and there were 30 Workshops with 525 participants. The Stein Rokkan Lecture was given by Cas Mudde, entitled 'Thirty years of Populist Radical Right Politics in Europe: so What?'. There was also a roundtable in honour of Peter Mair, chaired by Luciano Bardi. There was also a post conference colloquium organised by the University of Antwerpen, the City of Antwerp and the Policy Research Center - 'Decisive Governance about "Cities and the Europe 2020 Strategy"'. Antwerp marked the transition between Executive Committees, with Luciano Bardi bowing out as Chair and Simona Piattoni being elected at the new EC's first meeting; the first female Chair in the ECPR's history.

The 2013 Joint Sessions of

Workshops were hosted by the Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz (Germany). There were 33 Workshops with 537 participants, though some of them experienced difficulties arriving due to a big snowfall just before the event began. The Stein Rokkan Lecture was given by Jürgen Falter on 'Political Cleavages in the Weimar Republic and the Rise of National Socialism'. The opening speech was delivered by the Minister-President of Rhineland-Palatinate, Mrs Malu Dreyer and the renowned Nobel Prize Winner for Physics (1995), Paul Crutzen, made a visit to the workshop: 'Climate Change 2.0: Normative and Political Issues of Geoengineering' directed by Clare Heyward, Konrad Ott and Christian Baatz.

The 2014 Joint Sessions of Workshops were hosted by the University of Salamanca (Spain), at the beginning of the *Castilian Semana Santa* with its well-known religious processions. There were 24 Workshops with 431 participants.

The Stein Rokkan Lecture was given by Jean Blondel, who stood in at the last minute as Scott Mainwaring was unable to travel due to ill health; Professor Blondel spoke about the profession of political science. Former Chair Luciano Bardi also gave a Plenary Lecture on 'Political Parties, Responsibility and Responsiveness in Multi-Level Democracy'.

Following a review of income and expenditure across events, it was decided by the EC to bring the Joint Sessions into line with its other events (including those directed at graduates and younger scholars) which levy a fee on participants to attend. The EC viewed the introduction of a modest fee from 2015 as a means of the event supporting itself financially and therefore allowing the EC to direct financial support to other more deserving quarters.



Research Sessions

One of the oldest ECPR events, the Research Sessions were reintroduced to the annual agenda of ECPR activities in 2011, thanks to the enthusiasm of Peter Mair, who organised the first edition of the new cycle at the European University Institute in Florence. The idea was to reproduce the stimulating atmosphere of the historical sessions of the early 1970s, providing scholars with the opportunity to participate in a three-day event designed to launch new projects or prepare collective pieces of research for publication.

In July 2012, the Research Sessions were held for the second time at the European University Institute in Florence. After the successful experience of 2011, the number of participants was increased to more than 60 people (eight groups of up to eight people). The ECPR offered these groups the opportunity to meet and work in an inspiring academic venue, covering some accommodation expenses and organising social events during the Sessions. The following cycle of Research Sessions, for the years 2013 and 2014, were organised at the University of Essex. Both these events received a good number of applications (fifteen proposals each year). The number of admitted working groups was reduced to six, but the ECPR continued to provide the same financial support and services to the groups as they did in 2011. The Research Sessions are competitive and attractive to young scholars with limited financial resources.

In 2014 the ECPR put the hosting of the 2015 and 2016 events out to tender. The competition was strong, with 10 applications received from different European academic institutions. The Executive Committee chose the offer from the

Department of Political Science at Radboud University of Nijmegen.

Although the simple idea at the core of the Research Sessions – to improve the quality of collective research within European political science – will remain the same, the suggestions from the organising venues and from the community of the ECPR will help improve the format and the outcomes of this event in the future. With this in mind, the Executive Committee has

recently decided to give preference to applications endorsed by the ECPR Standing Groups. Representatives of the editorial board from the ECPR journals and book series are also involved in the selection procedure. Moreover, a review of the outcomes of the working groups participating in the recent Research Sessions has recently started, in order to provide a clear idea of the mid-term outcomes of the working groups during this event.



Methods School

Given the encouraging success of the first few Summer Schools in Methods and Techniques (SSMT), held in July in Ljubljana since 2006, the EC decided to double its offering in 2012 by launching a Winter School in Methods and Techniques (WSMT) which was held in February in Vienna from 2012 to 2014. The host for the 2015–2017 Winter Schools is the University of Bamberg.

The rationale behind the launch of the Winter School (a decision taken by the previous EC) was to offer an entire methods curriculum to advanced Master's and PhD students. These events have been enriched by plenaries delivered by 'methods-savvy' political scientists who have

illustrated the value added to good dissertation topics by employing the appropriate methodology and by other more informal moments during which experiences have been shared and problems discussed. The strategy also aimed at constantly renewing the palette of courses offered in the Methods School, introducing each year one or more innovative courses in exciting emerging methodologies.

The Winter Schools have been a success in their own right, while the Summer Schools have continued to attract numerous students. Students have been able to give their feedback on all courses provided and they have been able to interact with top-level methodologists from Europe

and the rest of the world. The methods curriculum, however, has not been fully exploited, perhaps because each student has a different training history, making the supply of standardised (though, as much as possible, tailor-made) curricula exceedingly difficult. Consequently, the curriculum strategy is currently being reassessed and potential synergies with the ECPR Press are also being explored. The EC and the Methods School Academic Convenors are currently thinking of new ideas to ensure that the ECPR Method Schools remains a unique experience and a fundamental service to the community of future European political scientists.

Graduate Matters

The Graduate Matters portfolio encompasses the Graduate Student Conference (GSC) and the Graduate Student Network (GSN); alongside the Methods School these activities are vital to the long-term health of the organisation since they introduce and integrate students into ECPR activities at the very start of their careers.

The 2012 Graduate Student Conference took place in Bremen at the BIGSSS (Bremen International Graduate School of Social Sciences) and was jointly organised by Jacobs University and the University of Bremen. This was the fourth GSC, attracting 429 students and featuring a plenary speech from Michael Zürn on the topic 'Authority and Legitimacy in the Postnational Constellation'. Alongside the academic content, four roundtables were run on topics of interest to graduate students,

including the ever-popular 'How to get Published'.

Shortly after the 2012 GSC the call for renewal of the Graduate Student Network Steering Committee was sent out. Elections were held in the autumn of 2012 and the six new members of the Steering Committee met with the Executive Committee in Mainz at the 2013 Joint Sessions. The two groups spoke about ways in which graduate students could help the ECPR cater more directly to the needs of the political scientists of the future and it was decided to streamline the management of the GSN along the lines of a Standing Group (with their own constitution, activity and financial reporting, and periodic renewal of the Steering Committee).

The 2014 Graduate Student Conference took place in Innsbruck (Austria) and attracted almost double the number of Section proposals as

the previous conference in Bremen. While the number of Panel proposals was very similar (116 in 2014 and 115 in 2012), there was an increase in the number of Paper proposals from 571 to 761. The processing of the large number of applications was facilitated by the fully automated online system – from making the initial proposals, through the evaluation process, to registration and payment of fees. In the final programme, 27 Sections were accepted, encompassing a total of 92 Panels. Of the 761 Papers submitted 581 were accepted, but of this figure 265 then withdrew. This high number of withdrawals is a concern, especially as it has implications for the organisation of the event. The EC together with the GSN will consider proposals for the management of the initial submissions and the academic programme to reduce withdrawal and drop-out rates.

General Conference

The General Conference (GC) has firmly established itself as the largest regular event for political scientists in Europe. Initially held every two years, the General Conference is now held annually. The 2013 conference was hosted by Sciences Po in Bordeaux; the 2014 conference took place at the University of Glasgow. At present, the following future hosts and venues are confirmed: Université de Montréal, 2015; Charles University in Prague, 2016; and the University of Oslo, 2017. Following an all-time high of over 2,200 paid registrations at Reykjavik in 2011, paid registrations have stabilised at just under 2,000. Efforts are under way to ensure that the Montreal event, the first GC to be held

outside Europe, will reach a similar figure. These efforts include making sure that hotel accommodation is available at favourable rates and that increases in attendance fees are kept to a minimum. Special efforts are also being made to attract participants from North America who may not have attended an ECPR event in the past. The numbers of Section proposals, Panel proposals and individual Papers continue to exceed the maximum that can be accommodated.

The transition to an annual conference has been accompanied by a range of changes to the organisation and programme of the GC, intended to make the conference

more easy to manage for the ECPR and more rewarding for participants. Such reforms include additional resources at Central Services, the shift to a more compressed proposal and acceptance timeline, improved electronic access to the academic programme including the launch of a conference app for Glasgow, the introduction of a new registration and payment system, and changes to the format of Panels in view of growing submission and rejection numbers. The EC is committed to continue this reform process, necessary for safeguarding the GC's status as the largest event for political scientists in Europe.

Council

Council is the ECPR's highest point of governance and is made up of the Official Representatives of full member institutions.

The key role of the Council is to meet annually, hold the EC accountable through receiving annual reports on its finances and activities and elect new members to the Executive Committee every three years, to which it delegates responsibility for running the Consortium.

This period of 2012–2015 has seen some significant changes to the way the Council meets and conducts its business.

As detailed in the Constitutional Review section of the Executive Committee reports, the Antwerp Council meeting saw nine amendments proposed to Council, including the creation of the office of Speaker of the ECPR Council and the proposal to have annual Council meetings (previously three-yearly). All were amendments were adopted.

It was decided that the annual Council meetings should be held at the General Conferences, since this is now the larger of the ECPR's



two main events. Then, to avoid problems with the scheduling of the election of Executive Committee members, Council approved a fully electronic electoral system, with the three processes of nomination, endorsement and ballot all being held via the ECPR website and to be completed by the end of February.

The introduction of a Speaker of Council then also necessitated elections for that office. Rules were drawn up for this purpose and David Farrell, University College Dublin, was elected as the ECPR's first ever Speaker of Council with 52 percent of the votes.

The Speaker of the Council holds a number of responsibilities including: chairing meetings of the Council; proposing amendments to the Standing Orders of Council; liaising with the Executive Committee over business matters and the formulation of the agenda of Council meetings; serving as Senior Returning Officer for Executive Committee elections and votes on amending the ECPR Constitution; being a general liaison point for members of Council vis-à-vis the ECPR.

The next Council meeting will take place during the 2015 General Conference in Montreal.



Director's Report

Martin Bull,
University of Salford

One of the last acts of the Executive Committee of 2009-12 was to propose to Council the abolition of its dual Director system of governance (through the Administrative and Academic Directors) and its replacement with a single Director model. This was approved, the Constitution amended and a process of appointment begun, which was completed in September 2013 with my appointment as the ECPR's first Director.

There was, of course, a strong element of continuity in this appointment since I had been serving as the ECPR's outgoing Academic Director (in 'expanded' form following the freezing of the Administrative Director post after the departure of Clare Dekker from the ECPR in 2010). Such continuity, however, was placed within a context of considerable ongoing change, if not revolution, to Central Services, its structure, culture and professionalisation following the turmoil produced by the staffing issues of 2009-10, aspects detailed in the Academic Director's Report of 2009-12.

To a large extent, therefore, my role as first Director has been to continue with the process of change I began in my previous role as Academic Director, especially through embedding a new Management Group and a related departmental



structure into Central Services. This, we believe, has been successful and has increased the effectiveness and efficiency of service provision of Central Services, as well as bringing stability to a situation which was in considerable turmoil for some time. In particular, I would draw attention to the Management Group (Director plus five Managers) which has become essential to the smooth running of Central Services and the delivery of events and other activities at the heart of the ECPR.

This is not to suggest that staffing has remained unchanged in this period, although the changes have been less focused on expansion and more on replacement or targeted reconfiguration than in the period 2009-12. That period experienced an increase in staff from nine in 2009 to 15 in 2012 (with three posts vacant, pending appointment, at the time of the last Review, taking the total posts to 18). This period (2012-15) has seen five staff leave and eight new staff join, taking us to 18 staff in 2015, the same as in 2012. The turnover has allowed us to

re-orient and invest more resource in Finance, Events, IT, ECPR Press and Standing Groups, while reducing the concentration of staffing in Human Resources (made possible by the ending of several staffing issues and the increased capacity of the Management Group to take on HR matters in conjunction with an HR consultant).

This re-orientation has been in keeping with the demands arising within the organisation: with various challenges on the financial front (see Treasurer's Report) regular financial control and monitoring is of the essence; the move towards an annual General Conference has necessitated more staff in this area; the pressing demands of new technologies to facilitate the administration of events has made development of the website ever more important; the increased production of books by ECPR Press has required more resource in the production line; and the development of a comprehensive Standing Group Framework, in the context of ever greater pro-activeness on the part of our Standing Groups, has

called for more effective liaison and administration in this area of ECPR's activities. The period, therefore, has been one of considerable change and activity on these fronts, accompanied by the same relentless intensity in the ECPR's heartlands: the management of its events.

The ECPR left the University of Essex campus on 19 December 2014 and moved to Harbour House at Hythe Quay on 26 January 2015

This period has also seen an increased visibility and role for the Council (meeting annually from 2013), especially through its first Speaker, David Farrell. Central Services' natural liaison point (the Executive Committee) has therefore been supplemented with increased liaison work with the Speaker of Council, especially in the run up to Council meetings, which has resulted in more effective relations with the members of Council.

It is worth drawing attention to two other issues which have figured prominently during this Executive Committee's tenure and whose completion will have a bearing on Central Services staff and their working lives. The first was the decision taken by this Executive Committee to convert the ECPR from a Charitable Trust into a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), on which work has been steadily proceeding. Becoming a

CIO will necessitate not just a new Constitution but a review of all of ECPR's personnel procedures as well as other changes. However, there should be no change in substance for staff who will work for the 'new' ECPR on exactly the same terms and conditions as for the 'old.' The process of conversion will be completed under the next EC.

The second was the decision to purchase new premises in Colchester. The ECPR left the University of Essex campus on 19 December 2014 and moved to Harbour House at Hythe Quay, starting with a small 'core' staff on site and the rest of the staff working remotely from home while the property underwent extensive refurbishment. The rest of the staff moved in on 26 January 2015. This was an historic moment for ECPR and for all staff who had become accustomed to working on the Essex University campus. There will be significant new opportunities in Harbour House to improve working conditions and working lives, and it will also finally provide Central Services staff with a location that they can genuinely call 'home'.

The achievements of this Executive Committee have been significant, both in carrying through into a phase of implementation significant decisions of its predecessor as well as making new and innovative decisions and policies both for now and the future. Few ECs finish their terms of office with a legacy quite as 'concrete' as this one: Harbour House will stand as a testimony to the sheer hard work and dedication this EC has shown to the interests of the ECPR and the permanent staff who work for it.

The ECPR therefore extends its thanks and gratitude to those EC members who are standing down at Warsaw 2015 and who have done so much to take the ECPR project forward: Manuel Sánchez de Dios (Joint Sessions), Jonas Tallberg (General Conference), André Kaiser (Methods School, who stood down earlier in 2014), Niilo Kauppi (Publications and Vice Chair) and, finally, the ECPR's first ever female Chair, Simona Piattoni, whose skills as diplomat and leader impressively matched those of her male predecessors.



Central Services

Central Services are the organisational and administrative centre of the ECPR, responsible for the day-to-day running of all activities, from events and publications through to membership and web development

As noted in Martin Bull's report, this term has seen a significant reorganisation of Central Services. The roles of 'Administrative' and 'Academic Director' were abolished and replaced with one 'Director', to which Martin Bull was appointed.

Then, the professionalisation that began under the last Executive Committee, continued under this one with the establishment of a Management Group representing each of the departments, that sits

directly under the Director and is responsible for the day-to-day running of the organisation, as well as longer term and strategic planning within operational areas.

Additional resources were allocated to key areas of the organisation, such as IT and Membership; with the aim of improving the benefits and services offered to members and improving recruitment and retention.

The greatest change in the last three years, though, has been the location of the CS. After more than 40 years

based at the University of Essex, Central Services moved into its new home in January 2015. Whilst this was a moment to celebrate, it also marked months of work by EC's Relocation Group, the Director and the Management Group in identifying, purchasing and then renovating Harbour House. The impact on the workload of the Management Team in particular was significant, but very worthwhile in providing not just a comfortable new home for the Central Services staff, but a valuable asset for the ECPR.



Director

Martin Bull, University of Salford

Management Group

Matt Cole, IT Manager

Annie Evans, Finance and HR Manager

Rebecca Gethen, Communications Manager

Mark Kench, ECPR Press Manager

Sandra Thompson, Conferences and Events Manager

Finance and operations

Manager: Annie Evans

Helen Morgan, Finance Controller

Julie Medler, Finance and HR Assistant

Conferences and Events

Manager: Sandra Thompson

Anna Foley, Conference Coordinator

Becky Plant, Methods School Coordinator

Louise Soper, Conference Coordinator

Marcia Taylor, Conference Coordinator

Diane Towler, Events Assistant

Web and IT

Manager: Matt Cole

Ben Demes, Web Developer

Luke Whittington, Web Developer

Communications

Manager: Rebecca Gethen

Sharleni Inbanathan, Membership and Marketing Executive (until March 2015)

Mary Cenci, EPS Editorial Assistant

ECPR Press

Manager: Mark Kench

Kate Hawkins, Press Marketing Executive

Laura Pugh, Press Production Controller

Staff who have joined since the last Review

Sharleni Inbanathan

Becky Plant

Diane Towler

Luke Whittington

Julie Medler

Helen Morgan

Kate Hawkins

Anna Foley

Staff who have left since the last Review

Collette Shepherd, Office Manager

Denise Chapman, Methods School Manager

Emma King, Membership Coordinator

Jenna Barnard, Events Coordinator

Sarah Goodman, Permanent Liaison and Support to the Academic Director



Above: Harbour House, the ECPR's new home from January 2015. Below: Thomas Plümper (centre) from the University of Essex's Department of Government joins Martin Bull (left) and Rudy Andeweg (right) for farewell drinks at the old ECPR office.



