Participation

Montreal 2008
International Conference
IPSA Research Committees and National Political Science Associations Working Together

Also in this issue...
Upcoming International Conference
Luxembourg 2010
Participation is the biannual bulletin of the International Political Science Association. IPSA is an international non-profit scientific organization founded in 1949 under the auspices of UNESCO. Its objective is to promote the advancement of political science. Its includes 2,500 individual members, 70 associate members and 45 national and regional associations. IPSA is a member of the International Social Science Council and has consultative status with UNESCO and the Global Development Network.

The IPSA is affiliated to UNESCO and ISSC.
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Errata
in Participation vol. 32 no. 1

On p. 4 of the last issue of Participation (Vol. 32, no. 1), you should have read “The Congress itself will have the president of Chile as keynote speaker”, not “has keynote speaker”.

On p.10 the photo untitled Cathedral in Santiago is Santiago de Compostela in Spain, not a cathedral from Santiago, Chile.
Montreal 2008 Conference
A Great Success

The 2008 Montreal Conference was aimed at bringing together research committees as well as presidents of national and regional associations to discuss the state of political science and, above all, its future perspectives. This conference was mandated by the IPSA Council during the 2006 Fukuoka Congress. The Executive Committee and the Secretariat have noted the importance of holding a conference in the interim between triennial congresses. As well as allow IPSA to prepare for the next congress, this conference provides a much-needed forum for debating the future of research in political science. This issue of Participation is dedicated to those who spared no effort to make the conference a great success. The 2008 Montreal Conference was just the beginning, since our colleagues at the newly formed Association luxembourgeoise de science politique (Luxemburg Political Science Association) have kindly invited us there in 2010. In the meantime, I look forward to seeing you at the Santiago Congress in July 2009.

La conférence de Montréal 2008
Un grand succès

La conférence de Montréal 2008 avait pour objectif de réunir tous les présidents des comités de recherche et des associations nationales et régionales de science politique afin de discuter de l’état de notre discipline et surtout des voies d’avenir. Cette conférence avait été demandée lors de la réunion du Conseil de l’AISP au moment du congrès mondial de Fukuoka 2006. L’exécutif et le secrétariat ont bien pris note de l’importance de tenir entre nos congrès triennaux une conférence qui permettrait à la fois de préparer le congrès suivant mais surtout d’offrir un lieu d’échange afin de débattre de l’avenir de la recherche en science politique. Ce numéro de Participation veut témoigner des efforts de tous ceux et celles qui ont fait de cette conférence un grand succès. La conférence de Montréal 2008 n’était qu’un début puisque nos collègues de la nouvelle Association luxembourgeoise de science politique ont accepté de vous accueillir en 2010. D’ici là, le congrès de Santiago de juillet 2009 sera notre prochain rendez-vous. Au plaisir de vous y voir en grand nombre!

Yvonne Galligan and Kay Lawson give a presentation on The International Political Science Review.
Participants from more than 30 countries representing 27 research committees and 23 national political science associations gathered in Montreal from April 30 to May 2, 2008 for the first IPSA Inter-World Congress Conference, titled “New Theoretical Perspectives in International Political Science.” This groundbreaking event enabled participants to discuss issues relevant to the discipline, share organizational and research experiences and exchange views on perspectives and challenges.

The meeting provided an opportunity to review three ongoing IPSA activities: the critical assessment of major sub-fields in our discipline, as reflected by the editors and associate editors of the forthcoming 8-volume IPSA Encyclopaedia of Political Science; the organizational review of the discipline, represented by political science associations from every region of the world, with an emphasis on creating new networks and fostering a better mutual understanding of pressing global concerns; and the state of cutting-edge research, as evidenced by the work of our research committees, whose representatives came together for the first time to discuss common substantive issues. Also contributing to the debate were two working lunches, suggested by RC 32 chair, Hal Colebatch.

The conference thus emerged as a mix of activities offering something for every professional taste [...]
reminded us, may work as an explanatory barrier. To offer just one example where such considerations apply: Who would have guessed, a decade and a half ago, that “identity politics” – or, for that matter, “politics of recognition” – might become such a pivotal notion for our discipline.

An interplay of cultural, religious, economic, and political aspects may be at work here; however, more precise analysis is required before mutual tolerance, dialogue and conciliation can be advanced in the context of a framework of rules observed by all players.

Currently, it appears that the foremost task still consists of assessing the various degrees to which the discipline’s sub-fields have progressed. The first part of the Montreal Conference demonstrated that the IPSA Encyclopaedia of Political Science, co-edited by Bertrand Badie, Dirk Berg-Schlosser and Leonardo Morlino, and to be published by SAGE, is well on its way to becoming an encyclopedia for our discipline. From the papers of the second section (and further contributions), two volumes on the state of the art in major regions of the world are expected to emerge: One on South America, to be co-edited by Maria Herminia Tavares de Almeida and Marian Sawer, the other, a corollary to Hans-Dieter Klingemann’s volume on Western Europe published last year, on Central and Eastern Europe, with Rainer Eisfeld and Leslie Pal as co-editors. These will be put out by Barbara Budrich Publishers.

IPSA, it has been noted, rests on a dyad of pillars: research committees and national political science associations. The “regional” vision that inspired the conference implies the eventual transformation of these pillars into an arrangement resembling an intersecting network of mutually strengthening and reinforcing beams. The notion of research committees teaming up with one another and with subsections of national political science associations for joint projects, regional meetings and joint world congress panels in an effort to pool skills and resources provided fodder for discussion at the conference’s two working luncheons. In six months, at the 2009 Santiago World Congress, a joint RC/PSA meeting will attempt to assess what has been achieved and how further efforts might be encouraged.

A follow-up conference in a different format is planned for March 2010 in Luxemburg, in collaboration with the University of Luxemburg. The theme will be a comparative look at European governance. At present, ten panels are envisaged, to be filled by speakers and discussants from research committees and national political science associations. Topics will range from the further “deepening” and “widening” of European integration to issues of political participation and decision-making (in particular, electron-
ic democracy), current multi-level law-making processes, and public policies (in particular, Europe’s Human Rights Regime).

The Montreal Conference was meant to get the ball rolling. It was largely planned top-down, though close contact was maintained with research committees and national associations. Santiago and Luxembourg will include proposals to sustain the process.

Meanwhile, crucial initiatives must be taken bottom-up and must involve even greater participation from regions where political science and its professional associations have yet to be firmly established. In the future, regional IPSA Summer Schools in Latin America, Sub-Saharan Africa and, possibly, Southeast Asia will further enhance this development of a truly global political science with common concerns. In the end, the vision of a more closely linked IPSA will be realized only inasmuch as individual members, research committees and national associations embrace it.

