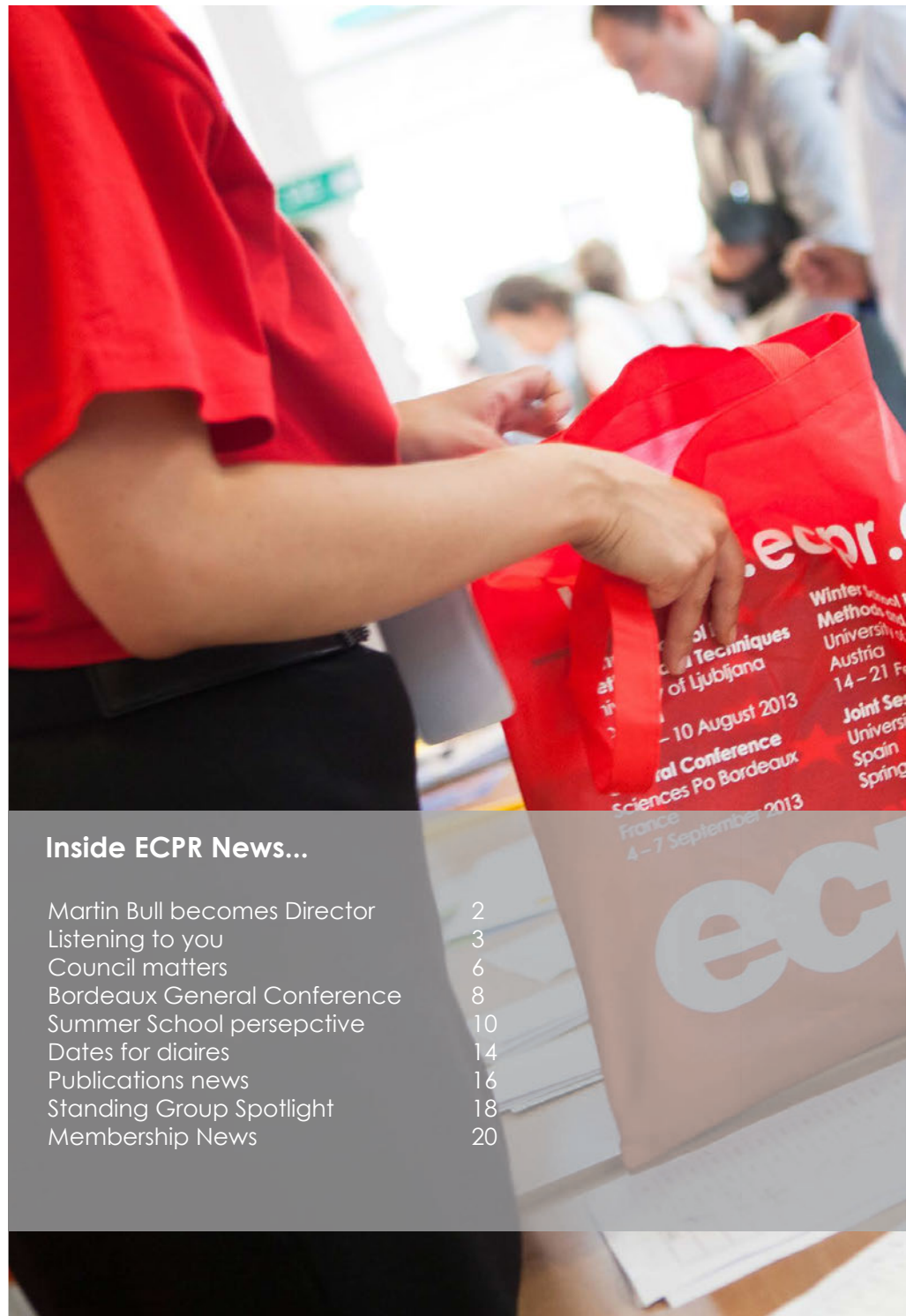


three firsts for the ECPR

council elects first speaker; executive committee appoints first director; central services carries out first membership survey



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ecpr appoints first director



Martin Bull has been appointed to be the first Director of ECPR, starting 1 September 2013 for a period of six years. His main tasks will be to manage ECPR Central Services, direct ECPR operations, advise and assist the Executive Committee in the ECPR's strategic direction, representation of the discipline and various portfolio activities, provide support and advice to the ECPR's Council and its Speaker, and further the institutionalisation of structures and procedures within the ECPR.

Professor Bull has considerable experience and expertise in ECPR matters, having served as the Academic Director of ECPR (2006-13) and previously served as a member of the Executive Committee (2003-06). He is Professor of Politics at the University of Salford where he is also Deputy Chair of the University's Senate. His research interests lie in the field of Italian and comparative European politics.