Far left, ECPR staff. Top left - Events. L-R Marcia Taylor, Diane Towler, Sandra Thompson, Anna Foley, Becky Plant and Louise Soper. Top right - Finance and HR. L-R Helen Morgan, Julie Medler and Annie Evans. Bottom left - IT. L-R Luke Whittington, Ben Demes and Matt Cole. Bottom right - Communications and ECPR Press. L-R Rebecca Gethen, Sharleni Inbanathan, Kate Hawkins and Mark Kench (Mary Cenci and Laura Pugh not pictured).

Membership

The ECPR is first and foremost a membership association. Therefore at the heart of all activities, strategies, planning and development, are the ECPR's members - both the universities that pay the annual fee every year, and the individuals within them that benefit from that membership and all the activities and services it brings

The past three years have seen significant improvements internally in the way the ECPR manages, monitors and promotes its membership. Investment in IT systems and personnel at Central Services and EC level have meant that membership is now far more closely monitored than ever before, both in terms of recruitment and retention data, but also in communications with Official

Representatives (ORs) and other key stakeholders at member institutions. The result has been a steady 3 percent increase on membership levels for the past three years and a growing number of people using the MyECPR facility on the ECPR website - now at some 15,000. Together, these figures give us an indication of the size of the political science community in Europe and the interest in European political science in North America and the rest of the

world (membership figures in these regions are steadily increasing). A major membership survey was undertaken in 2013, the first for many years. The results were published in the Winter 2013 issue of *ECPR News* and have helped us shape how we communicate with members and organise some events (the Glasgow Conference app, and regular jobs e-bulletin, for example, were developed as a result of feedback from the survey).

Member of ECPR staff responsible
Sharleni Inbanathan

Executive Committee portfolio holder
Olafur Th. Hardarson,

Benefits added/revised in period

Jobs Bulletin added

EPS journal - move to online access only

Introduction of the ECPR Gender and Politics PhD Prize



Membership trends

Total members by year

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
Total members	322	333	345

Members by region by year

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
Europe	273	277	279
North America	34	39	40
RoW	15	17	26
Total	322	333	345

Members by country by year

Country	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
Argentina			1
Australia	4	5	6
Austria	6	5	5
Belgium	8	8	8
Brazil	1	3	5
Bulgaria	2	2	2
Canada	13	15	16
Chile			1
Colombia	1	1	1
Croatia	1	1	1
Cyprus	2	3	3
Czech Republic	4	5	6
Denmark	7	7	7
Estonia	3	3	3
Finland	4	5	5
France	11	11	11
Germany	49	52	50
Greece	4	4	3
Hungary	4	4	5
Iceland	1	1	1
Iraq			1
Ireland	5	5	6
Israel	3	3	4
Italy	16	18	19
Japan	2	2	3

Country	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
Kazakhstan			1
Latvia	1	1	1
Lithuania	1	1	1
Luxembourg	1	1	1
Mexico	1	1	1
Montenegro		1	
Netherlands	12	11	11
New Zealand	1	1	1
Norway	13	12	12
Poland	4	4	4
Portugal	4	5	4
Romania	3	5	3
Russian Federation	5	4	4
Singapore	1		1
Slovakia	1	1	1
Slovenia	1	1	1
Spain	16	13	12
Sweden	13	14	14
Switzerland	8	9	9
Taiwan	1	1	1
Turkey	10	6	9
United Kingdom	53	54	56
USA	21	24	24

Prizes

The ECPR awards a number of prizes every year celebrating and recognising outstanding achievement within the discipline

Cora Maas Award

The Cora Maas Award is presented for the best evaluated course at the ECPR Summer School in Methods and Techniques (SSMT).

Winner 2013: Jochen Mayerl, University of Kaiserslautern, for the course 'Introduction to Structural Equation Modelling'

Winner 2012: Dvora Yanow,

University of Wageningen, for the course 'Issues in Political, Policy and Organisational Ethnography'.

Dirk Berg-Schlosser Award

The Dirk Berg-Schlosser Award for best participant poster is awarded at the ECPR Summer School in Methods and Techniques (SSMT).

Winner 2014: Lili Vargha

Winners 2013: Dominik Schraff and André Walter

Winner 2012: Kerry Tannahill

ECPR Lifetime Achievement Award

The ECPR's Lifetime Achievement Award is presented on a biennial basis to a scholar who has made

Member of ECPR staff responsible

Louise Soper (until November 2014) then Marcia Taylor

Executive Committee portfolio holder

Simona Piattoni

Benefits added/ revised in period

New Gender PhD Prize added, awarded in conjunction with the Standing Group on Gender and Politics

an outstanding contribution to European political science.

Winner 2013: Ian Budge, University of Essex.

Gender and Politics PhD Prize

Winner 2013: Rosalind Cavaghan, Radboud University.

Hans Daalder Prize

This biennial Prize, named after one of the ECPR's founding fathers, is for an outstanding paper presented at the ECPR Graduate Student Conference.

Winners 2012: Katrin Schermann, University of Vienna and Laurenz Ennsner-Jedenastik, University of Vienna, for their paper 'Linking Election Pledges to Policy Outcome – The Austrian Case'.

Jean Blondel PhD Prize

This annual PhD Prize is for the best thesis in politics nominated by a full member institution that, with revision, could be published as an ECPR Press Monograph.

Winner 2014: Caroline Plescia, Trinity College Dublin and Universität Wien, for her thesis 'Split-Ticket Voting in Mixed-Member Electoral Systems: A Theoretical and Methodological Investigation'.

Winner 2013: Christian Rauh, Wissenschaftszentrum für Sozialforschung and Freie Universität Berlin, for his thesis 'Politicisation, issue salience, and consumer policies of the European Commission. Does public awareness and contestation of supranational matters increase the responsiveness of Europe's central agenda-setter?'.

Winners 2012: Didier Caluwaerts, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, for a PhD entitled 'Confrontation and Communication: Experiments on Deliberative Democracy in Linguistically Divided Belgium', and Julian Wucherpfennig, Eidgenössische

Technische Hochschule (ETH) Zürich, for 'Fighting for Change: Onset, Duration, and Recurrence of Ethnic Conflict'.

Mattei Dogan Foundation Prize

The Mattei Dogan Foundation Prize in European Political Sociology is awarded by the ECPR for a major contribution to the advancement of political sociology. The prize is presented to either a scholar with an ensemble of outstanding scientific publications and constructive professional achievements or a coherent team of several researchers enjoying a high reputation in the international community of political sociologists.

Winner 2013: Virginie Guiraudon, who at the time of winning, was Research Director at Sciences Po Paris Center for European Studies.

Stein Rokkan Prize

The Stein Rokkan Prize for Comparative Social Science Research is presented by the ECPR with the International Social Science Council (ISSC), the University of Bergen. The prize is open to works in comparative studies from all social science disciplines and is given to a submission that is deemed by the Jury to be a substantial and original contribution to comparative social science research.

Winner 2014: Christian Welzel, Leuphana University, in recognition of his book *Freedom Rising: Human Empowerment and the Quest for Emancipation* (2013, Cambridge University Press).

Winners 2013: Dorothee Bohle, and Bela Greskovits, Central European University, for their book *Capitalist Diversity on Europe's Periphery*.

Winner 2012: Pepper D. Culpepper European University Institute for his book *Quiet Politics and Business Power* (2011, CUP).

Rudolf Wildenmann Prize

The Wildenmann Prize is awarded annually to a young colleague (within five years of receiving their PhD) for an outstanding paper presented at the Joint Sessions of Workshops. This can be a co-authored paper provided all co-authors are also within five years of receiving their PhD.

Winner 2014: Michal Parížek, Charles University in Prague, for his paper: 'The Politics of International Organisations. Staffing and the Need for Soft Information'.

Winner 2013: Sebastian Ziaja, PhD student, University of Essex, and researcher at the German Development Institute, for his paper 'Diversity Trumps Quantity: Types of Foreign Aid, Donor Fragmentation and Democratisation'.

Winner 2012: Jack Blumenau, University of Oxford, who presented a Paper titled 'Agenda Control and Party Cohesion in the European Parliament' in the Workshop of Minority Rights and Majority Rule in European Legislatures.



Funding

The opportunity to receive funding to attend ECPR events is a key benefit of membership. Funding is available for scholars at all stages of their careers, from graduate students attending the Methods School, right through to senior academics attending the Joint Sessions



Member of ECPR staff responsible

Jenna Barnard (until November 2014), then Marcia Taylor

Executive Committee portfolio holder

Richard Katz

Key highlights of this period

Over £67,000 awarded to ECPR members to attend events

Over £100,000 awarded to Standing Groups to support their activities

Funding summary

Events

	Grant Total	Event Total
Joint Sessions: Graduate Grant	£11,911.61	
2012		£3,612.74
2013		£3,391.13
2014		£4,907.74

	Grant Total	Event Total
Conference: Travel & Accommodation Grant Funding	£23,539.36	
Graduate Student Conference 2012		£5,046.84
Graduate Student Conference 2014		£5,366.54
General Conference 2013		£6,419.81
General Conference 2014		£6,706.17

	Grant Total	Event Total
Methods School: Travel & Accommodation Grant Funding	£13,849.21	
WS2012 - Vienna		£4,694.12
WS2013 - Vienna		£417.30
SS2012 - Ljubljana		£5,423.92
SS2013 - Ljubljana		£3,313.87

	Grant Total	Event Total
Methods School: Scholarship Funding	£17,886.03	
WS2012 - Vienna		£1,896.90
WS2013 - Vienna		£1,511.29
WS2014 - Vienna		£4,833.87
SS2012 - Ljubljana		£2,647.17
SS2013 - Ljubljana		£2,884.90
SS2014 - Ljubljana		£4,111.90

Standing Groups

	Grant Total	Event Total
Annual Grants	£27,548.39	
2012		£7,570.16
2013		£10,913.53
2014		£9,064.70

	Grant Total	Event Total
Summer School Travel & Accommodation Grant	£12,158.75	
2012		£7,396.79
2013		£2,888.12
2014		£1,873.84

	Grant Total	Event Total
Summer School Grants	£68,678.54	
2012		£24,132.71
2013		£21,343.36
2014		£23,202.47

	Grant Total	Event Total
Graduate Student Network	£7,157.14	
2012		£322.19
2013		£2,319.25
2014		£4,396.03

Joint Sessions of Workshops

One of the ECPR's oldest activities, the unique format of the Joint Sessions of Workshops continues to make this a must-attend event in the annual political science calendar



**Member of ECPR staff
responsible for event**
Marcia Taylor

**Executive Committee
portfolio holder for the
event**
Manuel Sánchez de Dios

Events within the period
2012 - Antwerp
2013 - Mainz
2014 - Salamanca

2012: University of Antwerp

This Joint Sessions marked the transition between Executive Committees, with Luciano Bardi standing down as Chair and handing over to Simona Piattoni. A meeting of the ECPR Council was also held during the event.

Highlights of the Plenary programme included the Stein Rokkan Lecture delivered by Kris Deschouwer who stood in for Cas Mudde at the last minute to deliver his Lecture 'Three decades of populist radical right politics in Western Europe: So What?'

A Roundtable was also held in memory of Peter Mair.

The annual Jean Blondel PhD Prize was awarded to Virginie van Ingelgom while the Rudolf Wildenmann prize was awarded to Armen Hakhverdian.

Key data

Number of participants: 525
Number of Workshops: 30



2013: University of Mainz

The annual Stein Rokkan Lecture was delivered by Jürgen Falter, who spoke on 'Political Cleavages in the Weimar Republic and the Rise of National Socialism', a topic intimately connected both to his current research project and to Rokkan's seminal work.

The 2012 Hans Daalder Prize was awarded to Katrin Schermann and Laurenz Ennser-Jedenastik, while the Jean Blondel PhD Prize

was awarded jointly for the first time to Didier Caluwaerts and to Julian Wucherpfennig. The Rudolf Wildenmann Prize was awarded to Jack Blumenau.

Key data

Number of participants: 537
Number of Workshops: 33



2014: University of Salamanca

Former ECPR Chair, Luciano Bardi was invited back to present a lecture at the 2014 Joint Sessions, titled 'Political parties, responsibility and responsiveness in multi-level democracy'. Following the theme of past ECPR leaders, the annual Stein Rokkan Lecture was delivered by Jean Blondel, who was the first Director of the ECPR. Professor Blondel stepped in at the last minute to deliver a Lecture entitled 'Some reflections on where political science might preferably go', after Scott Mainwaring was unable to travel due to ill health.

Two prizes were awarded during the Joint Sessions: the Jean Blondel PhD Prize to Christian Rauh for his

thesis 'Politicisation, Issue Salience, and Consumer Policies of the European Commission: Does Public Awareness and Contestation of Supranational Matters Increase the Responsiveness of Europe's Central Agenda-Setter?'; and the Rudolf Wildenmann Prize to Sebastian Ziaja for his prizewinning Paper, 'Diversity Trumps Quantity: Types of Foreign Aid, Donor Fragmentation and Democratisation.'

Key data

Number of participants: 431
Number of Workshops: 24



Participants by geographical location

	2012	2013	2014
Europe	414	392	319
UK	65	79	67
RoW	46	66	45
Total	525	537	431

2012 Top 10 countries by participation

Germany	89
UK	65
Netherlands	49
Belgium	43
Switzerland	33
Italy	28
Spain	22
Denmark	21
USA	20
Sweden	19

2013 Top 10 countries by participation

Germany	117
UK	79
Netherlands	36
USA	32
Switzerland	29
Belgium	25
Spain	24
Italy	22
Canada	18
Sweden	17

2014 Top 10 countries by participation

Germany	70
UK	67
Netherlands	45
Spain	25
Belgium	24
Sweden	20
Denmark	18
USA	17
Norway	16
Italy	15
Switzerland	15

Event trends

Workshop proposals by year

	2012	2013	2014
Proposed	97	90	96
Accepted	30	33	25
Acceptance rate	30%	36%	26%

Workshop Directors by geographical location

	2012	2013	2014
Europe	48	53	28
UK	9	13	12
RoW	4	9	5
Total	61	75	45

Workshop Directors by gender

	2012	2013	2014
Male	37	49	28
Female	24	26	17
Total	61	75	45

2012 Workshop Directors by geographical location

Germany	11
UK	9
Netherlands	8
Switzerland	7
Belgium	6
Italy	4
Denmark	3
France	3
Sweden	2
Australia	2
Spain	2
Canada	1
USA	1
Cyprus	1
Poland	1

2013 Workshop Directors by geographical location

Germany	20
UK	13
Netherlands	7
USA	4
Austria	4
Switzerland	3
Canada	3
Spain	3
Belgium	2
Italy	2
Hungary	2
Sweden	2
Denmark	2
Ireland	2
Finland	2
France	1
Mexico	1
Australia	1
Norway	1

2014 Workshop Directors by geographical location

UK	12
Germany	7
Netherlands	7
Denmark	3
Spain	2
Canada	2
Luxembourg	2
Australia	2
Switzerland	2
Sweden	2
Norway	2
USA	1
Ireland	1

General Conference

Initially a biennial event, increasing demand meant that in 2014 the ECPR's General Conference became annual, firmly establishing it as the major political science conference in Europe



Members of ECPR staff responsible for event

Jenna Barnard and Sandra Thompson

Executive Committee portfolio holders for the event

Klaus Goetz and Jonas Tallberg

Events within the period

2013 - Bordeaux
2014 - Glasgow

2013: Sciences Po, Bordeaux

The 2013 Plenary Lecture was delivered by Nonna Mayer, Director, French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) on the subject 'Inequalities, Welfare and Politics'.

Two Roundtables completed the Plenary programme, around the themes of 'What's so International about Political Economy?' and 'Explaining Political Change in the South: Lessons from African Democratic Transitions and the Arab Spring'.

The ECPR's Lifetime Achievement Award was presented during the event to Ian Budge, and the Mattei

Dogan Prize to Virginie Guiraudon.

The Bordeaux General Conference was the first to host the Council Meeting; this was moved to this event from the Joint Sessions of Workshops in order to attract greater participation. In total, 65 Official Representatives attended the Council meeting.

Key data

Number of participants: 1984
Number of Sections: 55
Number of Panels: 399



2014: University of Glasgow

Iain McLean, University of Oxford, delivered the Plenary Lecture at the 2014 General Conference, taking the theme 'Parliaments in Fiscal Federalism: Spending too Much, Taxing too Little?'.

A number of Roundtables also ran during the conference, looking at the subjects of 'Democracy and its Discontents', and 'Contested Human Rights'.

Following on from Bordeaux, there was a meeting of ECPR Council during the Conference. Ninety-four Official Representatives from member institutions attended what was the last meeting of the current Executive Committee. Ahead of the transition to the new Committee (and Chair Designate, Rudy Andeweg) in the spring of 2015, outgoing Chair

Simona Piattoni outlined the key developments and achievements of her Committee.

In terms of organisation of the event, this was the first annual General Conference and first year using the two-stage proposal system.

The ECPR also used this event to launch their conference app, which proved to be very successful and will now be available for all Conferences and the Joint Sessions.