**The Montreal Conference was meant to get the ball rolling.**

From left to right: Andrea Baumeister, Laurence Whitehead, Bertrand Badie, Jane Curry and Takashi Inoguchi.

John E. TRENT
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Co-editor of the book series The World of Political Science – The Development of the Discipline

Introduction
This article summarizes the empirical evidence about issues, trends and perspectives in political science to be found in Research Committee 33’s book series entitled: The World of Political Science: Development of the Discipline.

For a decade now, via the Intermediary of RC 33 on the study of the discipline, the International Political Science Association (IPSA) has been working on a process for evaluating and developing political science. This is not just another "state-of-the-art" exercise. By ‘development’ we mean analysis and explanation: analysis (evaluation) of all the elements of the field including both its research output and infrastructure; explanation of why things are the way they are.

In other words, we want to foster a self-conscious, systematic, and common perspective aimed at explaining variance in the discipline and the various degrees of advancement, indigenization, and universalization. We want to move toward a causal understanding of our strengths and weaknesses so we can seek areas and means for improvement as we strive after elusive political generalizations. To achieve this, we turn social science methods on our own discipline, seeing it as a dependent variable for which independent explanatory variables are sought to better analyze and prepare the development of our field.

A first step was “The World of Political Science: Development of the Discipline,” a project adopted by IPSA in 1998 to produce a book series of specialized studies on various sectors of the discipline. Funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada and sponsored by IPSA Research Committee 33, this research program formulated an analytical approach and research model, which was offered to other research committees intent on studying their particular sub-field. To date, the Series, edited by Michael Stein and John Trent, has produced six books, with five more under preparation.

- Linda Shepherd (ed.) Political Psychology, 2006
- David Coen & Wyn Grant (eds.) Business and Government: Methods and Practice, 2006

All books are published by Barbara Budrich Publishers, Opladen, Germany

The five forthcoming publications are as follows:
- Subrata Mitra (et.al.eds.), Political Sociology (RC 6)
- Jean Tournon (ed.), Politics and Ethnicity, (RC 14)

The Findings:
What are the common threads that we can take from the first six books of the World of Political Science Book Series (a later article will cover all the books)?

Orientations and Trends
1. Despite its supposed qualities of generality and parsimony, rational choice theory is of limited value unless incorporated into a broader analytical framework with more descriptive realism. Assumptions of rationality, full information and utility maximization are unrealistic and over-simplified.
2. Political science requires greater relevance and more empirical theory and data.
3. It is felt that the individual as actor and agent needs to be reintegrated into political science. This would include more attention to culture, identity, personality and human nature. At the same time, agents must be integrated in their institutional contexts to analyse contextual influence on behaviour.
4. Researchers should pay more attention to multiple variables, multiple levels and multiple systems of influence on politics.
Mention was made of the micro, meso and macro levels of analysis and the incorporation of influences not only from the economic, cultural and social sub-systems but from history and the international system.

5. In practice, society has seen a reinforcement of the resources and power of business and a corresponding increase in economic, social and political inequality without it drawing the research interest it might.

6. "Good governance" is unlikely to be achieved by political means without economic development, private sector support, and reduction of entrenched interests. As presently conceived the concept is ideological and naïve.

Advances

1. All books have stressed the considerable growth of political science around the world (but not covering the world) and its great advances as regards comparative research, research techniques and information sources.

2. We now have many more elaborate statistical models to understand voting, decision-making, conflict and negotiation.

3. One of the major breakthroughs has been in the study of policy networks, where we also have more empirical materials and explanatory models.

4. There are now a number of behavioural measurements, as well as empirical evidence in the form of data sets, information banks, values surveys, barometers, indicators, audits, newsletters and websites.

5. We recognize the need for better methods and theories on “identity groups”.

6. We have a new appreciation of the multiple roles and impacts of globalization, including its complexity and multi-level, multi-actor openness to influence.

Problems, Criticism and Explanation

1. Many of the calls for improvements in the section on “Orientations” are also problems of the discipline.

2. There are continuing tensions between objective and normative approaches, scientific and political orientations, value neutrality and “doing good,” and causal certainty versus external validity. There are no simple solutions to these tensions. They require our abiding attention.

3. There is a generalized lack of theoretical development and conceptual clarity.

4. Political science still appears to be Western dominated.

5. Rapid global changes have lessened our understanding of current politics and hence the relevance of our discipline.

In summary, despite great expansion and research development, political science is found to have problems with methods, theory, values, scope, context and relevance.

Future Perspectives: Another commonality of the six books is that they all stress the significant influence of the end of the Cold War, the 9/11 attack on America, and the process of globalization on the political science agenda. There is an absolutely
enormous scope of issues confronting modern society and, by extension, political science. One can safely claim that there is no foreseeable end to security challenges and challenges to the environment, equality, democracy and economic stability. Now, the scope of issues is broadened by simultaneous demands for more attention to human values, interdisciplinarity, a global vision, and interaction with policy makers.

What current perspective will enable political scientists to deal with these challenges? Is there not a serious disconnect between politics and political science? Are we listening to politicians and the media and do they listen to us? With regard to our research, should we not go back to fundamentals and ask if it is possible we are having difficulties with our scientific methodology? The Book Series poses a number of questions for our discipline.

**Disciplinarity:** Does too narrow a concentration on politics cut us off from areas of knowledge essential to our research? Are political issues not interdisciplinary by their very nature? As Parsons and Easton taught us, we have to develop methods that include the social, the economic, the psychological, the philosophical, and the international – not just one of these, but all of them in an equal manner. For example, in the book on democratization, Laurence Whitehead states that Guillermo O’Donnell’s work on “delegative democracy” “is a prime example of scholarship inspired by the turmoil of learned experience, rather than constrained by orthodox disciplinarity” (p. 131).

**Scientific:** Is the scientific method too constraining for the study of politics? As long as science means searching for rigorous, viable and verifiable means to acquire knowledge, it is an aid to the study of politics. But when it becomes pure methodologism, computerization and quantification, does it not constrain the complex diversity that is politics and government? In the book on political psychology, there is a fascinating article on computational, experimental (i.e. laboratory), on data-set approaches to the study of decision-making in foreign policy. While quite positive about the benefits of the studies, Sylvan and Strathman nevertheless note that these models “tend to be labour intensive, are not parsimonious, do not generalize easily, do not directly address the “real world”, are largely a-theoretical, inductive and unable to distinguish causes, and cannot specifically predict strategies or behaviours within political situations.” After such a litany, can we expect politicians to listen to us or pay for our work?

**Empiricism:** Have we not all been brought up in our graduate studies to recognize that strict adherence to empiricism can lead to conservative conclusions? Empirical research only deals with what exists and what is going on. It does not include what could be or what should be.