The position of Director is new and was created as a consequence of a fundamental review of governance by the ECPR in 2011-12, as a result of which the two former positions of Administrative Director and Academic Director were abolished and replaced with a single Directorship. These changes were designed and drafted by the ECPR's Constitutional Reform Group, adopted by the Executive Committee and then presented to the ECPR Council as part

of a package of constitutional reform, which was approved by an online ballot. The Directorship was filled by competitive appointment. Following a two month call, eight applications were received for the post, with two candidates subsequently being short-listed and interviewed in Colchester in May 2013.

'I am very honoured to have been appointed as the first Director of the ECPR. The challenges facing the ECPR in the coming period are considerable, yet so are the opportunities, and I hope therefore to be able to contribute to the Consortium's continued success.'

In view of its size and the scale of its activities, the ECPR is the only organisation that can properly represent European political science, and this carries with it ever expanding demands and responsibilities, which I am confident we can meet. I thank the Executive Committee for placing their trust in me, and look forward to working with them over the coming six years."

constitution amended

ECPR Council is now held during the General Conference instead of the Joint Sessions: it is easier to schedule a Council Meeting during the more flexible programme of the General Conference, and it is hoped that the higher number of participants will translate into a higher number of Official Representatives attending Council. However, Art 14a of the Constitution stipulates that election of members of the ECPR Executive Committee should take place 'approximately two weeks in advance of [Council's] regular meeting'. As the General Conference takes place at the end of Summer, this would mean that Executive Committee elections should take place during the holiday season. To allow for the elections to take place at the usual and more convenient time (January-February), the Executive Committee proposed a constitutional amendment to remove the requirement that the election takes place approximately two weeks before the Council meeting. This amendment was put on the agenda of the ECPR Council in Bordeaux (6 September 2013). As Council lacked a quorum, the amendment could not be put to a vote under Art. 20b of the Constitution, the amendment was put to an online ballot in which the Official Representatives (ORs) of all Full members were entitled to vote. The Senior Returning Officer was David Farrell.

The amendment has met the constitutional requirement of 40 percent of all Official Representatives casting a vote. The amendment has been accepted by more than two-thirds of ORs who cast a vote. The amendment is therefore declared as duly accepted and the ECPR Constitution is changed accordingly. Please see the website for a full version of this report and the Constitution.



new membership year begins

The new membership year began on the 1 October. If you wish to attend either the Winter School in Methods and Techniques or the Joint Sessions of Workshops, your institution must have paid in order for you to benefit from the discounted ECPR member rate. Check to see whether your institution has joined for 2013/14 on the website.

ECPR membership is better value than ever with more events, funding opportunities, prizes and publications than ever before. The real value, however, lies with the size of the network the ECPR offers up to members; from nearly 50 Standing Groups dealing with all sub-fields of the discipline, to the newly re-formed Graduate Student Network which aims to further improve the ECPR's practical help to scholars at the beginning of their career. With over 330 institutional members and some 14,000 political scientists at all stages of their careers on our mailing list, the ECPR really is *the* political science association.

listening to you...

We would like to say a big thank you to all Official Representatives and individuals who responded to the first ever ECPR membership survey earlier in the year. An impressive 1,826 of you took the time to complete the online survey, presenting us with a much clearer understanding of our members. The feedback from the membership survey, alongside the individual surveys that are sent out to participants after each event, have directly impacted ECPR activity and put a number of issues on the agenda in 2013:

You asked for better information prior to a conference...

...We are developing an ECPR App.

The first ECPR app will be launched in 2014 with the aim of making all key information about the event available at the touch of a button. The app will also include functions that will enable better communication and networking between participants; real time event, travel and local information; GPS and static maps and more.

... We are looking at the format of the printed programme.

With the aim of making the printed programme more user-friendly and more useful for participants, its format for all events will be reviewed throughout 2014.

... We will put the programme on the website in advance of the event.

So participants can check the programme before they arrive, the printed version will also be available online in PDF format for participants to download.

You need to be able to register for events and submit proposals easily...

... We have improved the processes on the website.

The back end functions on the website have been improved to make registering for ECPR events easy, whilst also providing participants with the tools to carry out key functions of their role online too (such as Panel Chairs approving and declining Panels or Papers etc). These improvements have also helped the ECPR's Conference and Events team, enabling them to improve their service to participants.

You asked for a one-stop shop for political science jobs...