Key data

Number of participants: 1916
Number of Sections: 66
Number of Panels: 403



Event trends

Proposals by year

	2013	2014
Sections proposed	73	81
Sections accepted	55	66
Acceptance rate	75%	81%

	2013	2014
Panels proposed	701	486
Panels accepted	399	403
Acceptance rate	56%	82%

	2013	2014
Papers proposed	3560	2820
Papers accepted	1681	1613
Acceptance rate	47%	57%

Section Chairs by geographical location

	2013	2014
Europe	79	83
UK	24	44
RoW	8	9
Total	111	136

Section Chairs by gender

	2013	2014
Male	70	96
Female	43	43
Total	113	139

2013 Section Chairs by geographical location

UK	24
Germany	20
Netherlands	10
Belgium	8
Italy	8
France	7
Denmark	4
Finland	4
Sweden	4
Switzerland	3
USA	3
Canada	2
Norway	2
All 1 each:	Australia, Austria, Crete, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Poland, Portugal, Singapore, Slovakia, Spain

2013 Top 10 countries by participation

Germany	311
UK	251
Netherlands	124
Italy	118
France	115
Belgium	110
Switzerland	86
Sweden	80
USA	74
Spain	67

Participants by geographical location

	2013	2014
Europe	1397	1205
UK	251	444
RoW	189	182
Unspecified	63	56
Total	1900	1887

2014 Section Chairs by geographical location

UK	46
Germany	13
Netherlands	10
Italy	7
Belgium	6
Finland	6
Sweden	6
Ireland	4
Norway	4
Switzerland	4
Austria	3
Poland	3
Portugal	3
USA	3
All 2 each:	Australia, Canada, Denmark, France, Greece, Hungary
All 1 each:	Czech Republic, Israel, Luxembourg, Singapore, Slovakia, Spain, Turkey

2014 Top 10 countries by participation

UK	444
Germany	281
Italy	113
Netherlands	96
Switzerland	88
Belgium	79
USA	71
Sweden	70
Unspecified	56
Spain	55

Research Sessions

Following a similar format to the Joint Sessions, but with smaller groups, the Research Sessions provides a unique opportunity for focused and highly productive sessions, often with a publishing objective in mind



Member of ECPR staff responsible for event

Jenna Barnard until October 2015, then Marcia Taylor

Executive Committee portfolio holder for the event

Luca Verzichelli

Events within the period

2012 - Florence
2013 - Essex
2014 - Essex

2012: European University Institute

The second of the re-launched Research Sessions were held in the beautiful surroundings of the EUI in Florence, providing the opportunity for eight groups to meet and develop their work together.

List of groups

Voting Advice Applications and Their Effects on Electoral Behaviour

The European Social Democratic Left in the Aftermath of the 2008 Financial Crisis

Towards a Comparative Research Project on the Relationship between Political Parties and Interest Groups

Sources of European Identity and Support for European Integration: A Multilevel Approach

The Europeanisation of Domestic Legislatures

Reshaping the Arena of Civic Integration: The Post Multicultural Moment and the Challenge of the Populist Right

A Comprehensive Framework for Understanding Party System Change

Divided Civil Society and External Democracy Promotion in Post-Communist Europe



2013: University of Essex

The Research Sessions moved to the ECPR Central Services in 2013 and took place in the state-of-the-art iLab facilities at the University of Essex.

List of groups

Actors at the Second Level of Local Government and Their Perception of and Reaction to the Re-scaling of Statehood in European Countries

Deliberative Democracy and Constitutional Reform

Subcultures and Processes in Radicalisation

The Eurozone Crisis and its Impact

on the Attitudes of Political Elites Towards the European Integration Process

The Postsecular and Political Belonging

Ways to Conceptualise EU-Disintegration



2014: University of Essex

The University of Essex's iLab hosted the Research Sessions for the second time in 2014, again providing the opportunity for groups to meet in comfortable and stimulating environments.

List of groups

Anti-Politics, Depoliticisation and (Re-)Politicisation

Beyond Jobs for Votes: Party Organisation, Patronage Forms and the Quality of Democracy

International Institutions and Public Opinion in Interstate Conflict

Parliamentary Activities, Career Tracks and Accountability (PACTA Project)

Rights and Imperfect Duties in Political Philosophy

Talking to the Party: A Cross-Country Collection of Intra-Party Debates



Event trends

Proposals by year

	2012	2013	2014
Proposals received	24	14	15
Proposals accepted	8	6	6
Acceptance rate	33.3%	42.8%	40%

Participants by gender

	2012	2013	2014
Male	43	16	29
Female	16	9	10
Total	59	25	39

Methods School

In 2012 the ECPR's Methods School was created by adding an annual Winter School in Methods and Techniques to the already well established Summer School. Together, these two events provide high quality and comprehensive training to graduate students and young scholars



Member of ECPR staff responsible for event

Denise Chapman (SSMT) until October 2014, then Becky Plant; Anna Foley (WSMT)

Executive Committee portfolio holder for the event

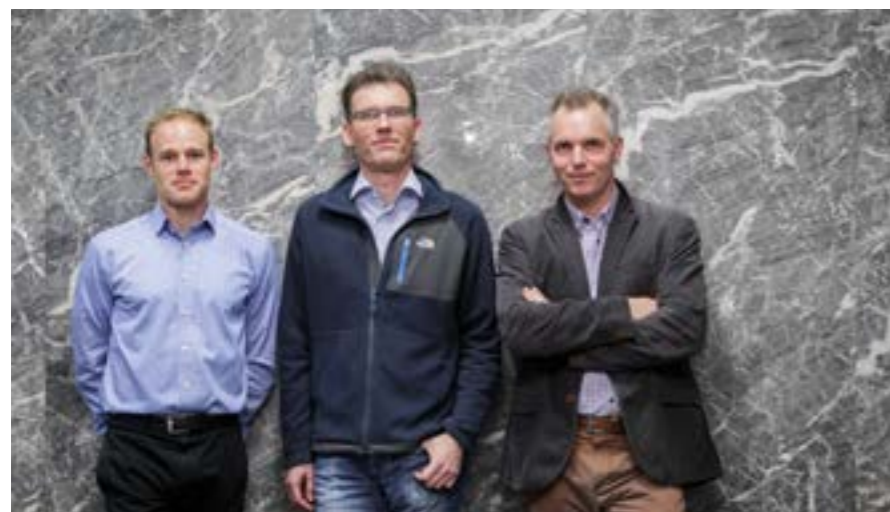
André Kaiser until 2014, then Simona Piattoni until October 2015, then Birgit Sauer

Academic Convenors

Derek Beach, Bernhard Kittel, Benoît Rihoux

Events within the period

WSMT 2012	Vienna
SSMT 2012	Ljubljana
WSMT 2013	Vienna
SSMT 2013	Ljubljana
WSMT 2014	Vienna
SSMT 2014	Ljubljana



Academic Convenors of the Methods School

Together the Academic Convenors have oversight of the academic content of the Methods School, working with the ECPR's Executive Committee to ensure high academic standards and cutting-edge tuition.

Left to right: Derek Beach, Bernhard Kittel and Benoît Rihoux.

Winter School in Methods and Techniques

The Winter School in Methods and Techniques (WSMT) was launched in 2012 to complement the successful Summer School. The Winter School offers course formats not available at the Summer School in order to provide an opportunity for participants to follow a full programme of tuition across a number of different events. This

period was therefore the first when the two events ran together as a complete Methods School.

Alongside the Summer School, the number of participants has grown each year, quickly establishing the Winter School as an important event for young scholars looking to secure high quality methods training.



2012 University of Vienna

Key data

Number of participants: 272
 Total courses run: 21
 Number of Short courses: 4
 Number of Main courses: 17

Top three popular courses

Comparative Research Designs
 Introduction to Statistics
 Introduction and Data Management with SPSS

2013 University of Vienna

Key data

Number of participants: 331
 Total courses run: 23
 Number of Short courses: 6
 Number of Main courses: 17

Top three popular courses

Introduction to R
 Introduction to STATA
 Introduction to NVivo 10*
 Comparative Research Designs*
 *equal levels of participation

2014 University of Vienna

Key data

Number of participants: 554
 Total courses run: 29
 Number of Short courses: 5
 Number of Main courses: 24

Top three popular courses

Comparative Research Designs
 Introduction to Statistics for Political and Social Scientists
 Introduction to Applied Social Network Analysis*
 Panel Data Analysis*
 Introduction to Qualitative Interpretive Methods*
 *equal levels of participation

Summer School in Methods and Techniques

The Summer School in Methods and Techniques (SSMT) has now become a well established and highly rated event in the calendar for students and young scholars. Together with the Winter School, the SSMT provides a full training programme in research methods.

Since its launch in 2006, the SSMT

has taken place at the University of Ljubljana and this agreement continued into the 2012-15 term, with three excellent events held there.

Like the Winter School, the SSMT offer a rich plenary programme of lectures and social events, all designed to provide a stimulating and enjoyable event.



2012 University of Ljubljana

Key data

Number of participants: 280
 Total courses run: 26
 Number of Refresher courses: 5
 Number of One week courses: 11
 Number of Two week courses: 10

Top three popular courses

Content Analysis
 Expert Interviews for Qualitative Data Generation
 Process Tracing Methodology

2013 University of Ljubljana

Key data

Number of participants: 262
 Total courses run: 28
 Number of Refresher courses: 5
 Number of One week courses: 15
 Number of Two week courses: 8

Top three popular courses

Qualitative Comparative Analysis and Fuzzy Sets: Basics and Advanced Issues in Set-Theoretic Methods
 Process Tracing Methodology I
 Content Analysis

2014 University of Ljubljana

Key data

Number of participants: 250
 Total courses run: 28
 Number of Refresher courses: 5
 Number of One week courses: 15
 Number of Two week courses: 8

Top three popular courses

Qualitative Data Analysis: Methods and Procedures
 Set-Theoretic Methods: Qualitative Comparative Analysis and Related Approaches
 Expert Interviews for Qualitative Data Generation

* Unspecified most likely includes those participants from non-member institutions who have not specified an institution when registering, as well as registrations that may have been processed outside of MyECPR, for example from the host institution.

Event trends

WSMT - Courses and participants by year

	2012	2013	2014
No. of courses offered	21	23	29
Total participants	272	331	354

WSMT participants by geographical location

	2012	2013	2014
Europe	212	267	291
UK	8	17	17
RoW	2	4	5
Unspecified*	50	43	41
Total	272	331	354

WSMT 2012 Top 10 countries by participation

Germany	51
Belgium	29
Switzerland	25
Unspecified*	16
Czech Republic	14
Netherlands	12
Italy	11
Spain	10
Russia	8
UK	8

SSMT 2012 Top 10 countries by participation

Germany	65
Unspecified*	26
Switzerland	21
UK	20
Netherlands	19
Italy	18
Belgium	11
Hungary	11
Slovenia	11
Romania	9

WSMT 2013 Top 10 countries by participation

Germany	51
Unspecified*	43
Belgium	36
Austria	28
Switzerland	20
UK	17
Netherlands	16
Czech Republic	12
Denmark	11
Spain	11

SSMT 2013 Top 10 countries by participation

Germany	44
Unspecified*	25
Netherlands	25
Belgium	21
Italy	18
UK	18
Switzerland	16
Sweden	10
Austria	8
Russia	7

SSMT - Courses and participants by year

	2012	2013	2014
No. of courses offered	26	28	28
Total participants	280	262	250

SSMT participants by geographical location

	2012	2013	2014
Europe	232	206	203
UK	20	18	15
RoW	2	13	7
Unspecified*	26	25	25
Total	280	262	250

SSMT 2014 Top 10 countries by participation

Germany	57
Unspecified*	41
Austria	37
Belgium	33
Netherlands	25
Switzerland	25
Sweden	19
UK	17
Czech Republic	16
Hungary	12

SSMT 2014 Top 10 countries by participation

Unspecified*	25
Germany	41
Belgium	28
Italy	23
Netherlands	16
UK	15
Switzerland	14
Denmark	11
Czech Republic	8
Russia	8

Graduate Student Conference

Complementing the service provided through the Methods School is the Graduate Student Conference, a high profile international conference just for students, giving them a unique opportunity to present, discuss and network



Member of ECPR staff responsible for event
Sandra Thompson (2012)
Anna Foley and Sandra Thompson (2014)

Executive Committee portfolio holder for the event
Mary Farrell

Events within the period
2012 Bremen
2014 Innsbruck

2012: Jacobs University, Bremen

The Plenary Lecture was delivered by Michael Zürn, Social Science Research Center Berlin (WZB) on the subject of 'Authority and Legitimacy in the Postnational Constellation'. Accompanying this in the Plenary programme were a number of Roundtables: 'Perspectives Outside of Academia for Political Science PhDs'; 'Getting an Academic Job in Asia'; 'When, Whether and How to Publish One's Dissertation'; and 'Women in Academia'.

The ECPR's Graduate Student

Network also took advantage of having a great number of its constituents present to hold an election campaign for its Executive Committee.

Key data

Number of Sections: 23
Number of Panels: 87
Number of Papers: 471
Number of participants: 429



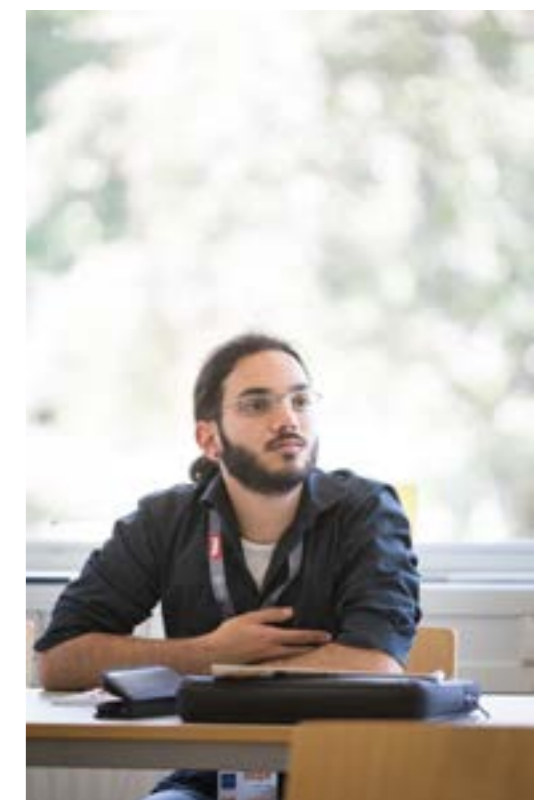
2014: University of Innsbruck

Alongside the academic programme the Plenary Lecture was given by Alan Scott, University of Innsbruck. His lecture 'Seeing like a Political Scientist' examined some of the dilemmas that face social scientists in general and political scientists in particular. Alongside the Plenary Lecture, four Roundtables took place, each featuring high profile speakers and each looking at subjects close to the hearts of those at the beginning of their careers: 'Being on the Academic Job Market' (styles of interviews in the US and Europe); 'How to Write a Research Proposal' (strategies, skills, expectations and common pitfalls associated with

writing a grant application); 'Research Funding from the European Union' (discussion of funding options available); and the ever popular 'How to get Published' (how to present a manuscript to give you the best chance).

Key data

Number of Sections: 27
Number of Panels: 95
Number of Papers: 339
Number of participants: 382



Event trends

Proposals by year

	2012	2014
Sections proposed	24	40
Sections accepted	23	27
Acceptance rate	96%	67%

	2012	2014
Panels proposed	115	116
Panels accepted	87	92
Acceptance rate	75%	79%

	2012	2014
Papers proposed	571	761
Papers accepted	471	339
Acceptance rate	82%	45%

Section Chairs by geographical location

	2012	2014
Unspecified	1	9
Europe	42	38
UK	6	5
RoW	1	1
Total	50	53

Section Chairs by gender

	2012	2014
Male	24	25
Female	26	28
Total	50	53

2012 Section Chairs by geographical location

Germany	17
Italy	8
UK	6
Netherlands	4
Austria	3
Norway	3
Belgium	2
Portugal	2
Denmark	1
Hungary	1
Ireland	1
Sweden	1
USA	1

2014 Section Chairs by geographical location

Germany	11
Unspecified	9
Spain	5
UK	5
Czech Republic	4
Austria	4
Ireland	4
Sweden	2
Hungary	1
Denmark	1
Netherlands	1
Italy	1
Russia	1
Turkey	1
France	1
Indonesia	1
Belgium	1

2012 Top 10 countries by participation

Germany	112
UK	50
Unspecified	47
Austria	41
Italy	26
Czech Republic	21
Belgium	15
Spain	15
Netherlands	14
Hungary	13

2014 Top 10 countries by participation

Germany	106
UK	40
Austria	37
Unspecified	37
Italy	24
Czech Republic	21
Belgium	15
Hungary	13
Netherlands	13
Spain	11

Participants by geographical location

	2012	2014
Europe	319	295
UK	50	40
ROW	13	10
Unspecified	47	37
Total	429	382

Graduate Student Network

The Graduate Student Network (GSN) is the student arm of the ECPR. Reflecting the international scope and professional objectives of the ECPR, the GSN's key objective is to provide a platform to support and encourage students at the very first stages of their career



Member of ECPR staff responsible:
Louise Soper

Executive Committee portfolio holders:
Mary Farrell

New Executive Committee elected
Marsida Bandilli, University of Antwerp
Stavroula Chrona, University of Surrey
Gibrán Cruz-Martinez, Universidad Complutense de Madrid
Luca di Donato, Luiss Guido Carli University
Rosa M Navarrete, Universität Mannheim
Ilke Toygur, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

Number of members: 491
Members by gender: Male 38%/ Female 46%/ Unknown 16%
Website: <http://standinggroups.ecpr.eu/gsn/>

Membership of the GSN is open to any graduate student, PhD candidate or post-doctoral researcher enrolled at an ECPR member institution. Membership opens up a framework for networking and joint initiatives, and a forum for the exchange of ideas and experiences through the website, social media and academic and social events organised for GSN members at ECPR events such as the

General Conference.