**Value neutrality:** Is it possible to explain political behaviour, policies or goals without taking into account human values? Linda Shepherd, editor of the volume on political psychology, concludes that “The attempt to define the interplay between politics, morality, philosophy, and human nature can certainly animate a research agenda.” (p. 133)

Of course, I am not suggesting we throw out the baby with the bath water. The scientific method has helped us to think about rigorous knowledge. But it only helps us marginally with many domains such as philosophy, law, governance, democracy, nationalism, religion, morality, equity, values, goals, constitutions etc. etc. Do we need a new form of analysis that allows us to deal rigorously with the enormous issues confronting us in the 21st century? The authors in our Book Series have answered positively. O.P. Dwivedi (Governing Development) proclaims, “My view is that the new century demands a new thinking to face the greatest dilemma before humanity: how come a small group of nations keep on “progressing” while the majority remains poor and deprived?” (p.184). Juan Linz (Democratization), states, “The task ahead is gigantic and a few cross-national surveys are far from sufficient for our needs.” (p.145). And Geraldo Munck adds, “Indeed, the future development of the research agenda on democratic transitions is likely to hinge on the ability of scholars to tackle some broad and fundamental challenges.” (p. 51).

I am not sure that any one of us alone or even working in our departments can come up with solutions to these fundamental problems. Political scientists have to learn to think collectively. My last question, therefore, is as follows: Should our national political science associations and IPSA set up one or more commissions to study and evaluate the state of the discipline and propose techniques for its development?
Conférence du Luxembourg de 2010: Le modèle européen de gouvernance est-il exportable?

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Conférence IPSA Luxembourg 2010: Comprendre la gouvernance politique contemporaine

Le thème de la conférence Is there a European Model of Governance? A comparative perspective, avec le soutien moral, financier et logistique de la Commission européenne, du Gouvernement du Luxembourg, de la Chambre des Députés du Luxembourg, du Fonds National de la recherche du Luxembourg et de diverses fondations, réunira au sein même des salles de réunions du Conseil européen dans le quartier européen du Kirchberg, entre 120 et 130 politologues, répartis en une dizaine de panels constitués en étroite relation avec les comités de recherche de l’Association internationale de science politique après un appel international qui sera lancé le 1er février 2009.

Ce symposium international bilingue avec traduction simultanée (anglais/français) vise plus particulièrement à analyser la « Gouvernance » à travers quatre grandes problématiques :

- L’intégration européenne a conduit à la poursuite de la construction d’un modèle original de gouvernance qui doit être évalué et comparé avec d’autres intégrations régionales;
- L’impact de l’intégration européenne sur les États membres et des pays voisins (en ce qui concerne les politiques publiques, le droit des processus décisionnels, les institutions politiques et les acteurs en général) appelle à une recherche comparative;
- Le déclenchement par, ou indépendamment de l’intégration européenne, de nouvelles formes de gouvernance (y compris la participation politique, la délégation de décision, l’évaluation) qui a émergé dans les pays européens doivent également être étudiées;
- Le développement d’un modèle européen original de gouvernance pourrait remettre en question des approches théoriques et méthodologiques de recherche habituellement adoptées en science politique.

Deux seniors lectures sur la Gouvernance européenne et de manière comparée sont également prévues au programme en collaboration avec les Associations francophones de science politique et l’European Confederation of Political Science Association.

Il est à noter que le comité d’organisation offre deux nuitées à l’ensemble des participants.

Le programme Gouvernance européenne de l’Université du Luxembourg


Depuis 2004, plusieurs conférences internationales (suivies de publications académiques en anglais et en français) ont été organisées sous sa seule responsabilité ou en partenariat avec notamment l’Institut d’Études Européennes de l’Université Catholique de Louvain, le Centre d’études de la vie politique de l’Université Libre de Bruxelles, le Mannheimer Zentrum für Europäische...
Sozialforschung, etc. Le programme a déjà remporté une série de financements importants de la Commission européenne, du Parlement européen, du Gouvernement et du Parlement luxembourgeois, tout en répondant à des appels internationaux et nationaux de recherche du Fonds National de la Recherche et de l’European Science Foundation. Il est partenaire de nombreux réseaux et programmes de recherche internationaux (notamment Providing an Infrastructure for Research on Electoral Democracy in the European Union & European Union Democracy Observatory coordonnés par l’Institut universitaire européen de Florence); European Citizens’ Consultations coordonné par la Fondation Roi Baudouin; du Bertelsmann Transformation Index pour l’OCDE etc. Les différents axes sont aussi à l’origine de, et (co-) coordonnent certains réseaux internationaux : Consortium for Comparative Research on Regional Integration and Social Cohesion (RISC) et Selection and Deselection of Political Elites (SEDEPE).

Dans le cadre du processus de Bologne, en plus d’un programme doctoral qui accueille déjà une quinzaine de doctorants et de post-doctorants, un master en science politique option gouvernance européenne bilingue (anglais/français) - dont les enseignements délivrés se focaliseront sur les politiques économiques, sociales et environnementales décidées et exécutées par (et dans) l’Union européenne - débutera à la rentrée académique de septembre 2010.

Luxpol : la dernière Association de science politique créée en Europe

L’Association de science politique du Luxembourg, membre officiel de l’Association internationale de science politique, dont le siège social est à l’Université du Luxembourg, avec pour acronyme Luxpol a pour objet de promouvoir le développement de la science politique (histoire des idées, philosophie politique, politique comparée, politique internationale, politiques publiques, sociologie politique, etc.) au Luxembourg dans la Grande Région et en Europe. Elle vise également à la mise en réseaux d’acteurs s’intéressant particulièrement à la Gouvernance européenne, aux Etats de petite dimension, aux modes d’intégration régionale et leurs comparaisons, à l’e-démocratie, aux multiples formes de citoyenneté ainsi qu’aux modes de concertation sociale. Elle dispose d’un comité d’honneur prestigieux composé de représentants caractérisant les principales institutions politiques, judiciaires et économiques comprenant notamment le Premier ministre et président de l’Eurogroupe en exercice, Jean-Claude Juncker et, un ancien président de la Commission européenne, Jacques Santer.

