



CPS News

Committee on Political Sociology

International Sociology Association (Research Committee 18)

International Political Science Association (Research Committee 6)

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A NOTE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear colleagues,
CPS is increasing its activity and enlarging its membership.
A very briefly report.

On the first point:

We organized 16 panels (the maximum number allowed by ISA) at the last ISA world congress in Goteborg. We are present with a panel organized by Wolfgang Rüdiger and Emilie Van Haute (who both chair a CPS working group) at the incoming IPSA-ECPR conference in Sao Paulo. We also are discussing with ECPR the possibility of organizing CPS panels at their various conferences. Finally we plan to held a CPS conference in late 2011.

On the second point:

We have 130 members in good standing coming from ISA, 70 from IPSA and a dozen directly through CPS.

All these activities need your advice and cooperation. Do not hesitate to send suggestions and proposals to myself or the other members of the CPS executive committee.

Florence Faucher-King step down as secretary. We all thank Florence for her invaluable contribution. This is the reason why this newsletter is so poor ...

WORKING GROUPS

1. Working groups on Religion and Politics

Convenors: **Piero Ignazi**, University of Bologna (piero.ignazi@unibo.it)
and **Spencer Wellhofer**, Denver University (ewellhof@du.edu)
[Download the document](#)

2. Working Group: Members and Activists of Political Parties (MAPP)

Convenors: **Wolfgang Rüdig** (w.rudig@strath.ac.uk)
and **Emilie van Haute** (evhaute@ulb.ac.be)
Website (launch end of October) <http://www.projectmapp.eu/>
[Download the document](#)

3. Working group on contentious politics & social movements

Convenor: **Seraphim Seferiades**, Panteion University Athens
(ss361@cam.ac.uk) (ssefer@ath.forthnet.gr)
[Download the document](#)

4. Working Group on Political Inequality

Convenor: **Joshua Dubrow**, Polish Academy of Sciences (dubrow.2@osu.edu)
website: <http://politicalinequality.wordpress.com/>

The Working Group on Political Inequality (POLINQ) is organized around the concept of political inequality as a distinct form of social stratification and as a subfield of political sociology. The purpose of the Working Group on POLINQ is to (a) publish research in first rate social science journals and high quality monographs on issues of political inequality, (b) to encourage members and affiliated professionals to write funding proposals to obtain grants, fellowships and other awards related to political inequality, (c) organize conferences and similar events dedicated to presenting first-rate research on political inequality, (d) facilitate the international collaboration of scholars interested in the field of political inequality, and (e) encourage the scholarly community to become official members of ISA RC18 and IPSA RC6.

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CALL FOR PAPERS

[IPSA-ECPR Sao Paulo: “Whatever Happened to North-South?” \(16-19 February 2011\)](#)

Panel - Party members and political linkage in democracies

Chair: Rüdiger Wolfgang (w.rudig@strath.ac.uk)

University of Strathclyde - United Kingdom

Co-Chair: Van Haute Emilie (evhaute@ulb.ac.be)

Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB) - Belgium

Discussant: Boucek Françoise (f.boucek@qmul.ac.uk)

Queen Mary – University of London

In order to assess the state of democracies, a key element is to understand and explain how major social and political actors behave and function in democratic systems. Among these actors, political parties are central as they fulfil major functions in representative democracies. While a lot has been written about parties in the electorate and parties in government (Reiter, 2006), the literature on parties as organizations is either rather dated or of theoretical and static nature (classifications of party organizations and party families). This panel aims at focusing on intra-party dynamics with a strong empirical perspective. More specifically, the main goal is to tackle the issue of conflict and competition within parties, through the lens of conflicting relations between the three faces of party organizations (Katz & Mair 2001), and factionalism (Boucek, 2009). The main goal is to investigate and explain the roots of conflict and factionalism within parties. Indeed, understanding intra-party competition and dynamics is a key element to understand how parties behave and perform in the political system as a whole.

[4th Congrès international des associations francophones de science politique - \(Bruxelles, 20-21-22 April 2011\)](#)

Section thématique 11 : «Etre partisan. Loyauté, prise de parole et défection dans les partis et les mouvements sociaux» ([Download the document](#))

Van Haute Emilie, Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB)

Haegel Florence, Cevipof – Paris (florence.haegel@sciences-po.fr)

Bennani-Chraïbi Mounia, Université de Lausanne (Mounia.Bennani-Chraïbi@unil.ch)

[APSA, September 1-4, 2011, San Francisco, CA](#)

Bentham called them “nonsense upon stilts” but at the beginning of the twenty-first century, the discourse of rights has never been more pronounced or contested. Around the globe, people mobilize on behalf of human, civil, political, ethnic minority, aboriginal, women’s, gay, alien, children’s, transgender, corporate, (sub)national, environmental, and animal rights. Some of these are established rights that advocates seek to expand for those previously excluded from their ambit. Others are new rights. At the same time, the abrogation of such rights as habeas corpus and the use of so-called “enhanced interrogation techniques” by governments in established as well as new democracies in the last decade have engendered new alliances of progressives and rule of law liberals to defend the restoration and refurbishment of rights. Movements to expand, create, defend, and entrench rights into national and international law generate counter-claims, put rights under pressure and, some argue, problematically privilege courts, legal and centralized national institutions over other more democratic or popular mechanisms of policy formation and self-governance. We propose that the discipline bring its empirical and normative lenses to reflect on the complex politics of rights.

In line with the APSA call, CPS is looking for papers that consider the mobilization of movements to extend rights (new rights or the extension of existing rights to new groups), that analyze the expansion of the language of rights into existing movements and organizations (such as political parties).

Please note that all presenters must be members of the CPS.
<http://www2.spbo.unibo.it/cps/homepage.html>

Submit your paper proposal on <http://www.apsanet.org/> and mention the Committee of Political Sociology as one of the subdivision to which your paper should be sent.

PUBLICATIONS BY MEMBERS OF CPS

Broadbent Jeffrey and Brockman Vicky (editors)

[East Asian Social Movements: Power Protest and Change in a Dynamic Region \(Nonprofit and Civil Society Studies\)](#), Springer 2010

Faucher-King Florence and Le Gales Patrick

[The New Labour Experiment](#), Standford University Press, 2010

Flores Dávila Julia Isabel

[Aproximaciones metodológicas para la construcción de un modelo para la evaluación de la reforma penal integral y la impartición de la justicia penal en el estado de Chihuahua](#), IIJ-UNAM, 2010

Gauja Anika

[Political Parties and Elections](#), Ashgate, 2010

Dick Houtman and Stef Aupers (editors)

[Religions of Modernity: Relocating the Sacred to the Self and the Digital](#), Leiden: Brill, 2010.

Celis Karen, Meier Petra and Wauters Bram (editors)

[Gehoord, Gezien, Vertegenwoordigd? Diversiteit in de Belgische politiek](#), Academia Press, 2010

ISA CONGRESS 2010 – GOTHENBURG, SWEDEN



The Research Committee on Political Sociology had participated at the XVII ISA world congress by organizing 16 panels and presenting more than 60 papers ([see details](#))