GSN activities during this term have included:

A successful Facebook page to promote not only GSN activities but also any academic news related to graduate students.

GSN Reception – ECPR General Conference at Sciences Pp, Bordeaux (September 2013).

GSN Lunch Reception – ECPR Graduate Student Conference at Innsbruck (July 2014).

GSN Information Desk - ECPR

Graduate Student Conference at Innsbruck (July 2014).

A GSN Panel titled 'European Parliament Elections and the Future of Europe' chaired by Ilke Toygur and hosted Hermann Schmitt as the discussant. – ECPR General Conference at the University of Glasgow (September 2014).

GSN Meeting - ECPR General Conference at the University of Glasgow (September 2014).

ECPR Press

In 2015 the ECPR Press will celebrate its tenth birthday. Over the past decade it has developed into a respected, high quality academic imprint, publishing cutting-edge work across the political science spectrum



Members of ECPR staff responsible

Mark Kench, Kate Hawkins, Laura Pugh

Executive Committee portfolio holder

Niilo Kauppi

Key developments in this term

Record number of books published in 2013

New editor appointed



ECPR Press Editors, L-R: Peter Triantafyllou, Alexandra Segerberg, Peter Kennealy and Dario Castiglione.

Editors

Editor Dario Castiglione, University of Exeter
Associate Editor Alexandra Segerberg, University of Stockholm
Associate Editor Peter Kennealy, European University Institute

Editors' terms completed during period

Associate Editor Peter Triantafyllou, University of Roskilde, September 2014

Though a highly valued member of the editorial team, Peter Triantafyllou requested not to renew his contract because he felt he could not devote sufficient time to his editorial duties in addition to his full-time academic role. A replacement for Peter is currently being sought.

Editors appointed during term

Peter Kennealy, as above.

Series

Studies in European Political Science

Edited volumes of cutting-edge research originating from ECPR events such as the Joint Sessions of Workshops. The Studies series is a significant source of new research, and ECPR Press' rigorous and professional editorial processes are perfectly suited to bringing these influential volumes to publication quickly, so that the material is fresh and relevant.

Monographs

Single-subject research by established and emerging members of the political science profession. The series also includes English translations of work previously published in another language.

Essays

The essay series comprises essay-like volumes that put forward an argument or a thesis about specific issues in political science, and single- and co-authored collections of essays.

Classics

Re-published works that have had a significant impact on political science, but are no longer available. Each book includes a new introduction by the author/ editor that contextualises the original, and updates the ideas that made the book a classic.

Key developments

During the period 2012-14, there was a move away from re-publishing ‘Classics’ of political science, and a conscious effort to break new ground. Reflecting the widening research interests of the ECPR’s membership, ECPR Press expanded its range of publications in various sub-disciplines of politics including gender, public policy and regulation, political sociology, and political theory and introducing elements of geography (as in Sellers *et al’s* *The Political Ecology of the Metropolis*), and history (Cossart’s *From Deliberation to Demonstration*; Bellamy’s *Croce, Gramsci, Bobbio and the Italian Political Tradition*).

In the current financial climate, political economy is an area in which ECPR Press publications have flourished, with essays on post-financial crisis reforms in Moschella and Tsingou’s *Great Expectations, Slow Transformations*;; Lorna Schrefler’s *Economic Knowledge in Regulation*; and Eleni Panagiotarea’s timely and accessible *Greece in the Euro*, which has been the subject of two lively and very well attended seminars, in

Athens and Oxford.

The multi-authored Studies in European Political Science (SEPS) series thrived in 2014, representing half of all the books published in that year. The only one of the Press’s series to get a hardcover release before the paperback edition is published 12 months later, SEPS books have sold well in their original hardback format, despite the higher price tag, and in a challenging economic climate. Notable titles published in 2014 included the Donatella della Porta and Alice Mattoni-edited *Spreading Protest*, looking at the diffusion of protest movements in the aftermath of the global financial crisis, and *Deeds and Words*, a ‘kind-of Festschrift’ for the pioneering feminist political scientist Joni Lovenduski, collected and edited by Rosie Campbell and Sarah Childs. The latter contains not simply scholarly essays by academics, but shorter ‘vignette’ contributions, from women on the front line of politics, including Baroness Gould, and current UK home secretary Theresa

May. Published in summer 2014, the book received an official launch at the House of Commons in October of that year, sponsored by Dame Anne Begg, MP.

Best-sellers for the Press, and all worthy of mention in their own right, are Richard Rose’s memoir *Learning about Politics in Time and Space*, a collection of essays by the late Elinor and Vincent Ostrom on the study of institutions and governance that brings into focus the theoretical and conceptual foundations for their important body of work; and a weighty collection of writings by the comparativist Peter Mair (1951-2011). The Mair collection, probably the Press’s most ambitious editorial project to date, involved the work of many people on its journey to fruition, including editor Ingrid van Biezen, Stefano Bartolini and Hans Daalder, who contributed an ‘intellectual portrait’ of their friend and colleague, Dario Castiglione, who wrote the introduction, and other eminent comparativists including Richard Katz.

eBooks

The period 2012-14 has seen a revolution in the way that academic reading material is purchased and consumed. To this end, the Press has launched digital offerings for many of its titles in formats readable on Kindles and other tablet devices.

The Press is currently in the process of converting its entire backlist to eBook format, to be released on to the market in 2015. Going forward, all new releases by the Press will appear concurrently in print and digital formats.

Publishing trends

Books published by series by year

	2012	2013	2014
SEPS	2	7	5
Monographs	3	11	2
Essays	2	4	3
Classics	2	1	0
Total	9	23	10

Authors by gender by year

	2012	2013	2014
Female	3	16	10
Male	9	22	9
Total	12	38	19



The *European Journal of Political Research (EJPR)* is the oldest of the ECPR's journals. It celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2013 with a virtual special issue celebrating the most influential articles of the journal's life



EJPR Editors, clockwise: Ioannis Papadopoulos, Richard Katz, Claudio Radaelli and Cas Mudde.

Member of ECPR staff responsible
Rebecca Gethen

Executive Committee portfolio holder
Niilo Kauppi

Key developments in this term

Impact Factor and subsequent rankings increased year on year, taking *EJPR* to number 8 in 2013

Trim size increased and frequency reduced in order to allow publication of a further 14 articles in 2014

New contract signed with the publishers Wiley-Blackwell

Editors

Editor Claudio Radaelli, University of Exeter
Editor Ioannis Papadopoulos, Universite de Lausanne

Editors' terms completed during period

Editor Richard Katz, Johns Hopkins University, 30 April 2012

Editors appointed during term

Ioannis Papadopoulos, as above.
Cas Mudde, University of Georgia. To replace Claudio Radaelli in July 2015.

Editorial Office Oliver Fritsch, University of Leeds

Publisher Wiley-Blackwell

Frequency Four times per year

Impact Factors and rankings by year

	2011	2012	2013
Impact Factor	1.478	1.382	2.152
Ranking	22/149	34/157	8/156

The headline for the *EJPR* for the past three years has been the Impact Factor, particularly in 2013. Whilst it is widely acknowledged that the 2 year Impact Factor is a volatile indicator, major leaps do signal real improvement. In a very competitive market, *EJPR* overtook 26 other political science journals in just one year, and moved from position 34 in 2013 to position 8 in 2014. The 2-Year Impact Factor increased dramatically from 1.478 in 2012 and 1.382 in 2013 to 2.152 in 2014, an increase of 56 per cent from the 2013 impact factor. The 2 year Impact Factor ranking suggests that the *EJPR* is currently the strongest non-American political science

journal; positions 1 to 7 are currently taken by the *American Political Science Review*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Political Analysis*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *Policy Studies Journal*, *Journal of Peace Research* and *Annual Review of Political Science*. The 5-year impact factor also improved, taking the *EJPR* to position 24 in the ranking with a value of 2.071.

These excellent results are the product of two factors. The first is an increase in citations (13% from 2012) which signals the continued excellent output of the journal. The second is a change in policy that came into effect for the 2013 results. The inclusion of the *Political Data Yearbook (PDY)* by Thomson Reuters in the

denominator in some years and not others was obviously distorting the results. The decision was therefore taken to separate the *PDY* from the main *EJPR* by ISSN, so *PDY* articles would no longer be included in the *EJPR* results. The 2013 figures were the first to reflect this, with only 2011 *PDY* articles included in the count. From 2014's index no *PDY* articles will be included, and by the publisher Wiley-Blackwell's prediction, based on current citation trends the 2-Year Impact Factor would have been 3.349 if the *Political Data Yearbook* were to be excluded completely from the metrics. This would catapult the *EJPR* to position 2 in the 2-year rankings.

EPSR

European Political Science Review (EPSR) is the ECPR's general journal, created to reflect the diversity of the political science community. Launched in 2009, the last three years have seen the journal continue to attract a strong readership, submission and subscription levels



EPSR Editors, clockwise: Carlos Closa, Donatella della Porta, Guy Peters and Wil Hout.

Member of ECPR staff responsible
Rebecca Gethen

Executive Committee portfolio holder
Niilo Kauppi

Key developments in this term

Appointment of a new editorial team as founding editors Donatella della Porta and Guy Peters complete their terms of office

Appointment of four new Associate Editors

Frequency increased to four issues per year

Accepted in the Social Science Citation Index

Editors

Editor Wil Hout, ISS, Erasmus University Rotterdam
Editor Carlos Closa, European University Institute

Associate Editor Sarah Birch University of Glasgow
Associate Editor Avigail Eisenberg, University of Victoria
Associate Editor Elisabeth Gidengil, McGill University
Associate Editor Karim Kino, ISS, Erasmus University Rotterdam

Editors' terms completed during period

Editor Donatella della Porta, European University Institute, 31 December 2013
Associate Editors Richard Bellamy, Mark Hallerberg, Jon Pierre and Antje Wiener, 31st December 2013

Editor B Guy Peters, University of Pittsburgh, 31 December 2014

Editors appointed during term

Wil Hout, Carlos Closa, Sarah Birch, Avigail Eisenberg, Elisabeth Gidengil and Karim Knio as above

Editorial Office Zuzana Novakova, ISS, Erasmus University Rotterdam

Publisher: Cambridge University Press

Frequency Four times per year

Impact Factors and rankings by year

	2011	2012	2013
Impact Factor	n/a	1.275	0.816
Ranking	n/a	38/157	67/156

The headline for *EPSR* for the past three years has been its establishment as an important journal of political science. The journal was accepted into the Social Sciences Citation Index and in 2013 received its first Impact Factor (for the year 2012) of 1.275, which gave the journal a very healthy first position of 38. This excellent result was in large part down to one stellar article, Vivien Schmidt's paper on discursive institutionalism, published in the March 2010 issue of *EPSR*, which has received some 80 citations to date. The 2013 figures

saw a fall to position 67 and an IF of 0.816, but this is still a healthy position for a relatively young journal.

Overall, the health of the journal is very good, with submission rates steadily increasing year on year. 2014 also saw an increase in the frequency of the journal from three issues per year, to four.

A key development though, has been the move to a new editorial team after founding editors Donatella della Porta and Guy Peters stood down in 2013 and 2014 respectively.

With Professor della Porta went the editorial office at the EUI also, and the Editorial Manager Lorenzo Mosca. The excellent work of the founding editorial team and the support provided by the EUI for this period was vital to establishing the journal, and the ECPR thanks them all for their work, and the EUI for its continuing support of ECPR activities. To replace them, the ECPR welcomed a new team of Wil Hout in 2013, whose institution provides the editorial office, and Carlos Closa in 2015.

EPS

European Political Science (EPS) is the ECPR's professional journal. Unique in scope, this journal aims to speak to political scientists about what it is to research, teach and work in European academia, underpinning the ECPR's work as a professional membership association



Member of ECPR staff responsible
Rebecca Gethen

Executive Committee portfolio holder
Niilo Kauppi

Key developments in this term

New publishing agreement signed with Palgrave Macmillan

Advanced Online Publication introduced

Expanded editorial team

Reviews Issue folded into standard issues

Strong Impact Factors



EPS Editors, L-R (top row): Luis de Sousa, Jacqui Briggs, Jonathon Moses, (middle row) Daniel Stockemer, Alasdair Blair, Lasse Thomassen, (bottom row) Martin Bull and Peter Kennealy. Heather Savigny not pictured.

Editors

Editor Luis de Sousa, University of Aveiro
Editor Jonathon Moses, Norwegian University of Science and Technology
Editor Daniel Stockemer, University of Ottawa
Associate Editor Jacqui Briggs, University of Lincoln
Reviews Editors Lasse Thomassen, Queen Mary University of London

Editors' terms completed during period

Editor Martin Bull, University of Salford, July 2013
Reviews Editor Peter Kennealy, July 2012

Editors appointed during term

Heather Savigny (Professor Savigny resigned her post in January 2015)
Daniel Stockemer
Alasdair Blair, De Montfort University, to replace Jacqui Briggs in August 2015
Ekaterina Rashkova, University of Innsbruck, to replace Luis de Sousa in August 2015

Editorial Office Mary Cenci, ECPR Central Services

Publisher Palgrave Macmillan

Frequency Four times per year

Impact Factors and rankings by year

	2011	2012	2013
Impact Factor	0.202	0.373	0.794
Ranking	124/148	118/157	69/156

The past three years have seen a steady climb in the SSCI rankings for *EPS*. This is of note not just because of the increase in citations to the journal, but also because of the unique nature of the journal. *EPS* is not a research journal, yet it clearly has a strong readership and an important place in the discipline.

In 2012 the book reviews that were published in the separate Reviews Issue, which came at the end of the volume, were folded into the other content and four 'regular' issues were published instead. Advance Online

Publication (AOP) was introduced for the journal, meaning content could be available as soon as it was approved by the editors.

2013 was a year of change. The last co-founder editor of *EPS*, Martin Bull, finished his mandate at the end of August, having been appointed in 2006. Over the past two years the editorial board has expanded and diversified, moving from two Editors and a Reviews Issue Editor, to three Editors (the third additional Editor, Heather Savigny took office on 1 September 2013, an Editorial

Assistant, an Associate Editor with a special focus on Teaching and Training (as recommended by the Standing Group on Teaching & Learning) and a new Reviews Editor (Lasse Thomassen) replacing Peter Kennealy and becoming an integral part of the team due to the new format.

Sadly Heather Savigny stood down early from her post in January 2015, but was replaced by Daniel Stockemer.

Comparative Politics

The Comparative Politics Series, published in collaboration with Oxford University Press is one of the most well established and highly respected of the ECPR's publishing ventures



Member of ECPR staff responsible
Rebecca Gethen

Executive Committee portfolio holder
Niilo Kauppi

Key developments in this term

New editorial team members



Comparative Politics Editors, L-R (top row) David Farrell, Dirk Berg-Schlösser (bottom row) Emilie van Haute, Ferdinand Müller-Rommel and Ken Carty.

Editors

Editor R Kenneth Carty, The University of British Columbia
Editor Ferdinand Müller-Rommel, Leuphana University Lüneburg
Editor Emilie van Haute, Université libre de Bruxelles

Editors' terms completed during period

Editor Dirk Berg-Schlösser, Universität Marburg
Editor David Farrell, University College Dublin

Editors appointed during term

Ferdinand Müller-Rommel
Emilie van Haute
Susan Scarrow, University of Houston, to replace R Kenneth Carty in August 2015

Publisher Oxford University Press

Published in the series over the term

- Scarrow, *Beyond Party Members*, Nov-14
- Nikolenyi, *Institutional Design and Party Government in Post-Communist Europe*, Oct-14
- Deschouwer and Depauw, *Representing the People*, May-14
- Bolleyer, *New Parties in Old Party Systems*, Oct-13
- Martin and Vanberg, *Parliaments and Coalitions*, May-13
- Bowler and Donovan, *The Limits of Electoral Reform*, Mar-13
- Aarts, Blais, Schmitt, *Political Leaders and Democratic Elections*, Mar-13
- Cross and Katz, *The Challenges of Intra-Party Democracy*, Feb-13
- McMenamin, *If Money Talks, What Does it Say?*, Jan-13
- Kittilson and Schwindt-Bayer, *The Gendered Effects of Electoral Institutions*, Oct-12
- Rohrschneider and Whitefield, *The Strain of Representation*, Aug-12
- Kopecký, Mair and Spirova, *Party Patronage and Party Government in European Democracies*, Jul-12
- Budge, McDonald, Pennings, Keman, *Organizing Democratic Choice*, Jun-12
- Alonso, *Challenging the State: Devolution and the Battle for Partisan Credibility*, Apr-12
- Cross and Blais, *Politics at the Centre*, Jan-12

The last three years have seen the continued re-establishment of the Comparative Politics Series as a high profile series attracting important and significant publications. The high bar the series has set itself over the years means that despite the strong numbers of good quality proposals the editors receive each year, the Series publishes only around five to six each year.

Volumes are devoted to the comparative study of contemporary government and politics, with a specific interest in the comparative domestic politics of institutions and political actors.

This period saw further developments within the editorial team, with David Farrell and Dirk Berg-Schlösser, who were instrumental in the re-launch of the series in the previous term,

standing down. They were replaced with Ferdinand Müller-Rommel and Emilie van Haute. Susan Scarrow has subsequently been appointed to replace Ken Carty when he stands down in August. Professor Carty too has played a significant role in the reinvigoration of what is a vital ECPR series.