L’Association - dont le portail internet (www.youpolitics.lu, accessible également par le site www.luxpol.lu) présentant tous les programmes et projets de recherche en science politique au Luxembourg et dans la Grande Région sera opérationnel le 1er février 2009 - regroupe les politologues de l’Université du Luxembourg, des politistes en poste dans les institutions européennes et nationales et ceux issus de divers instituts publics et fondations privées développant des activités en science politique :

- Le Sesopi Centre Intercommunautaire Center (1983), spécialisé dans les études sociologiques, analyses statistiques et historiques des phénomènes sociaux liés aux réalités de la migration au Luxembourg et sur le multiculturalisme (http://www.sesopi-cl.lu)
- Le Centre d’Études de Populations, de Pauvreté et de Politiques (1989), actif dans la gestion et l’analyse de panels socio-économiques internationaux et dans l’étude des modèles de concertation sociale. Depuis 2002, il accueille aussi un master International Comparative Social Policy Analysis (http://www.ceps.lu);
- L’Institut d’Études européennes et Internationales du Luxembourg (1990), actif dans l’étude des relations internationales (http://www.ieis.lu);
- Le Centre Robert Schuman (1990) situé dans la maison natale de Robert Schuman, actif dans l’analyse historique de la construction européenne (www.cere.etat.lu);
- Le Centre Virtuel de la Connaissance sur l’Europe (2002), actif dans le traitement et la diffusion de l’information sur le processus d’intégration européenne à travers la création d’un point de référence dans le domaine des bibliothèques numériques (http://www.cvce.lu);

Les langues véhiculaires de l’association sont le français, l’anglais et l’allemand. Sont membres de son Conseil :

Délégué général & coordinateur du comité d’organisation Luxembourg 2010 :
Philippe Poirier (enseignant-chercheur en sciences politiques, spécialité sociologie politique européenne Université du Luxembourg)
Secrétaire :
Raphaël Kies (chercheur en sciences politiques, spécialité e-démocratie Université du Luxembourg)
Trésorier & co-coordinateur du comité d’organisation Luxembourg 2010 :
Patrick Dumont (chercheur en sciences politiques, spécialité politique comparée Université du Luxembourg)
Membres :
Harlan Koff (enseignant-chercheur en sciences politiques, spécialité border politics Université du Luxembourg), Lukas Sosoe (enseignant-chercheur en philosophie politique, Université du Luxembourg), Mara Bozinis (chercheur en sciences politiques, spécialité gender politics), Franz Clément (chercheur en sociologie, spécialité politique sociale, Centre d’Études de Populations, de Pauvreté et de Politiques Socio-Économiques), Sandrine Devaux (chercheur en sciences politiques, spécialité sociologie politique Europe centrale & orientale, Institut Pierre Werner) Représentant extérieur : Martine Huberty (doctorante en sciences politiques, spécialité politique européenne, University of Sussex) ; Président d’Honneur : Mario Hirsch (directeur de l’Institut Pierre Werner).

Chers confrères et consoeurs politologues soyez les bienvenus à Luxembourg au printemps 2010.
One of the key missions of the International Political Science Association is to assist the development of the study of politics in the Global South (the less developed nations of the southern hemisphere). Our association works hard to achieve this goal. We held our Congress in 2003 in South Africa and in 2009 we will meet in Chile. The 2008 meeting in Montréal showed once again how well IPSA works as a facilitator for contacts between political scientists that lead to research projects. Free copies of the International Political Science Review are offered to all political science departments in the poorest nations, and low cost copies are offered to those in other less developed nations; reviewers and submissions are actively sought from all over the world. IPSA offers advantageous terms for membership to national associations in poorer nations. Our Research Committees enable colleagues from such nations to participate in the global political science community and to network with others sharing their interests. Our rules ensure geographical diversity in the composition of the RC’s as well as in the organization of sessions at each meeting.

But we are well aware that this is not enough. The least developed nations in the Global South find it extremely difficult to find the resources for providing higher education. It is hard enough to find sufficient resources to sustain a proper system of higher education for their students. Enabling their teachers to attend international conferences like IPSA is often simply impossible. As a consequence, they are seriously under represented at IPSA congresses, especially those far from home. IPSA does not have enough funds of its own to give such scholars sufficient funds for attending its Congresses. Air travel and even budget accommodation costs a lot of money, usually much more than the maximum IPSA travel grant. Time and again, serious scholars are accepted to take part in important sessions of a forthcoming congress, offered an IPSA grant, and nevertheless forced to send their regrets for lack of sufficient funding. The problem is severe.

This is why IPSA is appealing to national political science associations and their members to donate to a specific fund, IPSA Global South Solidarity Fund, to help political scientists from developing countries. Please give as much as you possibly can: think of a figure you can afford and then double it. Our goal is to be able to help as many developing world scholars as possible to come to Chile in July of 2009. We are asking for your contribution to reach us by September 1, 2008 if possible and at latest by January 10, 2009. Sooner is better, but payment in two instalments is acceptable. A facility is available to pay online on the IPSA website (ipsa.org).

You can make a real difference for political scientists in the Global South. Please help them meet and interact with the international political science community.

Lourdes Sola
IPSA President

Wyn Grant
Chair of IPSA Global South Solidarity Fund
RC1 – Committee on Concepts and Methods

Since 2005, the Committee on Concepts and Methods (C&M) has been publishing two series of working papers.

Political Concepts contains work of excellence on political concepts and political language. It seeks to include innovative contributions to concept analysis, language usage, concept operationalization, and measurement.

Political Methodology contains work of excellence on methods and methodology in the study of politics. It invites innovative work on fundamental questions of research design, the construction and evaluation of empirical evidence, theory building and theory testing.

In the final quarter of 2008, several new papers have been added to the series.

Political Concepts
27 How to Identify Nationalism? Matthias vom Hau – December 2008
26 What Are We Missing? Electoral Data in Democracies and Non-democracies Jennifer Gandhi – November 2008

Political Methodology
18 Seeing the Invisible, Hearing Silence, Thinking the Unthinkable The Advantages of Ethnographic Immersion Michael G. Schatzberg – December 2008
17 You Have Done QCA. Now What Does It Mean? Lessons from the Comparative Study of State Feminism Dorothy E. McBride – November 2008
16 The Logic(s) of Inquiry Reconsidering Multi-Method Approaches Amel Ahmed & Rudra Sil – November 2008

All papers can be downloaded at the committee website: www.concepts-methods.org.

RC2 – Political Elites

Co-chaired by John Higley of the Univ. of Texas at Austin, the committee has almost finalized arrangements for the four panels it will sponsor at the Santiago Congress next July. More than 30 scholars from various countries proposed papers on the theory of elites and politics, the comparative study of elites, elite circulation and recruitment, and the analysis of trust among elites and mass publics. Special sessions separate from but germane to RC2 panels, have been scheduled by IPSA and will deal with the turnover of ministerial and regional political elites in Europe. These panels will be convened by Patrick Dumont (Univ. of Luxembourg) and Keith Dowding (United Kingdom).

RC2 interim workshops on Democratic Elitism: Comparative and Evolutionary Perspectives, which took place at the Univ. of Jena in June 2007, will be published by Brill Publishers and the time of publication will coincide roughly with the Santiago Congress. Several of the chapters from the volume will also constitute a special issue of Comparative Sociology during the first half of 2009.