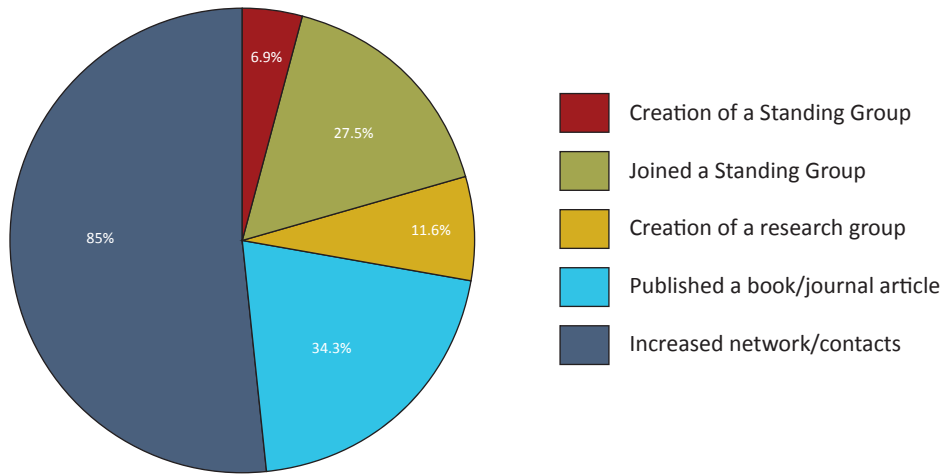
... We are developing a new area on the website.

Such has been the success of the monthly ECPR's Jobs bulletin in 2013 that we are currently developing an online version for the website for launch in 2014. This new functionality will not only provide a one-stop hub for academic job vacancies, but also for (non-ECPR) funding opportunities, publications and political science events.



in the membership survey we asked you...

What tangible outcomes of an ECPR event have you experienced?



40%

don't know that they can access the ECPR's professional journal, *EPS* free of charge online.

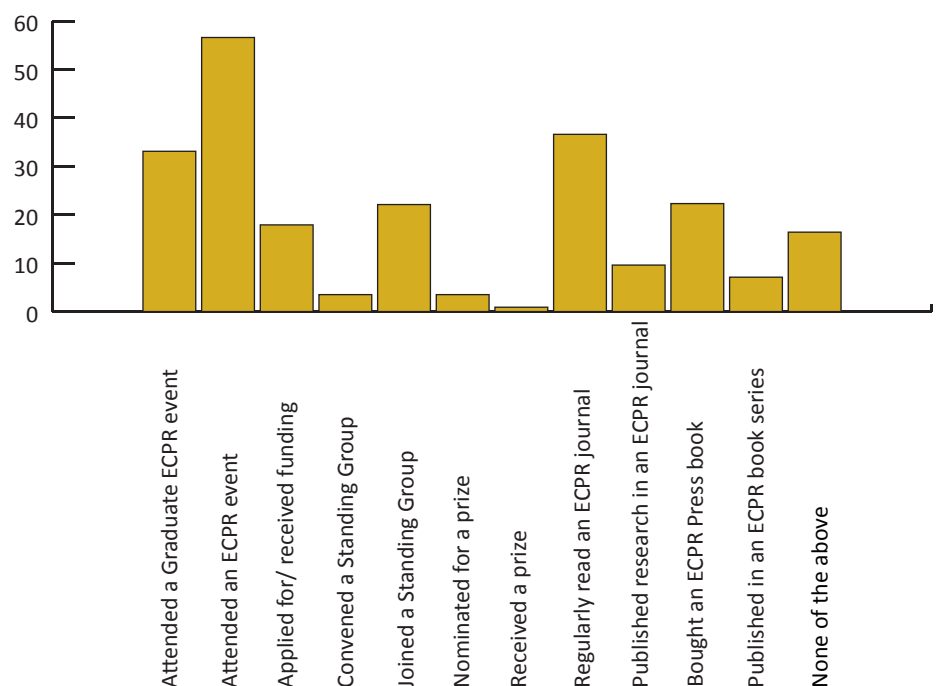
86%

prefer to read a hard copy of a book.

53%

still read a hard copy of a journal (often alongside the electronic version)

Which of the following benefits have you used?



new speaker takes the chair in bordeaux

The ECPR's first elected Speaker of Council chaired his first Council meeting during the Bordeaux General Conference. Below is a summary of the key points from the meeting.

65 Official Representatives attended the first meeting of the ECPR Council to be chaired by the new Speaker, David Farrell, during the General Conference in Bordeaux.

Professor Farrell said that he was delighted and honoured to have been elected to the new position, which was created by a Governance Review Group set up by the 2009-12 Executive Committee (EC), and approved by Council through an electronic ballot. Until now, Council has been chaired by the Chair of the EC.

This reform – combined with the move to an annual meeting of Council - aims to provide Council with a greater degree of independence from the EC and to integrate it further into the work of the ECPR.

Professor Farrell says that he does not see his role as creating an alternative power base to the Executive Committee, but as a way of improving co-operation and effectiveness between the two institutions. Professor Farrell's first job as Speaker was to pass a set of Standing Orders for the Council which were approved at this first meeting.