Standing Groups and Research Networks

The ECPR's Standing Groups and Research Networks are satellite groups of the ECPR each focusing on a sub-field of the discipline. Together, these 45 groups are an integral part of the ECPR's activities, providing outreach and creating networks, organising Sections, Panels and Workshops at events and publishing book series and journals



Member of ECPR staff responsible

Louise Soper (until November 2014) & Sharleni Inbanathan (from November 2014)

Executive Committee portfolio holder

Rudy Andeweg

Developments within the period

Standing Group Framework introduced

List of Standing Groups

Analytical Politics and Public Choice
 Central and East European Politics
 Citizenship
 Comparative Political Institutions
 Critical Peace and Conflict Studies
 Democratic Innovations
 Environmental Politics
 European Union
 Extremism and Democracy
 Federalism and Regionalism
 Gender and Politics
 Human Rights and Transitional Justice
 Identity
 Immigration and Ethnicity
 Interest Groups

International Political Theory
 International Relations
 Internet and Politics
 Kantian Political Thought
 Latin American Politics
 Law and Courts
 Local Government and Politics
 Organised Crime
 Parliaments
 Participation and Mobilisation
 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
 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
 Welfare Politics and Social Policy
 Young ECPR Network on Europeanisation (YEN)

Reports from the Standing Groups

Analytical Politics and Public Choice

Daniel Finke, University of Heidelberg

Date established: 2010
 Number of members: 60+
 Members by location: Unknown
 Members by gender: Unknown
 Website: <http://analyticalpolitics.wordpress.com/>

Analytical politics combines systematic theoretical thinking and rigorous empirical testing. One major source of inspiration is the literature on collective choice problems, which examines the relationship between individual and collective interests. Another line of interest is generated by studies that link developments in a formal theory with sound empirical research strategy. We welcome like-minded scholars who would like to

use this forum for discussion and exchange of ideas. A number of activities facilitate exchange, including a newsletter, regular meetings as part of the ECPR and other international conferences and a summer school.

The Group is facing increasing competition for members' attention and time by EPSA. Nevertheless, it was successful in organising Sections at the ECPR General Conferences in Bordeaux (chairs: Anne Rasmussen & Daniel Finke) and Glasgow (chairs: Dirk Junge & Daina Chiba). At the Bordeaux Conference Daniel Finke was elected as the new convenor of the Group. Furthermore, the Group continues its tradition of honouring the best Paper presented by a graduate student at the ECPR General Conference pursuing research in analytical politics. In 2014, the award committee honoured

a Paper by Daan van der Linde, Swantje Falcke and Ian Koetsier on the study the effect of wages on politicians' performance.

Central and East European Politics

Petra Guasti, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic

Terry Cox, University of Glasgow

Date established: 1999
 Number of members: 150
 Members by location: Majority in CEE countries with numbers in Western Europe growing.
 Members by gender: Unknown
 Website: <http://standinggroups.ecpr.eu/ceep/news/>

The Group and its members are the driving forces contributing to the development of research on CEE

politics. Building on the pioneering work of its first Convenors, the main focus of the Group today remains the closing of the East-West divide by integrating CEE scholars into ECPR activities and opening the CEE region up to all scholars interested in the richness of the region's political development, and taking stock of existing research agendas and initiating new research and research co-operation.

The Group is maintaining regular communication, supporting members' and affiliates' ECPR General Conference Section/Panel proposals that focus on providing (project) networking for members. The Group has also contributed to the ECPR newsletters and outreach (student field trips, presentation of activities at international congresses, conferences and workshops including the IPSA World Congress, APSA annual meetings, UACES annual meetings).

Two key activities in 2014 included ECPR Joint Session in Salamanca, where Aron Buzogany and Antonieta Dimitrova led Workshop entitled 'Ten Years On: Evaluating Eastern Enlargement'. The Workshop evaluated the outcomes and the impact of the most recent EU enlargement on democratic, societal and economic developments in the Central and Eastern European Member States and on conceptual issues concerning Europeanisation research.

At the 2014 ECPR General Conference the Group successfully collaborated with Eamonn Butler and Luca Anceschi on a Section entitled 'Rethinking Conditionality: Incentivising Integration Across Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia'. In comparing the impact of EU conditionality on new EU member states, as well as on CEE countries, where EU membership is not on the agenda (Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia), the session sought to re-engage with the

conditionality concept, by examining how its perception has been modified by recent enlargements and EU approaches to cooperation/integration with its wider Eastern neighbourhood.

In the 2015 the Group would like to further develop the website (in collaboration with SG members at the University of Glasgow) and explore the possibility of collaborative research and searching for external funding which would support comparative empirical research in CEE region, as well as focus on networking CEE members with their Western counterparts for the EU projects (Horizons 2020).

Citizenship

Trond Solhaug, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), Trondheim

Date established: 2013
Number of members: 200
Members by location: Unknown
Members by gender [if known] Male 60%/ Female 40%
Website: <https://ecprcitizenship.wordpress.com/>

Citizenship has become one of the most dynamic areas of political contestation due to the social and political turmoil in the context of globalisation, transnationalism, migration and multi-level governance. In this Group, citizenship and its personal, cultural, social, economic and political implications are investigated through interdisciplinary research from multiple theoretical perspectives. We address how citizenship continues to formulate relations between polities and individuals through rights, duties, participation and identities. In the context of increased diversity, less participation and growing political distrust we also explore and research how schools prepare citizens for their civic life in citizenship education.

In 2014, the Group organised two Panels for the IPSA Conference

in Montreal and led a Section at the ECPR General Conference in Glasgow entitled 'Citizenship: New Trends and Developments'.

For 2015, the Group has organised an ECPR Joint Sessions Workshop entitled 'Citizenship, diversity, participation and education in times of change' led by Convenor Trond Solhaug, (Norwegian University of Science and Technology) and Bernard Fournier (Vrije Universiteit Brussel). The Workshop will address questions related to the changing conditions for citizens' social and political life.

In addition, the Group has had two Sections ('Citizenship, Developments, Boundaries and Educational Challenges' and 'Citizenship Education Politics and Civic Participation in Communities and Schools: Actors, Conflicts and Political Choices') approved for the 2015 ECPR General Conference in Montreal.

Comparative Political Institutions

Ruben Ruiz-Rufino, King's College London
Sarah Birch, University of Glasgow
Jean-Benoit Pilet, Université libre de Bruxelles

Date established: 2007
Number of members: 120
Members by location: Unknown
Members by gender: Unknown
Website: <http://standinggroups.ecpr.eu/cpi/news/>

The Comparative Political Institutions Standing Group fosters analysis of the causes and consequences of the institutional structures that subtend contemporary politics. The Standing Group covers all types of regime, including established democracies, authoritarian regimes and states in between these two extremes. It also aims to encourage the study of all institutions, both formal and informal, though there is an emphasis in many of the group's activities on formal institutions,

especially electoral and constitutional provisions.

The Group strives to endorse at least one Workshop at the Joint Sessions and one Section at the ECPR General Conference. It communicates with its membership via a newsletter with information about comparative datasets, new publications, teaching resources, conferences and seminars, access to working papers, etc. The Group hold periodic summer schools for graduate students interested in the field of comparative political institutions.

Critical Peace and Conflict Studies

Julian Graef, University of St. Andrews
Oliver Richmond, University of Manchester
Sandra Pogodda, University of Manchester

Date established: 2010
Number of members: 42
Members by location: 5 countries
Members by gender: Male 46%/ Female 54%
Website: <http://standinggroups.ecpr.eu/cpcs/news/>

The Group is primarily concerned with the quality and nature of peace in cultural, social, economic, and political terms, ranging from the international system to the state and communities. It requires interdisciplinary investigation into peace and conflict dynamics, connecting post-colonial studies, anthropology, sociology, critical geography, critical development studies, and international relations. The Group focuses on local peace agencies, infrastructures for peace and non-violent state formation dynamics.

During the 2012-15 period, the Group has been incredibly ambitious and successful in their endeavours, which included a new journal and a Summer School. In 2013, the Group launched the peer-reviewed journal

Peacebuilding as an international, comparative, multidisciplinary journal open to articles on contemporary and historical cases. It aims to provide in-depth analyses of the ideologies, philosophies, interests, and policies that underpin peacebuilding programmes and initiatives, and to connect with debates being held by policymakers, civil society personnel, scholars and students.

In February 2013, the Group invited Carolyn Nordstrom from the University of Notre Dame in Indiana to the University of Manchester. The Workshop as well as Carolyn's subsequent lecture revolved around "The idea of romanticising vs enabling the local in peacebuilding."

The Group kick started 2014, with a new online magazine *Pax In Nuce (Peace in a Nutshell)*, which provides an online forum that bridges short pieces of academic and practitioner analysis on peace and conflict issues.

In April 2014, the Group organised a Workshop with Douglas Fry from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. The Workshop focused on Fry's work on the anthropology of conflict and ended with his lecture on 'The Creation of Non-Warring Peace Systems as a Form of Peacebuilding'.

In July 2014, the Group organised its first Summer School in co-operation with the University of Cyprus, which was sponsored by the ECPR. The theme was 'Peace, Order And Conflict in Times of Crisis: Theory And Practice' and attracted 16 students from 12 different countries. In addition to lectures by prominent international teaching staff (such as Iver Neumann from the LSE and Roland Bleiker from the University of Queensland), the students were offered first-hand insights into the Cypriot conflict through guided study trips across the island. Due to the success of this first summer school, the next one is already in the planning for July 2015 and will again be sponsored by the ECPR. This year's

theme will be 'State Fragmentation, Regional Crises and War Endings'.

In September 2014, the Group held its 3rd Annual Conference at the Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute (HCRI) at the University of Manchester in co-operation with the International Association for Peace and Conflict Studies. The theme of the conference was 'Shaping Peace: Local Infrastructures and State Formation' and attracted 120 presenters from all across the world. This year's conference will be held on 10/11 September 2015 and focus on the issue of 'Inequality and Peace'.

Democratic Innovations

Kimmo Grönlund, Abo Akademi
Brigitte Geissel, Frankfurt Goethe University

Date established: 2010
Number of members: 344
Members by location: 46 countries
Members by gender: Male 63%/ Female 37%
Website: <http://www.democraticinnovations.net/>

The focus of the Group is on innovations that aim at deepening 'thin' representative democracy and its impact on communities, structures, systems, policies and democratic participation. Despite a fundamental triumph of democracy, several tendencies in contemporary democratic systems give rise to concern, e.g. declining voter turnout. Many scholars have called for more participatory forms of democracy where citizens are effectively included in political decision-making. By now, several democratic innovations have been tried out. The focus of the Standing Group is to evaluate the benefits, disadvantages and shortcomings of democratic innovations.

Since the last Review of Activities, the Group continues to be heavily involved in the ECPR especially through the organisation of

Sections and Panels. At the 2013 General Conference in Bordeaux, the Group organised a Section entitled ‘Democratic Innovations’ that reflected on four decades of democratic innovation research and took stock of the wide range of theoretical, conceptual and methodological approaches. During the 2014 General Conference in Glasgow, the Group organised a Section entitled ‘New Developments in Democratic Innovation Research’. Led by Section Chair and Co-Chair, André Bächtiger and Anke Michels, the Section moved on from 2013’s Section to focus on new developments in democratic innovation research.

At the 2014 Joint Sessions of Workshops at the Universidad de Salamanca, Matthew Ryan (University of Southampton) and Anja Röcke (European University Institute) organised a Workshop on ‘Systematising Comparison of Democratic Innovations: Advanced Explanations of the Emergence, Sustenance and Failure of Participatory Institutions’.

The Group are also actively involved in other associations, including IPSA, PSA, NoPSA and World Social Science organisation. In addition, the Group has been in regular communication with its members through meetings and its website and newsletters. The Group have also been working hard to publish their research, with the first issue of the IGOPOLIS magazine published the last quarter of 2012 and further publications published with ECPR Press and Ashgate.

Environmental Politics

Brian Doherty, University of Keele
Sherilyn MacGregor, University of Keele
Hannes Stephan, University of Stirling

Date established: 1991
Number of members: 325
Members by location: Unknown
Members by gender: Male 70%/ Female 30%
Website: <http://standinggroups.ecpr.eu/ep/news/>

The Group serves as a network hub for researchers in the field of environmental politics and facilitates dialogue among scholars working on environmental political topics, particularly in (but not limited to) European countries. The Group promotes the study of environmental politics within the political science community, and supports environment-related Workshops and Panels at ECPR conferences.

The Group hosts the ECPR Summer School on Environmental Politics and Policy, which is designed to bring PhD students together with leading researchers in the broader field of environmental politics and policy. Now in its sixth year, the Group held its Summer School at Keele University in June 2013. Teaching was organised into five themes: green political theory; international relations of the environment; environment and global political economy; green movements and parties; public policy and the environment. The School attracted 20 PhD students and a number of very high profile academics from within and outside Europe. This is a clear sign of the excellent reputation that the Summer School and the ECPR have in the international environmental politics community.

In addition, in 2014, the Group held Sections at the 2014 Graduate Student Conference and General Conference. The Group continues to

maintain its webpages and Facebook page for its Summer School, and its main website.

European Union

Amy Verdun, University of Victoria
Thomas König, University of Mannheim

Date established: 1995
Number of members: 835
Members by location: Unknown
Members by gender: Unknown
Website: <http://sgeu-ecpr.org/>

The Group promotes co-ordination and collaboration among political scientists interested in the blooming area of research on the EU. SGEU’s main activities cover: a biennial pan-European conference; summer schools; organising and sponsoring Workshops, Panels and Sessions at ECPR events, and major political science conference; a news service and a website. Primarily a group of political scientists, the SGEU also fosters multidisciplinary collaboration across social science disciplines, including anthropology, economics, law, sociology, and social psychology, with a substantive focus on the EU.

Since 2009, the Summer School on Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models (EITM) in Europe has been held at the University of Mannheim.

The 2014 EITM Europe programme included a class on theoretical and empirical foundations. The theoretical models addressed span game theory, spatial theory, public choice theories, agent-based and behavioural economics models as well as general equilibrium models.

The 7th Pan-European Conference on the European Union was held in June 2014 at the Hague. The conference saw 330 individuals’ Papers proposed within 85 Panels.

The Group organised a 2014 ECPR General Conference Section entitled ‘Exploring European Diplomatic Practices in Times of Crisis and Transition’ with Federica Bicchi and

Niklas Bremberg as Section Chair and Co-Chair. This led to six Panels. The Section aimed to bring together scholars focusing on diplomacy and foreign policy practices in the European foreign policy system, within the context of International Relations and European Studies and Political Sciences.

Extremism and Democracy

Sarah L. de Lange, Universiteit van Amsterdam
Stijn van Kessel, Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf & University of Loughborough
Andrea L. P. Pirro, Università degli Studi di Siena
Matthijs Rooduijn, Universiteit van Amsterdam

Date established: 1999
Number of members: 341
Members by location: 38 countries
Members by gender: Unknown
Website: <http://www.extremism-and-democracy.com>

The Group provides a platform for a broad range of scholars working on various aspects of extremism and democracy. This includes topics such as political violence, religious fundamentalism, parties of the radical left and right, populism, fascism, and so forth. The Group is academically neutral and offers a meeting ground for scholars from various theoretical persuasions and disciplines, although our main focus is on the political aspects of extremism. We particularly welcome scholars who work in a comparative spirit and who focus on the (inter-)relation between extremism and democracy.

In 2014, Convenors Stijn van Kessel and Andrea L. P. Pirro, and Elisabeth Carter (University of Keele) organised a Section on ‘Political Radicalism in Times of Crisis’. The Group is also endorsing a Section at the 2015 ECPR General Conference focusing on ‘Populist and Radical Politics: Between Polarisation and Blurring’. Chaired by Convenors

Andrea L. P. Pirro, Stijn van Kessel, and Matthijs Rooduijn, it will discuss the influence of populist and radical politics on the polarisation of party systems as well as the blurring of ideologies and attitudes.

The Group maintains a searchable database that contains the contact information and research interests of members. It has proved to be a valuable resource. In addition, the Group publishes a quarterly electronic newsletter, e-Extreme, which contains news from the profession, conference and workshop reviews, and an extensive book review section.

Federalism and Regionalism

Elodie Fabre, Queen’s University Belfast
Arjan Schakel, University of Maastricht
Simon Toubeau, Centro de Estudios Políticos y Constitucionales (CEPC), Madrid

Date established: 1994
Number of members: 312
Members by location: 22 countries
Members by gender: Male 70%/ Female 30%
Website: <http://standinggroups.ecpr.eu/fr/news/>

The Group aims to bring together established and young researchers from across Europe and beyond with interests in the fields of federalism, regionalism, decentralisation, and politics and policy in multilevel systems. The Group helps to stimulate communication and research collaboration among its members. It has organised thematic Workshops and Panels at regular ECPR conferences and co-sponsored Workshops and conferences. It aims to continue these activities but also to intensify academic co-operation, for example via the ECPR Research Sessions. The Group has a link with Regional and Federal Studies, the leading European specialist journal in

the field.

During the 2012-15 period, the Group has maintained regular exchanges with other research groups in the field (e.g., CES Research Network on Territorial Politics and Federalism and IPSA Research Committee on Federalism and Federations). The Group continues to take part in ECPR events, for example, Convenors Arjan Schakel and Simon Toubeau organised a Section for the ECPR General Conference entitled ‘Comparative Territorial Politics and Policy’ that explained and interpreted the latest developments in the territorial politics and policies of federal and regional countries.

As well organising Sections, in 2013, the former Convenor Wilfried Swenden, along with John Loughlin and John Kincaid edited the Routledge *Handbook of Regionalism and Federalism*.