RC3 – European Unification

Whither European integration? To some, recent news on the ratification of the Lisbon Treaty or, prior to it, of the Constitutional Treaty, may well cast doubt on the process of European unification. To others, the ongoing global financial and economic crisis has brought about a renewed interest in the protective capacity of the Euro-zone. Also, the possible decline of a once hyper-powered US has elevated the European Union to the status of a potential world power.

Theoretically, too, European integration has always attracted attention, not least because it is seen as affecting State sovereignty. Will the EU become a federal super-State, or remain a confederation of sovereign Nation-States? Alternatively, will it bring about what Hedley Bull once called “new medievalism”?

Thus, the themes and issues that RC3 deals with easily spill over into the territories of other RCs. In this light, RC3 has three aims: 1) Promote the exchange of research findings and dissemination among members as well as non-members; 2) Facilitate exchanges and give students and scholars a networking venue; 3) Promote a research project in the three-year interim period between congresses and prepare sessions for the triennial conference.
We held an inter-Congress workshop in early September. It brought together a dozen scholars, most of them younger scholars, and investigated three sets of topics: a) the historiography of European unification, b) the current, post-Lisbon state of European unification, c) the EU’s power to set global standards.

As it stands, we are likely to hold four sessions at the forthcoming Congress in Santiago, Chile. I look forward to seeing you at our session in Santiago; your participation will be warmly welcome.

From RC3 Chair, Ken Endo, Hokkaido University, Japan.


RC5 – "Comparative Studies on Local Government and Politics," Workshop on Local Political Participation - Call for papers

A workshop on new Instruments of political participation and new social movements, titled “Political Participation and Social Movements,” will be held at Stellenbosch University (South Africa) on April 21 and 22, 2009.

This workshop is organized by IPSA Research Committee 5 (Comparative Studies on Local Government and Politics), the department of political science at Stellenbosch University, and the African Centre for Citizenship and Democracy at Western Cape University.

New dialogical instruments of political participation were implemented, first in developing countries; these included a participatory budgeting instrument, which was implemented in Porto Alegre, Brazil. On the other hand, new social movements in the often weak electoral democracies become violent ("brick or ballot"). Using international experiences, various channels for local political participation will be discussed. New participatory instruments, including citizen juries, forums and participatory budgeting, will be presented. New instruments are one way to involve citizens more effectively and to reinvigorate democracies.

South Africa’s constitution explicitly allows new participatory instruments. But political reality shows little in the way of evidence and implementation. The feasibility of new participatory instruments in South Africa will be discussed. Are there any alternatives to "brick or ballot"?

Accommodations and food will be covered by DAAD. Unfortunately, the budget is not sufficient to cover travelling costs in full.

Please email your proposal (if possible with a 100-word abstract) before January 31, 2009, to Prof Norbert Kersting (Kersting@sun.ac.za), Stellenbosch University, Department of Political Science.

RC6 – Committee on Political Sociology

The Committee on Political Sociology is one of the oldest research committees at the International Political Science Association (IPSA). In the last few years, we have been active not only within IPSA (RC 6) but also through the International Sociology Association (APSA, related-group status).

Every year, CPS organizes at least one panel at APSA. In 2007 and 2008, these panels have focused on the transformation of political participation, first considering the professionalization of activism in movements, and then studying how the shifting boundaries of the public and private spheres of action have impacted on conceptions of political engagement. The panels have been very successful in bringing political sociologists from different continents to take part in the largest national congress. In 2009, the panel will focus on the transformation of party organizations in response to perceived demands for transparency and inclusion and will link with our ever-active working group on political parties. Under the editorial leadership of Kay Lawson, the group is publishing a five-volume study of Political Parties and Democracy with Praeger/Faucher Greenwood in 2009.

New synergies for research have also been spurred since 2006 with the organization of a conference in Bologna on class and religion in contemporary parties, followed by the coordination of nine sessions devoted to the same issue at the 2008 ISA forum. The meeting in Barcelona was very successful at bringing together political sociologists across disciplinary boundaries.

Since 2007, CPS has upgraded its website (www2.spbo.unibo.it/cps/homepage.html) and circulated a biannual newsletter. As well as keep members connected throughout the year and help them stay informed about upcoming events, these developments give them access to reports on conferences and seminars. We are also gearing up for the congress in Santiago and are planning several panels, drawing from the strength of our working groups and members. Do not hesitate to contact us (florence.faucher-king@vanderbilt.edu).

In 2008, both CPS president (Piero Ignazi) and secretary (Florence Faucher-King) participated in the IPSA conference in Montreal and contributed on the state of the discipline and the activities of the research committee. In 2009, CPS will renew its executive board, whose members are all members of both IPSA and ISA.

RC8 – Changing Legislatures, New Approaches: Activities of the Research Committee of Legislative Specialists

The RC8 passes as an active research committee, and it is. Its mailing list includes more than 200 from all over the world. Since the last IPSA World Congress in Fukuoka, it has held conferences on "Legislative Oversight, Influence and Autonomy: Changing the Balance of Power" (Albany, USA, August 2007) and on "The Development of Parliaments and Legislatures: Approaches and Findings" (Dresden, September 2008), with participants from
Various countries and even entire continents. Its representatives presented a paper on “Capacity Building in Parliaments and Legislatures: Institutionalization, Professionalization and Evolutionary Institutionalism” at the April 2008 IPSA Conference in Montreal. No less than four panels will be organized for the upcoming World Congress in Santiago. As well, for RCLS co-chair, David Olson, is preparing a volume on the second decade of European post-socialist parliaments. Many of our colleagues are expected to contribute.

RC10 – Electronic democracy- New debate on voting computer

IPSA Research Committee 10’s “kick-off workshop” on “Electronic democracy. State of the art and future agenda” took place from January 22 to 24 at STIAS (Stellenbosch Institute of Advanced Studies). The focus was on the potential, problems and experiences associated with computer voting and other steps towards e-democracy, and why some institutions (states, municipalities, political parties) are more willing than others to introduce electronic voting. As well as summarize the state of the art on electronic democracy, comparative papers focused on such topics as the digital divide, electronic information systems, and new trends in online participation, information and discussion.

Academic experts from Europe, Asia and Latin America were mostly active in the field of Political Science. A small number of selected “practitioners” from the Electoral Commission were among the guests joining in the discussion.

RC12 – Biology and Politics

Research Committee 12, “Biology and Politics,” organized two panels on biology and politics for the 2008 American Political Science Association meeting in Boston. The Committee is currently working to organize two additional panels for the 2009 meeting of APSA, to be held in Toronto, Canada. One will focus on “Evolution and Politics,” while the other will feature papers on other links between the life sciences and politics.