Gender and Politics

Isabelle Engeli, University of Ottawa
Elizabeth Evans, University of Bristol
Liza Mügge, University of Amsterdam

Date established: 1985
Number of members: 560
Members by location: Unknown
Members by gender: Male 15%/ Female 85%
Website: <http://standinggroups.ecpr.eu/gender/news/>

The Group forms a broad-based network on issues relating to the study of gender and sexuality in politics and world politics. The Group actively encourages Workshops, Panels and research groups with an emphasis on gender and seeks to increase the profile of women in the main fields of political science.

In the coming years the Group will continue its key activities with the same commitment and enthusiasm. This includes the biennial conference, dissemination of online information and website maintenance and the

organisation of Sections at the ECPR General Conference. The 4th Gender and Politics Conference will be held from 11-13 June 2015 in Uppsala. Over 600 abstracts have been submitted in response to the call for Papers of which roughly 500 will be accommodated. Newer activities, such as the best Paper prize and a mentoring programme, will become integrated into the core activities in 2015.

Additionally, the Convenors are working on an edited Section 'Gender in Political Science Education' which provides recommendations to the ECPR as well as its member institutions and national political science associations. This Section is the outcome of a Group Panel at the General Conference in Glasgow and will be submitted to a journal in January 2015.

Human Rights and Transitional Justice

Anja Mihr, Utrecht University
Stefan Engert, University of Frankfurt
Julie Bernath, University of Basel

Date established: 2012
Number of members: 95
Members by location: 10 countries
Members by gender: Male 40% / Female 60%
Website: <http://standinggroups.ecpr.eu/hr/news/>

The Group links aspects of human rights, transitional justice, democratisation, political transition, politics of transformation and politics which are relevant for research. It brings together a broad range of sub-disciplines of political science research, such as development studies, regional studies, political theory, conflict studies, etc. The Standing Group offers a forum to discuss research from different angles and perspectives: empirical and theoretical, analytical and normative, historical and contemporary, local, regional and global.

During 2012-15, the Group held

a Workshop entitled 'Process of Transitional Justice: Towards a More Systematic, Holistic and Comparative Approach in Social Science Research' at the ECPR Joint Sessions of Workshops in 2013. At the ECPR General Conference in Bordeaux in 2013, the Group organised a Section entitled 'Transitional Justice' which resulted in four Panels.

In 2014, the Group, ISA, IPSA and APSA's Human Rights Section held a conference on 'Human Rights and Change' in Istanbul. In addition the Group organised a Section at the ECPR General Conference in Glasgow on Transitional Justice with 4 Panels and co-sponsored the Joint Human Rights Conference together with ISA, IPSA and APSA in Istanbul.

In 2015 the Group is organising a Section with Panels at the General Conference in Montreal and again joins the Joint Human Rights Conference together with ISA, IPSA and APSA in June 2015 at The Hague.

Identity

Viktoria Kaina, University of Hagen
Ireneusz P. Karolewski, Willy Brandt Centre for German and European Studies, University of Wroclaw
Sebastian Kuhn, University of Hagen
Jochen Roose, Willy Brandt Centre for German and European Studies, University of Wroclaw

Date established: July 2011
Number of members: 54
Members by location: Netherlands, UK, Germany, Canada, France, Turkey, Australia, USA, Poland, Finland, Italy, Hungary, Spain, Belgium, Ireland, Denmark
Members by gender: Female: 30; Male: 24
Website: <http://www.ecpr-identity.com>

Despite its complex nature, identity is of great relevance for social and political life. The more we seek to understand the causes and consequences of social change for

politics, the more the dual character of identity as both an individual and collective phenomenon has proven to open up new perspectives in political science research. Therefore, exploration of identity is a promising and necessary strand of research in political science, which has the potential to cross interdisciplinary boundaries. The Group wishes to encourage social scientists of varying perspectives, distinct theoretical approaches and different methods to learn from each other by sharing their insights into the identity phenomenon and its impact on social and political life.

The Group has worked tirelessly to build itself up and is regularly represented at ECPR events. The Group supported a Section at the ECPR General Conference in 2013 and 2014. In March 2013, the SG organised the Young Scholars School 'European Identity: Concepts – Research Methods - Evidence' at the University of Jena. The School was directed to stimulate fresh ideas by bringing together international young scholars, experienced researchers and high profile students. It was funded by the Volkswagen Stiftung, the Ernst-Abbe-Stiftung and the ECPR. The main results from the School will be published in a volume entitled 'European Identity Revisited: New Approaches and Recent Empirical Evidence' (Routledge, forthcoming in 2015). The volume will be edited by the Steering Committee members Viktoria Kaina (University of Hagen), Ireneusz P. Karolewski, (University of Wroclaw) and Sebastian Kuhn (University of Hagen).

For the 2015 ECPR Joint Sessions of Workshops, the Group had had their Workshop entitled 'Comparative Approaches to Identity Change: Macro, Meso and Micro Perspectives' approved. It will be chaired by members, Jennifer Todd (University College Dublin) and Bahar Rumelili (Koç University). In addition, the Group has had their Section proposal

entitled 'Identity and the Challenge of Transformation' accepted for the ECPR General Conference in 2015. It will be led by Viktoria Kaina and Ireneusz P. Karolewski. Further plans include a proposal for an *Oxford Handbook of Identity*. Initial exploratory discussions with the publisher have already taken place.

Immigration and Ethnicity

Maria Sobolewska, University of Manchester

Date established: 2010
Number of members: 35
Members by location: Unknown
Members by gender: Unknown
Website: <http://standinggroups.ecpr.eu/ie/news/>

The Group covers broad research interests such as immigration, political incorporation of immigrant minorities, the politics of diversity, the political mobilisation of xenophobia, racism and ethnic prejudice, the politics of accommodating indigenous ethnic minorities, transnational and diaspora politics of immigrant-origin minorities and ethnic conflict. The Group will provide a platform for various scholars studying politics and policies of immigration and ethnicity to share insights, developments in research methods and perspectives and develop new research co-operations and projects.

The Group is heavily involved in organising regular Sections, Panels and Workshops at ECPR Conferences and other jointly-sponsored events with sister organisations, such as IMISCOE, APSA, ASA, ESA, IPSA and ISA. In 2014, the Group's Convenor co-organised a Section with the ECPR Standing Group on Extremism and Democracy, entitled 'Bridging Worlds: Political Parties and International Migration'.

In addition, the Group promotes publications through its website, in

recent years members have published with Oxford University Press (OUP) and ECPR Press. Most notably, *The Political Integration of Ethnic Minorities in Britain* (OUP) and *Why aren't they there? The Political Representation of Women Ethnic Groups and Issue Positions in Legislatures and New Nation-States and National Minorities. A Comparative Perspective* (ECPR Press).

Interest Groups

Caelesta Braun, Utrecht University
School of Governance
Patrick Bernhagen, University of Stuttgart

Date established: 2008
Number of members: 250+
Members by location: Approximately 25 countries
Members by gender: Male 51% / Female 49%
Website: <http://www.ecpr-sgig.eu/>

The Group aims to facilitate research on civil society, social movement organisations, business political activity, and lobbying, at all levels (local, regional, national, European and global). While the Group functions largely as a forum and an exchange network for interest group researchers, its activities include Workshops, conferences and Summer Schools.

The Group has gone from strength to strength since its inception, with Sections at the General Conference in 2011, 2013 and 2014, and Workshops at the Joint Sessions of Workshops in 2011, 2012 and 2015. For the Joint Sessions in 2014, the Group had two Workshops approved: 'Political Organisation in Transformation? The Impact of State Regulation on Parties, Interest Groups, and NGOs in advanced Democracies' and 'Methodological Challenges and Contradictory Results in the Study of Interest Groups.'

The Group held its 5th ECPR Standing Group Summer School on Interest Groups in 2014 in Amsterdam.

Jan Beyers and William Maloney led

a Section entitled 'Interest Groups and Comparative Political Science: empirical, theoretical, methodological and normative challenges' at the General Conference in September 2014. This resulted in eight allocated Panels. The Group invited theoretical, methodological, empirical and normative Papers that contributed to gaining a better understanding of the challenges that scholars of organised interests and related political organisations face in placing their research centrally within comparative political science.

International Political Theory

Lynn Dobson, University of Edinburgh
Andreas Follesdal, University of Oslo
Catherine Lu, McGill University

Date established: 2007
Number of members: 250
Members by location: Unknown
Members by gender: Male 65% / Female 35%
Website: <http://standinggroups.ecpr.eu/ipt/news/>

International Political Theory (IPT) is a fast-growing field. Broadly, it applies a philosophical mode of enquiry to international politics. The IPT Standing Group brings together and provides a forum for political philosophers/theorists whose interests lie predominantly in international affairs and scholars of international politics whose interests are philosophical or ethical in character. We aim to have a dedicated IPT Section at every ECPR General Conference, and to provide guidance and support to members bidding for ECPR Joint Sessions of Workshops or Research Sessions proposals.

Following its aim to ensure the Group is represented at ECPR events, in 2014, the Convenors organised a Section on International Political Theory with seven Panels, for the ECPR General Conference in Glasgow. The Section built on

the Group's success at Reykjavik, Potsdam, and Pisa.

Looking to 2015, the Group has had a Section on 'International Political Theory' approved for the Montreal General Conference, that will encompass political theory and philosophy as it pertains to global, international and transnational relations.

International Relations

Knud-Erik Jorgensen, Aarhus University

Date established: Unknown
Number of members: Approximately 1100
Members by location: Unknown
Members by gender: Unknown

The ECPR Standing Group on International Relations (SGIR) seeks to facilitate the exchange of ideas, experience and findings in the field of international relations; the strengthening of the discipline of International Relations within European academic institutions; and the improvement of research and teaching of international relations.

Key activities of the Standing Group are the Pan-European International Relations Conference, European International Relations Summer School (EIRSS) and the European Journal of International Relations.

Internet and Politics

Anastasia Kavada, University of Westminster
Andrea Calderaro, European University Institute

Date established: 2009
Number of members: 212
Members by location: 30 countries
Members by gender: Unknown
Website: <http://internetpoliticsecpr.eu/>

The Group promotes research and policy-oriented debate about

the politics of the internet by contributing and supporting the activities taking place within the ECPR. It facilitates the organisation of Workshops on topics at the ECPR Joint Sessions, Sections and Panels at the ECPR General Conferences, and other activities. The Group welcomes any scholar with an interest in internet politics.

The Group collaborates regularly with the Oxford Internet Institute on the organisation of the biennial joint Internet, Politics, and Policy (IPP) academic conference series. In 2014, the IPP2014 explored the new research frontiers opened up by Crowdsourcing for Politics and Policy. It served as a forum to encourage discussion on how to exploit crowdsourcing to inform policy debates and advance social science research.

In 2014 the Group also supported the 'Civic Political Engagement in the New Digital Era' Conference organised and hosted by the Sciences Po in Paris.

At the Joint Sessions of Workshops, the Group organised the Workshop 'Political Engagement in the Web. 2.0 Era. Co-Production in Election Campaigning'. At the 2015 ECPR General Conference the Group will organise the Section entitled 'Political Communication at Cross-Roads'. This Section will include Panels exploring the relation between internet and political communication from multiple perspectives.

The Group regularly publicises calls for relevant events, journals and new publications. In addition, they look after a Facebook page.

Kantian Political Thought

Howard Williams, University of Aberystwyth
Sorin Baiasu, University of Keele

Date established: Unknown
Number of members: 110

Members by location: 25 countries
Members by gender: Male 65%/
Female 35%
Website: <http://www.keele.ac.uk/ecprkant/>

The Group is an international network of academics who acknowledge the increasing importance of Kantian approaches today. Their research aims both to understand better the works of Kant and Kantian theorists, and to examine the various attempts to criticise and overcome the Kantian tradition. A distinctive feature of the Group is a broad focus going beyond political theory and examining issues in ethics, epistemology, legal theory, anthropology, philosophy of religion and of history, in order to offer theoretical and practical answers to current political problems.

During the last few years, the Group sponsored two Sections for the ECPR General Conference in 2013 and 2014. For the 2013 conference, Convenor Sorin Baiasu led a Section on 'Justification and Application: The Nature and Function of Political Norms' and in 2014, Sorin Baiasu and Alice Pinheiro-Walla organised a Section on 'Kant and Kantian Constructivism in Moral and Political Philosophy'.

In addition, the Group organised a Summer School on 'Methods in Normative Political Theory/Philosophy'. Again in 2014, the Group organised (jointly with the Political Theory Standing Group) a Research Session on 'Rights and Imperfect Duties'. Again jointly with the Standing Group on Political Theory, the Group was awarded a grant for the organisation of a second Summer School on 'Methods in Normative Political Theory/Philosophy' in 2015. The Group also supported the organisation of other events, such as the 'Jean-Jacques Rousseau' Annual Lectures and Conferences of the Keele Philosophy Forum, in 2012, 2013 and 2014.

For the 2015 General Conference,

the Group had their Section (Rights - Kantian Approaches) approved. It will explore what solutions the Kantian perspective or perspectives might be bringing about concerning our better understanding of different aspects of the concept of rights and human rights.

Latin American Politics

David Doyle, University of Oxford
Andrés Malamud, University of Lisbon (ICS)

Date established: 2009
Number of members: 70
Members by location: 16 countries
Members by gender: Male 50%/
Female 50%
Website: <http://standinggroups.ecpr.eu/lap/news/>

In recent years Latin American scholarly literature has produced major theoretical and methodological innovations in numerous sub-literatures of comparative politics (such as presidentialism, legislatures, government coalitions, indigenous politics, elections, sub-national politics and comparative political economy). The Standing Group on Latin American Politics encourages scholars to engage themselves with this trend, both through Sections at the General Conference and Summer Schools on Latin American Politics.

The second Summer School on Latin American Politics took place in July 2012 at the Institute of Social Sciences (ICS) at the University of Lisbon in Portugal, and was devoted to the International Politics of Latin America. It was led by Andrea Oelsner (University of Aberdeen), Andrea Ribeiro-Hoffmann (University of Erfurt), Andrés Malamud (University of Lisbon), Bert Hoffmann (GIGA, Hamburg), Detlef Nolte (GIGA, Hamburg), José Antonio Sanahuja (Complutense University of Madrid), Laurence Whitehead (University of Oxford) and Olivier Dabène

(Sciences Po, Paris). Around twenty graduate students from all over Europe (plus Argentina, Brazil and Australia) attended the lectures and discussed their research projects with the instructors.

The 2013 Summer School took place at GIGA German Institute of Global and Area Studies in Hamburg, and addressed the Outcomes of Latin American Democratic Regimes. Convened by Mariana Llanos (GIGA) the instructors included: Manuel Alcántara (University of Salamanca), Allyson Benton (CIDE Mexico), Javier Corrales (Amherst College), Leonardo Morlino (LUISS Guido Carli), Cameron Thies (University of Iowa), Philip Kitzberger (Universidad Torcuato di Tella Argentina), Yanina Welp (University of Zurich) and Laurence Whitehead (University of Oxford). Seventeen graduate students from all over Europe (plus Brazil and Mexico) attended the classes and had the opportunity to discuss their research projects with some of the leading academics in the field.

For the ECPR General Conference in 2014, the Group had their Section entitled 'Politics and Society in Latin America after the Crisis,' which resulted in eight Panels. It brought together Papers on topics such as delegative democracy, coalitional presidentialism, judicial politics, contentious politics, political stability, populism rentier states, clientelism, and party system stability and change.

Convened by David Doyle (University of Oxford) and Andrés Mejía Acosta (King's College London), the 2015 summer school will focus on The Political Economy of Development in Latin America, and will be held in KCL in London and in Oxford this June and July coming.

Again, it will have a group of lecturers who represent the leaders in their field, and the Group expect about twenty students to attend the school.

Law and Courts

Chris Hanretty, University of East Anglia
Sylvain Brouard, Sciences Po Bordeaux
Christoph Hönnige, University of Hanover

Date established: 2009
Number of members: 150
Members by location: 15-18 countries
Members by gender: Male 50% /
Female 50%
Website: <http://lawandcourts.sciencespobordeaux.fr/>

Born out of a lack of research on law and courts within the field of Comparative Politics and absent networks for European researchers interested in field of law, courts and judicial politics, the Group was set up to overcome this. The aim is to create a network interested in the field of law and politics and to promote comparative and cross-national research by the exchange of ideas, discussion of current issues and the facilitation of joint research.

The Group regularly participates in ECPR events. The Group has offered Sections chaired by Convenors entitled 'Law, Courts and Judicial Politics' at every ECPR General Conference (Reykjavik, Bordeaux, Glasgow, Montréal). With regard to the 2012, 2013 and 2014 ECPR Joint Sessions, the Group organised two Workshops in 2013 ('The Judiciary and the Quality of Democracy in Comparative Perspective' by Christoph Hönnige and Julio Rios-Figueroa and 'Legal Mobilisation: Europe in Comparative Perspective' by Lisa Vanhala and Christine Rothmayr). It has sponsored a further two Workshops related to the subfield (2012: 'Between Retribution and Restoration – explaining the Politics of Transitional Justice' by Adam Czarnota and Klaus Bachmann; 2014: 'Causes and Consequences of Judicial Selection and Turnover at the Supreme/High Court Level' by Patrick Dumont and Matthew

Kerby).

In addition, the Group sends out yearly newsletter, *JUSTITIA*, including information on conferences, jobs, datasets and a literature section about new publications and book reviews.

Local Government and Politics

Anders Lidström, UMEÅ Universitet

Date established: 1994
Number of members: 396
Members by location: 31 countries
Members by gender: Male 65%/
Female 35%
Website: <http://standinggroups.ecpr.eu/lgp/news/>

The Group promotes research in the field of local politics, democracy, governance and administration and has a particular interest in supporting comparative research. It functions as a network of scholars and PhD students but also welcomes practitioners interested in research in the field. It organises Sections and Panels at ECPR General Conferences, provides information about upcoming conferences and other events, and reports on new publications. The Standing Group also organises an annual Summer School for doctoral students on local government and politics.