RC14 – Colloquium on Nationalism and Democracy

(Madrid 10-12 September, 2008)

This colloquium was hosted by the Spanish Centre for Political and Constitutional Studies (www.cepc.es). A total of 25 papers were presented. The main thematic areas covered were: (1) conceptual and theoretical questions, (2) comparative perspectives on nationalism and democracy, (3) nationalism and democracy in Russia (two sessions), (4) nationalism, democracy and contestation, and (5) democracy and nationalism: discourse and practice. The main thematic areas covered by the papers were (a) sub-state nationalism and the challenge of democracy, (b) state nationalism and democratic practices, and (c) nationalism and democratic transitions. The colloquium concluded with a visit by the participants to the Spanish Upper Chamber (Senado). A book based on papers from the colloquium is to be published by the Centre for Political and Constitutional Studies under the title, Nacionalismo y Democracia.

RC14 (Politics and Ethnicity) is staging four panels at the IPSA World Congress in Santiago. In accordance with the established practice of holding annual meetings in non-Congress years, the RC plans to hold further colloquiums in 2010 and 2011.

RC32 – Conference in Dubrovnik

Research Committee 32 (Public Policy and Administration) held a very successful conference in Dubrovnik in June on the topic “Constructing policy work in a changing governmental environment.” Close to 30 papers were presented to the roughly 50 participants on hand. Participants also enjoyed the spectacular World Heritage city of Dubrovnik, and joined in celebrating Croatia’s Euro 2008 win over Germany. Among the session discussants were Jorge Heine, IPSA Vice-President, and Yvonne Galligan, editor of the International Political Science Review.

The conference drew a strong contingent of participants from Croatia and the surrounding region, reflecting the challenges to the mode of governing that the region has experienced in the last few decades: the end of communism, the break-up of Yugoslavia, and
The conference began by focusing on the EU’s impact on policy-shaping through its institutions and its impact on policy development in member states. Specific areas of policy were then examined – social policy and higher education policy – as were attempts to strengthen public administration. Also covered was the experience of regulation and the challenges posed to governance by urban decline. There was then an extended discussion of policy work, both as a task for officials, and as an opportunity for non-officials. Further discussions looked at policy agendas, the manner in which policy themes are developed to “make sense” of governing and how these themes competed with one another. This led to a concluding discussion on the place of interpretation in policy, the recognition of distinct “interpretive communities,” and the resulting implications on the recognition, by practitioners, of knowledge in policy work, as well as the mode of analysis that outside observers should apply.

The conference was a fruitful opportunity to focus attention on the changing modes of governance, particularly in the transition states of eastern Europe. The papers presented at the conference are now available at http://www.politologija.hr/konferencije.php?id=1&konf=1, and the papers will be published in full in a forthcoming issue of the Croatian Political Science Association’s Anali Hrvatskog Politoloskog Drustva. We plan to continue the lines of inquiry opened up at this conference at the IPSA World Congress in Santiago, Chile in July 2009, and at other conferences in Croatia and in the surrounding region.

RC36 – Political Power

At the APSA congress in Boston, after an interesting panel discussion, the research group participated in the launch of the new journal, the Journal of Power (Routledge). The event was kindly hosted by the publishers, Routledge, and the journal was officially launched by Professor Steven Lukes. The first edition of the Journal has since been published. The editors welcome the submission of papers to the Journal; for details, visit – www.informaworld.com or email power@nuigalway.ie. The Editor-in-Chief is Mark Haugaard (NUI, Galway), while the Reviews editor is Kevin Ryan (NUI, Galway).

A recent (September) conference on power (titled “Power: Forms, Dynamics, Consequences”) held at the University of Tampere and organized by a Finnish research cluster on power, the research group held a panel on ‘Power and Space’ followed by a meeting. At this meeting, our long standing Chair, Prof Henri Goverde (University of Nijmegen) stepped down and everyone expressed... Continued RC36 page 16
their appreciation of his work in that capacity. Mark Haugaard (NUI, Galway), the previous Secretary, was elected Chair, and Kevin Ryan (NUI, Galway) took over as Secretary while Henri Goverde now takes up the position of Vice-Chair. After the conference, the membership of the research group was significantly increased by participants from the conference, all of whom are most welcome.

The research group is organizing four panels for the IPSA Congress in Santiago: 1) The Power of Social Science and the Social Sciences of Power; 2) Power, Space and Identity, 3) Power, Empowerment and Governmentality, 4) Power, Democracy, and Global Discontent. The research group is also organizing a panel at the next APSA in Toronto: Power, Governmentality and Social Change.

**RC42 – System Integration of Divided Nations**

1) Please take part in the RC42 panel on “New Issues of Divided Nations,” and “New Approaches to the Korean Peninsula Problems at the 2009 World Congress in Santiago, Chile. During the Congress, RC42 will also hold a meeting to discuss the election of a new RC president as well as other issues.

2) International conference on “North Korean Nuclear Issues and the Post-Bush Administration’s Policy toward Northeast Asia” held on May 14, 2007, at the Plaza Hotel in Seoul with Inha University’s Centre for International Studies. At the conference, Daljoong Kim (former President of RC42 and former president of IPSA) made congratulatory remarks and Robert Scalapino (Emeritus Professor of University of California, Berkeley), presented his paper. Yong-Ho Kim hosted a dinner for conference participants; among the guests were Chong-Sik Lee (Emeritus Professor of University of Pennsylvania) and Euikon Kim (Professor of Inha University, Editor of *Pacific Focus*).

**RC43 – Religion and Politics**

Four panels sessions are being formed by RC43 for the IPSA World Congress in Santiago, Chile, in July 2009:

1. Panel on “Religion, Politics, and Globalization”.
2. Panel on “The Politics of Secularism in International Relations”.
3. Panel on “Le rôle de l’état” (Religions and the State)
4. Panel on “International Political Theology of the Post-Communist Societies”.

In addition to the above four panels, RC43, in association with RC16 (Socio-Political Pluralism) and RC31 (Political Philosophy), is forming two Special Sessions on the following topics:

1. Religion and Democratic Citizenship: Advocacy and Identity
2. Pluralistic Encounters among Religions in Global Politics

To receive the occasional E-Mail Newsletter of RC43 (Religion and Politics), please send an e-mail message to that effect to the Chair of RC43 (David Wessels wessels@sophia.ac.jp).

**RC47 – The Politics of Local-Global Relations**

Members of RC47 are again initiating extensions of research involving comparing the impact of globalization on local democratic governance around the world. Research has been completed on 31 countries, several over three and more time points. The latest publication under the Democracy and Local Governance Program is S. Szucs & L. Stromberg (eds.), Local Elites, Political Capital, and Democratic Development: Governing Leaders in Seven European Countries. Weisbaden: VS Verlag, 2006. Members of the Committee are also undertaking comparative research on Universities as Sites of Democratic Education in several countries, a different kind of local.