For the 2013 ECPR General Conference, the Group organised a Section on ‘Contemporary Challenges to Local Self-Government and Democracy’.

The Group organised a Section on ‘Contemporary Local Self-Governance and Democracy – Challenges and Responses’ with six Panels at the ECPR General Conference in Glasgow 2014.

In 2014, the Group jointly organised a Training School on ‘Re-building Trust in Local Governments: Re-thinking Politics, Management and Governance in the Post-NPM Era’. This was a collaboration between the

University of Siena, the EUROLOC/LOGOPOL and EURA Summer school co-operation and the COST Action IS1207 ‘Local Public Sector Reforms: An International Comparison (LocRef)’. The School was held from 29 September to 2 October 2014.

Organised Crime

Felia Allum, University of Bath
Francesca Longo, Università degli Studi di Torino

Date established: 2001
Number of members: 340
Members by location: 20+ countries
Members by gender: Male 50%/
Female 50%
Website: <http://www.sgocnet.org/>

The Group promotes research on organised crime across disciplinary, regional and professional boundaries. To this end, it offers a number of platforms such as its own website, a blog, and diverse social media. The SGOC moreover organises an annual Summer School, publishes a tri-annual newsletter and has recently launched the *European Review of Organised Crime*, its own peer-reviewed open access journal. During Sections at ECPR General Conferences, it brings together junior and senior experts. It is also frequently involved in the publication of special journal issues and edited books.

Between 2012 and 2015, the Group has consolidated its position and has been going from strength to strength in particular, because it has an active and dynamic executive committee. It has a vibrant newsletter and blog and hopes continue to organise Summer Schools in the future. 2014 saw the launch of its own journal, the *European Review of Organised Crime* with its first issue in September. A special issue on ‘Space Oddity? Exploring Organised Crime Ventures in Cyber Space’ is planned for 2015. In addition, this year, the Group hopes to organise its own SGOC conference in Naples, Italy where it

hopes to bring together international academics, practitioners and policy makers to discuss the vibrant links that exist between local and global organised crime groups, markets, networks and accomplices.

Parliaments

Thomas Saalfeld, University of Bamberg

Date established: 2005
Number of members: 250
Members by location: 28 countries
Members by gender: Male 58%/
Female 42%
Website: <http://standinggroups.ecpr.eu/parliaments/>

Legislative Studies is an important and growing subfield of Political Science. The Group’s aim is to promote comparative research and theory-building on the institutionalisation, capacity, operation, and performance of legislatures. It also promotes the dissemination of such research through conferences, workshops, summer schools and publications. Core interests of the Group’s members are: assembly institutionalisation – the development of organisational patterns, rules and procedures; assembly capacity – the formal powers and resources of parliaments; and assembly operation – the dynamics of the party system and legislative-executive balance.

Between 2012 and 2015, the Group has been active in its involvement with ECPR events by preparing proposals for the Joint Sessions of Workshops and the General Conference. During 2014, the Group also held its third Summer School in Brussels.

The aim of the biennial Summer School on Parliaments is to provide a mechanism for young scholars of national, regional and/or transnational parliaments to enhance their theoretical and analytical toolkit as well as to receive feedback from leading academics on

their particular research agenda. In addition the programme will provide an opportunity for participants to network with each other and with more senior, well established, legislative scholars. The 2014 School built on the success of the 2010 (Bamberg) and 2012 (Lisbon) Summer Schools.

Participation and Mobilisation

Michele Micheletti, Stockholm University
Alice Mattoni, European University Institute

Date established: 2004
Number of members: 200
Members by location: Unknown
Members by gender: Unknown
Website: <http://www.statsvet.su.se/english/research/research-projects-programmes/ecpr-standing-group-on-participation-and-mobilization>

The Group gives room to a broad set of research questions related to participation in politics, processes of organising political demands and interactions between active citizens and their organisations on the one hand, and targets of their efforts and other affected groups on the other. Members represent different theoretical and methodological perspectives, conduct quantitative and qualitative investigations and use mixed-methods approaches.

The Group has organised Sections at every ECPR General Conference: ‘Comparative Perspectives on the New Politics of Dissent: The Global Uprisings against Austerity Measures, Corporate Greed, and Authoritarian Regimes’ (2013, 7 panels); ‘Citizens’ Resilience in Times of Crisis’ (2014, 8 panels); ‘What does Capitalism do to Contentious Politics? What does Contentious Politics do to Capitalism?’ (2015, 8 panels).

Several members have actively engaged in proposing the Sections, and presented and attended other Panels. The Group proposed

Workshops for the Joint Sessions of Workshops: in 2013, the Group ran ‘The Transnational Dimension of Protest. From the Arab Spring to Occupy Wall Street’ resulting in *Spreading Protest. Social Movements in Times of Crisis* published with ECPR Press. The Summer School on Methods for the Study of Political Participation and Mobilisation will be held again in 2015.

Political Economy

José Fernández-Albertos, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC)
Sijja Häusermann, Universität Konstanz
Achim Kemmerling, Central European University
Philipp Rehm, University of Ohio
Stefanie Walter, University of Zurich

Date established: 2010
Number of members: 111
Members by location: Approximately 20 countries
Members by gender: Male 60%/
Female 40%
Website: <http://ecprpolitical-economy.wordpress.com/>

The Group seeks participation from all subfields of political economy, including comparative and international political economy, and welcomes all methodological backgrounds. It aims to facilitate exchange among political scientists as well as related disciplines.

As well as maintaining its own website and Google Group, the Group has consistently promoted activity at ECPR events. During the 2012-15 period, the Group have submitted proposals for the Joint Sessions (2013) and the General Conference (2013, 2014, and 2015).

In 2013, the Group led a Workshop at the Joint Sessions of Workshops in Mainz. Entitled ‘Socio-Economic Inequalities and Political Cleavages in Post-Industrial Societies’, it strived to answer three questions: first, what are the major (new) socio-economic divides in post-industrial societies?

Second, under what conditions, by whom and how are these divides politically mobilised? And third, to what extent do these political differences lead to changing dynamics in major areas of welfare state policy?

For the 2015 General Conference, a Section has been approved: ‘Frankenstein or Machiavelli? The European Elite-Driven Forced March Towards Austerity,’ which aims at exploring the political economy of crises in general, and the Frankenstein and Machiavelli scenarios in particular.

Political Methodology

Philippe Blanchard, University of Warwick
Theofanis Exadaktylos, University of Surrey
Lea Sgier, Central European University

Date established: Early 2000s, re-established in 2013.
Number of members: 80
Members by location: 9 countries
Members by gender: Male 60%/
Female 40%
Website: <http://ecpr-methods.org/>

The Group provides a venue for methodological discussions among political scientists and interested scholars from adjoining disciplines. It circulates information about new tools and approaches to studying political phenomena, promotes and facilitates cooperation on various methodological issues, broadly defined, and provides an organisational basis for supporting new initiatives in political methodology.

It promotes collaboration with sections of other political science associations and ECPR Standing Groups, as well as the ECPR Methods School, to create an open forum of dialogue.

During 2012-15, the Group has submitted proposals for the 2014 and 2015 ECPR General Conferences

and held Standing Group meetings during the conferences. In addition, the Group has supported Workshops for the 2015 and 2016 Joint Sessions of Workshops.

Advisory Board members Bernhard Kittel and Benoît Rihoux were Series Editors of the Research Methods Series. Within this series, *Political Science Research Methods in Action* was published in 2013. It was edited by Michael Bruter and Martin Lodge. In 2014, Isabelle Engeli and Christine Rothmayr Allison edited *Comparative Policy Studies*, another addition to the Research Methods Series.

The Group also communicates regularly with its members by using newsflashes for events, publications and conference announcements.

Political Networks

Dimitris Christopoulos, University of the West of England
Mario Diani, Universitat Barcelona
Pompeu Fabra

Date established: 2008
Number of members: 28
Members by location: 10 countries
Members by gender: Male 65%/
Female 35%
Website: <http://standinggroups.ecpr.eu/sna/news/>

Relational political science is a fast growing field, with roots in sociology, social psychology, anthropology, and graph theory. In political science, Karl Deutsch and Edward Laumann can be considered early adherents. Since the 1980s the literature on policy networks gave the field new prominence. The Group aims to aid development of the field through dissemination of conference calls, panels and symposia, assisting organisation of Panels/Workshops at ECPR events, publicising specialised training, creating a compendium of freely available data, and organising symposia to foster methodological innovations and novel applications.

During the 2012-15 term, the Group has been organising events,

submitting proposals for ECPR events and encouraging its members' involvement. For the 2014 General Conference, the Group organised the Political Networks Section led by Convenors Mario Diani and Dimitris Christopoulos. Its fundamental goal remains the same since the Bordeaux Section, namely, bringing together scholars who, while holding diverse research interests, share nonetheless an analytic approach to network processes in political life, coupled with a strong attention to the integration of theory and empirical data.

The Group has also been involved in the IPSA Seventh Annual Political Networks Conference, Networks in the Global World 2014 – Bridging Theory and Method and the 1st European Conference on Social Networks (EUSN). In 2014, the Group also organised a seminar on 'Networked International Politics' that that took place in St. Gallen.

Political Parties

Kurt Richard Luther, University of Keele

Date established: Unknown
Number of members: 226
Members by location: 33 countries (i/c UK 22 %; GER 13%; Italy 8%; BEL 7%; NL, FRA, AUS & USA all ca. 5%)
Members by gender: Male 67%/
Female 33%
Website: <http://ecprsgpp.wordpress.com/>

The Standing Group on Political Parties is one of the ECPR's oldest.

The Group facilitates communication among members, provides links to web-based sources likely to be of interest to members, provides a forum to co-ordinate proposals for Joint Sessions Workshops and General Conference Sections, serves as a catalyst for the origination of joint research proposals, supports an annual multinational PhD Summer School on Political Parties, and informs the wider community of

members' scholarly work.

The 24th ECPR PhD Summer School on Political Parties and Party Systems took place in September 2014 at the Leuphana Universität Lüneburg. It was co-directed by Ferdinand Müller-Rommel and Sebastian Elischer of Leuphana's Center for the Study of Democracy. The 25th will be held in the same location in September 2015.

The Group continues to keep its members up to date and includes information about its Summer School, new Projects, Working Papers and a useful database through its website.

Political Psychology

Tereza Capelos, University of Surrey
Henk Dekker, Universiteit Leiden

Date established: Unknown
Number of members: 100+
Members by location: Unknown
Members by gender: Male 50%/
Female 50%
Website: <http://www.surrey.ac.uk/politics/research/researchareasofstaff/ECPR/>

The Group brings together colleagues interested in addressing the psychological aspects of politics, and facilitates communication among scholars across disciplinary, geographic and political boundaries. This Group gives voice and visibility to the needs of the academics, graduate students and researchers studying the field, supports relevant publications, promotes communication among specialists and organises expert meetings. It also collaborates actively with the International Society of Political Psychology in organising the Political Psychology Summer Academy. Members conduct research on pivotal topics such as political socialisation, attitude formation and change, decision heuristics and biases, public opinion, stereotypes, tolerance, radicalism, protests, political cynicism and alienation, to name a few.

The Group organised a 2014 General Conference Section entitled 'Political Psychology in Europe: Advances, Theoretical Debates and Empirical Applications'. The Section surveyed important topics in political psychology research in Europe following the successful tradition of the 2011, 2012, 2009, 2007, and 2005 ECPR conferences. Following the Section, the Group plans to publish selected papers from the Panels, as the second volume of work on Advances in European Political Psychology (first volume is currently in press with Palgrave Publishers).

In addition, the Group also hosted a specialised course on European Political Psychology Developments and Methodologies, at the 2014 ISPP Summer Academy in July 2014 in Rome.

Political Representation

Sandra Kröger, University of Exeter
Johannes Pollak, Institute for Advanced Studies & Webster University Vienna

Date established: 2013
Number of members: 70
Members by location: Unknown
Members by gender: Unknown
Website: <http://standinggroups.ecpr.eu/representation/news/>

The Group addresses issues of political representation broadly conceived, from different theoretical perspectives and involving different disciplines. A more systematic effort in bringing together scholars in the field of political representation is much needed in order to overcome the fragmentation that currently characterises the study of this topic. The Standing Group therefore brings together a mix of scholars who share similar research interests in a variety of sub-disciplinary areas (for instance democratic theory, European integration theory, EU politics, parliaments, parties, and civil society organisations, political sociology)

to take each other's insights into consideration.

In 2014, the Group's convenors organised a Section entitled Contemporary Challenges to Political Representation, which addressed issues of political representation broadly conceived, from different theoretical perspectives and involving different disciplines, in order to make theoretical, methodological and empirical progress. The Section saw nine Panels submitted.

Political Sociology

Niilo Kauppi, Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Strasbourg
David Swartz, Boston University

Date established: 2010
Number of members: 236
Members by location: 20-30 countries
Members by gender: Male 70%/
Female 30%
Website: <http://www3.unil.ch/wpmu/ecpr-polsoc/>

The Group provides a forum for researchers applying sociological approaches to study political dimensions of social life. It aims at building an active network of sociologically inclined political and social scientists interested in political topics, such as how broad social processes influence political actors, institutions, policies, and debate, and how in turn politics affects every day social life at local, national, and transnational levels.

For the 2013 General Conference in Bordeaux, the Group organised a Section with six Panels on the use of field concepts in political analysis. This Section provided an opportunity to discuss the progress of field approaches in political sociology.

In addition, Group Convenor Niilo Kauppi edited *A Political Sociology of Transnational Europe* (ECPR Press 2013), which presents cutting-edge, theoretically ambitious studies in political sociology by first-rate European scholars that deal with

some of the major challenges European societies and politics are facing.

In 2014, the Group organised a section at the Glasgow ECPR General Conference entitled The Euro Crisis: New Socio-Political Divisions, Mobility and Mobilisation with 6 Panels.

Looking ahead, the Group will organise a Section for the 2015 ECPR General Conference entitled 'Political Engagement, Scholarship and Social Trajectories' with six Panels. As well as regularly encouraging its members to get involved in events, the Group maintains a website which includes information about forthcoming calls, jobs, publications and resources.

Political Theory

Adina Preda, University of Limerick
Andrew Shorten, University of Limerick

Date established: 2001
Number of members: Unknown
Members by location: Unknown
Members by gender: Unknown
Website: <http://standinggroups.ecpr.eu/theory>

The Group brings together scholars with substantive research interests in political theory. It aims to support research in all branches of political theory, including work on conceptual, historical, methodological and normative topics. It also aims to promote interactions across sub-disciplinary and methodological boundaries within political theory, and to facilitate interdisciplinary engagement between political theorists and scholars working in cognate disciplines.

For the 2014 Research Sessions, the Group worked with the Standing Group on Kantian Political Thought to organise a session on 'Rights and Imperfect Duties in Political Theory'.

In addition, the Group endorsed the 'Political Theory: Issues and Challenges' Section at the General

Conference in Glasgow. The Section showcased recent work in all subfields of political theory, including work on normative, conceptual, methodological and historical topics, construed broadly. Led by the Group's Convenors, the Section resulted in eight Panels. The Group also held a General Meeting for its members at the conference.

Looking ahead to 2015, the Group is organising a Section consisting of eight Panels for the 2015 General Conference. In addition, the Group looks forward to collaborating in the organisation of the Summer School in Methods in Normative Political Theory/Philosophy that will take place at the University of Keele in 2015.

Political Violence

Lorenzo Bosi, Scuola Normale Superiore Pisa
Niall Ó Dochartaigh, National University of Ireland, Galway

Date established: 2012
Number of members: 130
Members by location: 32 countries
Members by gender: Male 55%/ Female 45%
Website: <http://standinggroups.ecpr.eu/violence/news/>

The Group provides a collaborative network and infrastructure for international junior and senior scholars working on aspects of political violence, including riots, guerrilla warfare, insurgency, terrorism, rebellion and civil wars. It particularly encourages comparative research and approaches that seek to understand political violence in terms of the wider political and geopolitical context in which actors are located.

The Group has achieved a great deal during the 2012-15 period. It regularly publicises calls for proposals for many conferences including IPSA, ECPR and Centre on Social Movement Studies (COSMOS) etc. In May 2013, the Group organised a Workshop, entitled: 'Typologies

of Political Violence' in Florence. Around 30 scholars took part in the event.

The Group also organised a 2013 General Conference Section on 'Political Violence in Time and Space.' The Section, convened by Lorenzo Bosi (European University Institute) and Niall Ó Dochartaigh (National University of Ireland Galway) and Martha Crenshaw (Stanford University) resulted in the ECPR Press title *Political Violence in Context: Time, Space and Milieu*.

Lorenzo Bosi (EUI) and Stefan Malthaner (EUI) organised a 2014 General Conference Section entitled 'Forms of Political Violence'. The Group organised a Workshop, titled: 'Micro-Level Perspectives on Political Violence' in Florence in November 2014. For 2015, the Group is organising a Section entitled 'Political Violence: Identity and Ideology,' with the aim of bringing together a multi-disciplinary group of scholars concerned with political violence and its relationship to identity and ideology from both contemporary and historical perspectives.

In addition, two members Leena Malkki (University of Helsinki) and Florian Edelmann (Aberystwyth University) are organising a Section at the 9th Pan-European Conference on International Relations. The conference theme is 'The Worlds of Violence.' Furthermore, two other members Thaler Mathias (University of Edinburgh) and Mihaela Mihai (University of York) are applying to organise a Workshop for the next Joint Section in 2016. The Workshop theme is 'Imagining Violence: The Politics of Narrative and Representation'.