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**21st IPSA World Congress of Political Science Important Upcoming Deadlines**

We are pleased to report that the interest in the next IPSA World Congress of Political Science in Santiago, Chile has soared. We’ve received thousands of abstracts and hundreds of panel proposals. As a participant, you may be wondering what comes next.

Persons intent on having their names appear in the program must register and forward their payment by March 1, 2009. This applies to all presenters, chairs, co-chairs, co-authors and discussants. Registration differs from creating an account. For registration details, please go to


To register and participate in the IPSA World Congress of Political Science, you must be a member in good standing of IPSA.

We strongly recommend that you make sure your individual IPSA membership is renewed by February 9, 2009, to avoid missing the registration deadline. Give yourself enough time to have your membership processed and paid for, and register in advance. Remember: hundreds of other people will be doing this at the same time!

To become a member, go to

[www.ipsa.org](http://www.ipsa.org)

Register at

IPSA Awards

IPSA has created a number of awards with a view to enhancing the quality and diversity of participation in its world congresses. To encourage more women, graduate students, young scholars and scholars from emerging economies to take part, IPSA offers the following awards.

For details on application procedures and criteria for the awards, please visit [www.ipsa.org](http://www.ipsa.org)

The following awards require a nomination:

### The Karl Deutsch Award

This award honours a prominent scholar engaged in cross-disciplinary research, an area Karl Deutsch had mastered. The recipient presents the Karl Deutsch Lecture or leads a special session at the congress. The award is presented on the recommendation of the Awards Committee.

### The Francesco Kjellberg Award

This award is given out to an emerging scholar in recognition of the quality of a paper presented at the IPSA World Congress. The recipient receives a free IPSA membership, and IPSA also covers the recipient’s travel expenses for the next World Congress. The award is presented on the recommendation of the Awards Committee.

### Wilma Rule Award on Gender and Politics

This award goes to the best paper in this field of study presented at the Congress. With the assistance of the participation committee, the IPSA Awards Committee assesses nominated papers prior to the Congress.

### The Mattei Dogan Foundation Prize for High Achievement in Political Science, awarded by the International Political Science Association.

This prize is awarded to an internationally renowned scholar in recognition of his/her contribution to the advancement of political science. The winner will be invited to present an award lecture and will receive a cash prize. The deadline for nominations for this award is January 15, 2009.

### C&M and CIDE Award for Conceptual Innovation in Democratic Studies

IPSA's Committee on Concepts and Methods (C&M) and the Center for Economic Research and Teaching (CIDE) in Mexico City award a prize of US$1500 for Conceptual Innovation in Democratic Studies.

### The Kosaka Research Award for East Asian Foreign Policy Studies

The Kosaka Award will be presented in honor of the late Professor Matasaka Kosaka (1934-1996), who was among the most prominent scholars and respected leaders in post-war Japan, particularly in the areas of diplomatic history and international politics, and in the study of civilization.

Details will be made available on the IPSA website in the spring of 2009.

### Global South Studies Research Award

Established to recognize the work done by a political scientist on issues of significance to the Global South, this award also recognizes a cumulative body of work. It will be awarded for the first time at the 2009 World Congress.

Details will be made available on the IPSA website in the spring of 2009.
Political Studies Association of the United Kingdom

Since its formation in 1950, the Political Studies Association of the UK has seen its membership grow steadily, with membership now standing at over 1,750. The Association is run by an Executive Committee of 20 academics – more details are available on the website at www.psa.ac.uk. The new Chair is Professor Vicky Randall (vicky@essex.ac.uk).

The Association publishes four journals, Political Studies, its best known journal, is now in its 58th year of publication, but the international reputation of the British Journal of Politics and International Relations, launched in 1999, is well established and has ISI recognition. Founded in 1980, Politics, the Association’s journal, includes analyses, debates and surveys on a wide range of topics.

The Association’s three-day Annual Conference is a key event which attracts over 550 academics each year, including growing numbers from overseas. The 2009 conference will be held in Manchester from April 7 to 9. There are also over 40 specialist research groups, and many hold their own conferences and workshops.

In addition, the Association jointly organizes a public lecture with the Hansard Society. The speaker in October 2008 was the Right Honourable Clare Short, MP, who spoke on “Making Politics Fit for Purpose.”

Another major annual event is the Awards Ceremony, which draws guests from a variety of organisations, including Parliament, pressure groups, government, press, radio and television, as well as universities and research bodies. Awards are given to leading academics as well as politicians, journalists, satirists and others. At the event on 25 November 2008, winners included Boris Johnson, the new Mayor of London, who received his award from his predecessor Ken Livingstone, and Vince Cable MP. Other recent award-winners have included Gordon Brown, Tony Blair, David Cameron, and Aung San Suu Kyi.

The Political Studies Association makes frequent representations to national bodies and plays a key advocacy role on behalf of political studies. In 2007 the Association took a central role in an international benchmarking exercise, assessing the state of political studies in the United Kingdom compared with other countries. It also produced a response, consisting of contributions from a series of experts, to the Governance of Britain green paper.

The Association has good relations with kindred bodies elsewhere. There are good and growing links with various countries, including Australia, Brazil, Hong Kong, Japan, South Korea, Thailand, the United States and Vietnam, and many other European countries.

Plans are well-advanced for the Political Studies Association’s Diamond Jubilee in 2010. The 60th Annual Conference will be a very special one held in the centre of Edinburgh and a glittering Awards Dinner will be held in London in November 2010. In addition, Professor Wyn Grant has agreed to write a detailed history of the Association and Professor Colin Hay is editing a specially commissioned volume on New Directions in Political Studies. A number of other special events are under discussion, and the Political Studies Association looks forward to hosting them.

Congrès 2008 de l'Association Belge de Science Politique (ABSP)


Pour un descriptif détaillé des ateliers, séances plénières et tribunes jeunes chercheurs, ainsi que pour télécharger les communications des participants:


Outre le téléchargement possible des communications présentées bientôt sous forme d’actes électroniques, la valorisation du congrès s’effectuera par deux publications chez Academia Bruylant dans la collection Science Politique. Un premier ouvrage, édité par Régis Dandoy, reprendra le compte-rendu des présentations et discussions en séance plénière ainsi qu’en ateliers. Un second ouvrage, édité par Marc Jaquemain et Pascal Delwit, comprendra les meilleures communications de l’atelier “Engagements d’actualité, actualité de l’engagement”.

Nouvelles des associations nationales

National Association News
Society for political science of Serbia

The society for political science of Serbia (SPSS) emerged out of the Yugoslav society for political science. SPSS is an independent, non-governmental and non-profit association of citizens. Its chief objectives are to intensify and develop scientific and professional activities in the field of political science as well as foster cooperation and knowledge-sharing with associations in the region and elsewhere.