Politics and Technology

Ulrich Hilpert, Friedrich-Schiller Universität Jena

Date established: 1987
Number of members: 80
Members by location: 12 countries
Members by gender: Male 65%/ Female 35%
Website: http://www.uni-jena.de/ECPR_SG-lang-en.html

The focus of the Standing Group on Politics and Technology lies in the systematic relations of different levels of government (e.g. regional, national and European) with technological change and innovation.

The research within the Standing Group has clearly indicated a European path for how governments can both support and initiate technology development and innovation.

Governmental activities, as well as their causes and effects, vary throughout European countries according to institutions, history and culture, even more in comparison with North America and to new industrialising countries like Singapore or Taiwan. Research on these topics requires an interdisciplinary, comparative approach with political science as an important contribution. The SG will have the following research areas during the next years:

The significance of governing technological development and innovation at different levels of government (e.g. regional, national and European) in a global economy; a transatlantic comparison of continental innovation models. Here, the conditions of locational development (e.g. public research institutes and universities, their relation with enterprises, the education of the labour force) demand for typical differences in Europe as compared with North America; globally differing public

policies, depending on culture and tradition, as a basis for innovation and development.

Politics and the Arts

Kia Lindroos, Jyväskylä University

Date established: Unknown
Number of members: Unknown
Members by location: Unknown
Members by gender: Unknown
Website: <http://www.jyu.fi/yhtfil/polarts/>

The Politics and the Arts Standing Group is committed to the interdisciplinary study of art as a form of political discourse. The conjunction 'politics and the arts' has continuously attracted interest within political theory and international politics, cultural studies and art research. Politics and the Arts is an established field of research within the social sciences.

The Group regularly organises conferences and panels at major international events where we seek to engage discussions among scholars, researchers, artists and cultural practitioners on questions pertaining to political interpretations of art and artistic activity.

Our research projects have focused around the issues of terror and art, violence and non-violence, visual and other artistic representations of international conflicts, questions of politicising the literature and poetic form and narrative practices, and critique of media representations.

Public Opinion and Voting Behaviour in a Comparative Perspective

Sylvia Kritzinger, University of Vienna
Oddbjørn Knutsen, University of Oslo

Date established: 2008
Number of members: 384
Members by location: 39 countries
Members by gender: Male 75%/ Female 25%
Website: <http://povb-ecpr.org/>

The Group's main aim is to facilitate communication and co-ordination among scholars working in the fields of comparative election research, elections to the European Parliament and political attitudes and value orientations. Its aims are implemented by disseminating information on current research and relevant upcoming events, sponsoring and coordinating Panel, Section and Workshop proposals for members who wish to submit them to conferences, and disseminating bibliographic databases, syllabi, other research tools and teaching aids relevant for scholars of public opinion and voting.

The Group has been heavily involved in endorsing Sections and Workshops for ECPR events. The Group endorsed a 2012 Joint Sessions Workshop, entitled 'Policy Feedback, Political Behaviour, and Democratic Citizenship in European Welfare States.'

The Group supported one 2013 Joint Sessions Workshop entitled 'Electoral Competitiveness in Cross-National Research: Challenges and New Directions' led by Susan Banducci, (University of Exeter), Heiko Giebler, (WZB Berlin Social Science Center) and Sylvia Kritzinger. In addition the Group supported two 2013 General Conference Sections entitled 'Comparative Public Opinion and elections' led by Susan Banducci

and Rachel Gibson (University of Manchester). 'European Elections, Euroscepticism and the Media' was led by Wouter van der Brug (University of Amsterdam) and Olga Gyarfasova (Comenius University).

In 2014, the Group sponsored a Joint Sessions Workshop entitled 'Defending or Damaging Democracy? The Establishment's Reactions to Political Extremists in Liberal Democracies,' organised by Joost Van Spanje (University of Amsterdam) and Michael Minkenberg (Europa-Universität Viadrina). The Group organised a 2014 General Conference Section entitled 'Changing Patterns of Electoral Competition and Voting Behaviour'. Led by Romain Lachat (Universitat Pompeu Fabra) and Lorenzo De Sio (LUISS University). For the first time, the Group supported the 1st Leuven-Montréal Winter School on Elections and Voting Behaviour, held in January 2015. The School address a need for specific training for PhD students working on elections and voting behaviour.

For 2015 ECPR Joint Sessions of Workshops, the Group has sponsored two Workshops entitled 'Accountability Without Parties? The Effects of Dealignment on Accountability in Electoral Decision-Making' and 'What Citizens Want From Democracy: Popular Attitudes to Existing Political Processes and their Alternatives'.

Ahead of the 2015 ECPR General Conference, the Group have organised a two Sections. The first Section is entitled 'The Study of Elections: Comparative Perspectives, Methodological Challenges'. The Group and the Section Chairs, Andrea Blais (Université de Montréal and Elizabeth Gidengil) are expecting at least eight Panels. Secondly, 'Public Opinion, Political Attitudes and Values,' led Oddbjørn Knutsen (Universitetet i Oslo) and Patrick Fournier (Université de Montréal).

Regulatory Governance

Anne Meuwese, Tilburg University
Koen Verhoest, University of Antwerp

Date established: 2005
Number of members: 2200
Members by location: 40 countries
Members by gender: Unknown
Website: <http://regulation.upf.edu/>

The Group brings together a multi-disciplinary range of scholars working on regulation and governance in all parts of the world, its main focus being on the political aspects of regulation.

In 2012, the Group held its 4th Biennial Conference on New Perspectives on Regulation, Governance and Learning at the University of Exeter.

In addition, the Group awards the Giandomenico Majone Prize for best conference Paper, and in 2012, the winner was Kristian Krieger from King's College London for 'Norms, Structures, Procedures and Variety in Risk-Based Governance: The Case of Flood Management in Germany and England'.

During 2014, the Group and the Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals (IBEI) organised the Group's 5th Biennial Conference in Barcelona in June. The winners of the Giandomenico Majone Prize for best conference Paper were Stratos Patrikios and Fabrizi De Francesco for their Paper 'Churches as Firms'.

The Group established the Standing Group Award for Regulatory Studies Development that bestows recognition on a senior scholar who promoted a new teaching initiative, opened a new research sub field, delivered crucial publications or made a significant public contribution to the field. David Levi-Faur (Federmann School of Public Policy and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem) was the first recipient of this award because of his successful

efforts to create an academic regulatory governance community, reflected by his initiative to co-found the ECPR Standing Group on Regulation and Governance in and because of his high impact research.

Religion and Politics

Jeffrey Haynes, London Metropolitan University

Date established: 2006
Number of members: 250
Members by location: 20 countries
Members by gender: Male 50%/ Female 50%
Website: <http://standinggroups.ecpr.eu/religion/news/>

Today, religion regularly impacts upon politics both in Europe and elsewhere. While religion's precise influence or impact differs from country to country and international context to international context, it is often politically significant in one of two ways: encouraging, or helping to resolve, political conflicts. This is because religion has important functions serving to engender and/or significantly influence people's and group values. In sum, to fully understand many current political outcomes both within countries and internationally, it is crucial to take into account the variable effects of religious actors in many political contexts, including: conflict, democracy, and international relations.

Reflecting these issues, the Group exists to encourage the development of a network of interested researchers. The key aim is to try to answer questions about the political impact of religious actors and to disseminate research findings. To achieve these objectives, the Group regularly submits proposals for the ECPR General Conference and the Joint Sessions of Workshops. At the 2014 General Conference, the Group endorsed a Section entitled 'Religions in Conflict, Regions in Peace' led by Convenor Jeffrey Haynes and

Guy Ben Porat, which led to the organisation of five Panels within this Section. In addition to being involved in ECPR activities, the Group hosted 12 Panels at the 23rd IPSA World Congress of Political Science.

The Group regularly updates its website and circulates a thrice-yearly newsletter in March, July and November.

South East Europe

Dimitris Papadimitriou, University of Manchester
Arolda Elbasani, European University Institute
Danica Fink-Hafner, University of Ljubljana

Date established: 2010
Number of members: 400
Members by location: Unknown
Members by gender: Unknown
Website: http://www2.lse.ac.uk/europeanInstitute/research/LSEE/ECPR_Standing_Group_on_SEE/Home.aspx

Established in 2010, the Group aims to provide a more nuanced research and bring together scholars working on the region in the context of specific workshops and activities. The Group intends to promote the study of South East Europe through the lenses of mainstream political science, comparative politics and international relations, but also more region-specific issues including transitional justice, legacies of the past, nationalism and conflict as well as religion and politics. The operation of the group is based on inclusiveness and the active encouragement of diversity in terms of interdisciplinary research and methodology.

Since the Group's creation, the Convenors have worked on expanding their membership to around 400 registered members. Since 2012, the Group has sponsored Workshops/Sections at the ECPR Joint Sessions of Workshops and the General Conference which included proposals on fringe politics, political

parties, corruption and state building. In 2013, the Group used its annual grant to update the website, which includes an up-to-date list of publications on main research areas and countries of interest.

The Group plans to organise new activities and expand work to include new and pertinent areas of research such as rule of law, political corruption, revival of faith, Islamic movements etc.

Southern European Politics

Susannah Verney, University of Athens

Date established: 1992
Number of members: 141
Members by location: 18 countries (including 6 in Southern Europe [Cyprus, Italy, Greece, Portugal, Spain, and Turkey], 9 other European states [Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Norway, Poland and the UK], and 3 extra-European countries [Australia, Canada, United States]).
Members by gender: Male 50%/ Female 50%
Website: <http://standinggroups.ecpr.eu/sep/news/>

The last three years have been a period of steady growth for the Group. A significant number of Group members come from non-ECPR institutions, indicating the important role played by the Group in involving non-members in ECPR activities. At the 2013 business meeting, the Group took an important decision concerning its identity, deciding to redefine its geographical scope to cover Southern Europe defined as Italy, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Turkey, Cyprus and Malta. This reversed the decision taken in 2007 to include Southeast European countries which is now covered by two other Groups (SG on Central and Eastern Europe, SG on Southeastern Europe). It was felt this decision would strengthen the

Group's research focus and reinforce its identity.

The Group organised Sections at both ECPR General Conferences held during this period. 'The Consequences of Crisis in Southern Europe' was the largest thematic Section at the 2013 General Conference covering a diverse range of subjects including the impact of the economic crisis on varieties of capitalism, electoral politics, party politics, the state apparatus, civil society, social protest, labour contention, gender relations, environmental politics, and the welfare state as well as the role of the EU and media representations of the crisis. This Section was sponsored by the Betiko Foundation, whose kind contribution allowed the Group to cover the registration fees of those who were most in need of financial support. The Section on 'Reshaping State and Society in Southern Europe' at the 2014 General Conference included eight Panels on democracy under stress, political participation, reshaping citizenship and civil society, state and non-state actors, anti-austerity protest, the impact of European integration, and two specialist Panels on Turkey. The Group also organised two Panels on 'Active Citizenship in Southern Europe: Framing Protest, Political Participation and Civic Engagement' at the 2014 PSA Annual Conference. Further information on all three events can be found on the new website which was launched in 2013 with the support of ECPR Central Services.

The Group held well-attended business meetings at both General Conferences, with 41 members taking part in 2013 and 51 in 2014. The 2013 meeting re-elected Susannah Verney as Convenor. The 2014 meeting included presentations from representatives of the Greek Politics Specialist Group of the PSA and the South European Research Network based at the University of Glasgow,

with the aim of promoting synergies with other networks. Both meetings were followed by receptions, kindly co-sponsored by Routledge. In 2014, the Group took an active part in the discussions about the new ECPR Framework for Standing Groups and Research Networks, submitting its own five-page memorandum with comments and suggestions and also participating in the Joint Response by 25 of the then 48 Standing Groups. The Group expressed particular concerns about the proposal to introduce compulsory fees for Group members from non-ECPR institutions and was especially pleased that this was not included in the final Framework approved by the ECPR Executive Committee in Spring 2014.

Looking ahead to 2015, the Group has sponsored a 2015 Joint Sessions Workshop on 'Political Systems in Central and Eastern Europe and Southern Europe – Comparative Studies' and is organising its next Section for the ECPR General Conference on 'Challenges to Democracy in Southern Europe'.

Teaching and Learning Politics

Gabriela Pleschová, Comenius University in Bratislava

Date established: 2011
Number of members: 116
Members by location: 18 countries
Members by gender: Male 50%/ Female 50%
Website: <http://teaching.eurea.sk/>

The Group promotes teaching and learning in the field of political science in Europe. It wishes to engage all colleagues in meaningful discussion on improving the quality of political science education. The group particularly supports innovative learning methods taking into account the changing environment of the political science classroom. The Group attempts to spread the concept of scholarship of teaching and learning with the

aim of improving the recognition of pedagogy among the responsibilities of political science scholars.

Membership to the Group is open to all political science scholars who work in academia and are interested in teaching and learning issues.

Between 2015 and 2015 the Group has organised Panels at the General Conference, promoted publications, organised Summer Schools for young teachers and continued to disseminate information about teaching and learning issues.

In 2014, the Group organised a Section, 'Bridging Research and Teaching Responsibilities of Political Scientists', at the ECPR General Conference in Glasgow. In addition, the Group held its biannual Summer School in Slovakia in July. The purpose of the summer school is to enhance participants' teaching practice by introducing them to the principles of student-centred education. The school will draw upon best practice in the scholarship of teaching and learning, and will offer a combination of practical and theoretical sessions.

Theoretical Perspectives in Policy Analysis

Professor Hendrik Wagenaar, University of Sheffield
Koen Bartels, Bangor University
Anna Dumova, University of Vienna

Date Established: 2003
Number of members: 750+
Members by location: Unknown
Members by gender: Unknown
Website: <http://standinggroups.ecpr.eu/tpa/>

The central goal is to explore the path of a critical and democratic policy analysis. Members celebrate methodological and conceptual innovation. In addition to traditional quantitative methods, members use a variety of different approaches, such as qualitative research, discourse

analysis, interpretive, deliberative and practice-based approaches, political ethnography, and collaborative and action research. These approaches are conversant with the new insights in social theory, political theory, and contemporary theories of public administration and the policy process.

The Group has developed into a thriving international academic community. The International Conference in Interpretive Policy Analysis has held successful meetings in a number of European cities. For 2015 and 2016, conferences are scheduled in Lille and Hull. The conference takes great efforts to facilitate early career researchers; for example a pre-conference methodology school and during the conference methodology sessions. Each year, the Interpretive Politics Specialist Group of the PSA has convened Panels at the PSA conference. The Group convenes a section at the ECPR General Conference. The Group's journal *Critical Policy Studies* is a well-established outlet for high quality publications. The Group supports – and organises panels – at the International Conference in Public Policy. Each year it gives an award for the best article and the best article of an early career scholar. In the period 2012 -2014 members have published books with major academic publishers.

Welfare Politics and Social Policy

Johan Bo Davidsson, Lund University

Date established: 2012
Number of members: 75
Members by location: 12 countries
Members by gender: Male 76%/
Female 24%
Website: <http://ecprsocialpolicy.wordpress.com/>

The aim of the Standing Group is to coordinate and organise activities of scholars analysing changes of the

welfare state from a political science perspective. We serve the community of welfare scholars by disseminating information on relevant forthcoming events, sponsoring and coordinating Section, Panel and Workshop proposals for ECPR conferences, and supporting other initiatives.

Over the last couple of years, the newly formed Group has been heavily involved in ECPR events.

The Group had a Section entitled 'The Politics of Welfare and Social Policy Reform' at the 2013 General Conference in Bordeaux.

2014 saw the Group organise a Section again entitled 'The Politics of Welfare and Social Policy Reform' which led to seven Panels. Organised by Alexandre Afonso and Johan Bo Davidsson, the Section took into consideration the importance and diversity of welfare state research within political science, and aimed to be open to a wide variety of perspectives (including quantitative and qualitative research) while keeping a focus on the political aspects of the welfare state.

YEN

Erol Kulahci, CEVIPOL, Brussels

Date established: 2000
Number of members: Unknown
Members by location: Unknown
Members by gender: Unknown
Website: <http://yenecpr.com/>

The Young ECPR Network on Europeanisation facilitates networking among political scientists studying and using this important concept of Europeanisation in relation to European studies, international relations or comparative politics.

This Standing Group provides links to web-based sources likely to be of interest to its members, provides a forum to co-ordinate proposals bringing young and senior researchers to ECPR events, and serves as

a catalyst for the preparation and edition of publications on Europeanisation.

The Young European Consortium for Political Research Network on Europeanisation (YEN) was initially established during the summer university on 'Europeanisation of

National Politics' at the University of Siena in 2000. The YEN was created at the beginning of the twenty-first century to facilitate networking among political scientists studying and using this important concept of Europeanisation in relation to European studies, international

relations or comparative politics.

In 2014, the main activity consisted of discussing the Standing Group Framework amongst members of the Group via email and meetings (Montreal, IPSA, 2014) and the potential implications for the YEN future.



Executive Committee 2015-2018

Rudy Andeweg, Universiteit Leiden (Chair)

Maurizio Carbone, University of Glasgow

Kris Deschouwer, Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Mary Farrell, University of Plymouth

Klaus Goetz, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München

Ólafur Th. Hardarson, University of Iceland

Reuven Hazan, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Richard Katz, Johns Hopkins University

Petri Koikkalainen, University of Lapland

Birgit Sauer, University of Vienna

Anna M. Sroka, University of Warsaw

Luca Verzichelli, Università degli Studi di Siena



European Consortium for Political Research
Harbour House
Hythe Quay
Colchester
Essex
CO2 8JF
United Kingdom

www.ecpr.eu