Since its inception in 2007, SPSS has organized numerous events: an international conference on the dilemmas and challenges of parliamentarism (Belgrade, June 11-13, 2007); a local conference on the consolidation of democratic institutions in Serbia after 2000; and several book presentations.

Since 2007, SPSS has published an annual yearbook containing recent work by prominent local and international political scientists. SPSS is planning to launch a quarterly magazine for political science by the end of 2009. Updated information on SPSS’s activities can be found at


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Prize for Best PhD Dissertation Awarded by the Portuguese Political Science Association (2nd edition)

The Portuguese Political Science Association (APCP) will once again award its Prize for Best PhD Dissertation in Political Science and International Relations.

The APCP welcomes Portuguese and non-Portuguese applicants conducting research in Portuguese institutions or covering Lusophone themes in their dissertations.

The APCP accepts dissertations written in English, French, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish.

The application deadline for submissions is December 31, 2009.

Value of the prize: $1,500

The winner will be announced at the 5th Congress of the Portuguese Political Science Association which takes place at the University of Aveiro in March 2010.

For details, please write to us at info@apcp.pt or

Associação Portuguesa de Ciência Política
Av. Prof. Aníbal Bettencourt, 9
1600-189 Lisbon
Portugal

Valtiotieteellinen Yhdistys Statsvetenskapliga Föreningen Finnish Political Science Association

The annual conference of Finnish political scientists will be held at the University of Tampere on March 12 and 13, 2009. The general theme of the conference is “The Future of Political Studies.” The peer-reviewed journal of the Finnish political science association, Politiikka, will be celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2009. Since 1959, Politiikka has been published four times a year with sections for articles, review articles and discussion, and book reviews. It is the leading scientific journal in Finnish in the field of political science. English abstracts of the articles are available online through the EBSCO database. During 2009-10, Politiikka will be edited at the University of Lapland in Rovaniemi. There are also two new books published by the FPSA: ‘Arendt, Eichmann and the politics of the past’ by Tuija Parvikko and ‘The parliamentary style of politics’ edited by Suvi Soininen and Tapani Turkka.

La Société Camerounaise de Science Politique (SOCASP):
Un appui au développement de la science politique subsaharienne

Créée le 12 Septembre 2006, la Société Camerounaise de Science Politique (SOCASP) est une société savante qui œuvre pour le développement de la science politique au Cameroun. Elle est membre de l’Association Internationale de Science Politique (IPSA). Elle poursuit les principaux objectifs suivants :
- Contribuer au développement de la science politique au Cameroun ;
- Promouvoir l’enseignement, la formation et la recherche en science politique ;
- Faciliter la diffusion des informations, des savoirs et des connaissances en science politique ;
- Assurer la représentation des membres aux réunions internationales de science politique ;
- Favoriser les échanges, la coopération et le partenariat avec les institutions d’enseignement, de formation et de recherche oeuvrant au développement de la science politique.
Para alcanzar estos objetivos, la SOCASP miente las acciones siguientes:
- Realización de estudios y experiencias en el ámbito de la ciencia política;
- Organización de congresos, conferencias, seminarios y encuentros;
- Elaboración, edición y difusión de publicaciones, revistas y boletines científicos;
- Elaboración, ejecución y seguimiento de programas de investigación.


IX Congreso Nacional de Ciencia Política de la Sociedad Argentina de Análisis Político (SAAP)

La Sociedad Argentina de Análisis Político convoca a la presentación de ponencias para el IX CONGRESO NACIONAL DE CIENCIA POLÍTICA, titulado “Centros y periferias: equilibrios y asimetrías en las relaciones de poder”. El mismo se realizará en la ciudad de Santa Fe (ciudad capital de la provincia del mismo nombre), entre el 19 y el 22 de agosto de 2009. El evento es organizado en forma conjunta por la SAAP, la Universidad Nacional del Litoral (UNL) y la Universidad Católica de Santa Fe (UCSF). Los Congresos Nacionales de Ciencia Política de la SAAP se realizan cada dos años, y se han transformado en el principal acontecimiento institucional de la disciplina en la Argentina, como lo revelan la presencia de académicos, analistas políticos, consultores, especialistas en opinión pública, y periodistas internacionales que asisten, como así mismo la cantidad de participantes que intervienen en sus sesiones, y la calidad y cantidad de los trabajos presentados. Quienes deseen recibir más información sobre el IX Congreso Nacional de Ciencia Política pueden consultar la convocatoria completa en www.saap.org.ar o comunicarse por email a 9congreso@saap.org.ar

Cronograma

- Fecha límite presentación de abstracts y grupos de investigación: 1 de abril de 2009.
- Aceptación de abstracts y grupos de investigación por parte de la organización: 30 de abril de 2009
- Fecha límite para la presentación de ponencias y grupos de investigación: 20 de junio de 2009.

The European Confederation of Political Science Associations

In November 2007, the European Confederation of Political Science Associations (ECPSA) was founded in Berlin, Germany. It brings together 23 national and international associations of political science in Europe.

ECPSA was established to promote the discipline’s interests and pursue its professional goals. It seeks to make political science more meaningful in public debate and policy-making.

In part, the union of national associations is a reaction to increasing harmonization in European higher education. ECPSA creates a framework for cooperation and exchange in Europe on all aspects of political science as an academic discipline and on its professional organization.

ECPSA has adopted a mission statement, which is available on its website at http://www.ecpsa.org.

In June 2008, the first elections of the executive committee were held in Valencia, Spain. The new EC consists of representatives of the Finnish Political Science Association (Dr. Kia Lindroos), the Hungarian Political Science Association (Prof. Dr. Andras Bozoki), the Spanish Political Science Association (Prof. Dr. Pablo Oilate) and the Political Studies Association of the United Kingdom (Prof. Dr. Neil Collins). Prof. Suzanne S. Schüttemeyer of the German Political Science Association is the first president of the ECPSA.

For further information, please contact Felix W. Wurm, secretary general of the German Political Science Association (DVPW, c/o. Universit"at Osnabrueck, FB 1 – Sozialwissen-schaften, D-49069 Osnabrueck, ++49/541/969-6264, dvpw@dvpw.de).
This peer reviewed journal provides original research articles, notes, commentaries, review articles, and book reviews in all areas of political science, including but not limited to: the history of political thought, contemporary political theory, international relations, and foreign policy; governmental institutions and processes; political behavior; public administration and public policy; and women and politics. In addition, the Canadian Journal of Political Science/Revue canadienne de science politique is the primary forum for innovative research on all facets of Canadian politics and government as well as the principal outlet for Canadian political science scholarship. Submissions are accepted in English and in French.

For more information, please see journals.cambridge.org/cjp
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