'This reform – combined with the move to an annual meeting of Council – aims to provide Council with a greater degree of independence from the EC and to integrate it further into the work of the ECPR.'



Report from the Chair of the ECPR

As per the normal agenda, the meeting received a report from the Chair of the ECPR, Simona Piattoni, who gave a summary of recent past and forthcoming ECPR events, developments in ECPR publications and the development of a new framework for Standing Groups.

Professor Piattoni highlighted the ongoing institutional development of the ECPR which was attempting to standardise and regularise online processes for all of its events. She also reported that membership had risen by 11 in the past year, with 2012/13 membership year seeing a rise to 333 members. Professor Piattoni went on to report that Professor Martin Bull had been appointed as the first Director of the ECPR. Professor Bull, she said, brought a wealth of ECPR experience and expertise to the post.



Next Council Meeting

The next Council Meeting will be held at the General Conference in Glasgow, UK. Further details will be emailed to Official Representatives from Full member institutions in due course.

If you would like to know more about the General Conference, please visit the ECPR website (www.ecpr.eu) or email generalconference@ecpr.eu.

Other matters from Council

There was a lively debate in Council on various matters including progress with the website, the Bordeaux experience and post-event surveys, the impending Central Services move and the cost to participants of the 2015 General Conference being held at Montreal. The Executive Committee will look into these issues and report back to Council at their next meeting.

The Executive Committee tabled a constitutional reform aimed at aligning the text in the Constitution with the changes to the date of the meeting of the Council to prevent an automatic change in the election time. Unfortunately, the Council was not quorate to pass a constitutional amendment so it went automatically to online ballot. It was held in October and it was subsequently approved.

Key decisions from the Executive Committee meeting

Joint Sessions and Research Sessions: it was decided to implement fees for participants in the Research Sessions (from 2014) and Joint Sessions (from 2015).

The EC noted that since neither the Joint Sessions or Research Sessions generate an income, other events (including those attended largely by graduates and younger scholars e.g. Graduate Student Conference and Methods Schools) were effectively subsidising these events. Since the composition of both the Joint Sessions or Research Sessions is more mixed, it was agreed that it was fair to ask attendees at these events to pay a small fee in order to help cover their costs (N.B. non-member rates at the Joint Sessions will be increased in line with this to maintain the benefit for members).

Graduate Student Conference: the EC agreed that this event should, where appropriate, be subsidised by other events, to encourage young scholars into ECPR activities. The 2016 event will be held at the University of Tartu.

Non-Member Fees: the EC agreed to standardise non-member fees for participation in ECPR events by stipulating that they should be at least 50% more than the member fee.

Funding: the provision of funding for younger scholars to attend ECPR events has been streamlined to provide a more effective system of support.

Joint Sessions 2015: the event will be held at the University of Warsaw.

Standing Groups: a position paper authored by Rudy Andeweg on a new regulatory framework on the Standing Groups was approved. Professors Andeweg and Bull met with the Standing Group Convenors during the Bordeaux conference to receive feedback on the paper, which will now be developed into a new regulatory framework.

Incorporation: The Executive Committee has decided to explore fully the possibility of the ECPR converting into a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) under UK Charity Law, thus overcoming individual liability whilst protecting its charitable status.

Graduate Student Network: received an increase to its annual funding.

In the course of its meeting at Bordeaux, the EC received visits from representatives of the Asian Consortium of Political Research and from the ECPR Graduate Student Network.

Report from the Director

In his first report as Director, Professor Bull said that work to consolidate and institutionalise procedures and personnel practices within Central Services was continuing.

He informed Council that Central Services would have to move into new premises before the end of 2014, and reported on progress made with the re-development of the website (probably the most ambitious project that Central Services had undertaken for a long time).

Report from the Treasurer

In his report to Council, Richard Katz informed Council that membership fees had been increased to cover inflation and sterling fees had been adjusted to match Euro rates.

He added that Associate Membership fees had over time fallen below their target rate and so would be increased over time until they returned to the target of 50% of the full fee. Professor Katz referred to increased rental costs and Open Access as being the two most significant financial challenges facing the ECPR in the future.



bordeaux - first person

Name: Matthew Flinders

Institution: Department of Politics,
University of Sheffield

How did you first hear about the General Conference?

I've been involved with the ECPR for many years and have attended sessions around the world. There is no better way to engage with the wider political science community than attending the General Conference; and no better way than focusing on a specific topic from a range of disciplines or perspectives than participating in a Joint Sessions Workshop.

Tell us about your role at the General Conference.

I was the convenor and Chair of a Panel on Depoliticisation, Democracy and the State. This was linked to the 'Depoliticisation and Anti-Politics' Specialist Research Group that I help to run and forms part of a long-term research agenda that involves conference Panels at the ECPR, IPSA and PSA. The Panel received a very high number of applications to give Papers and in the end four were selected (this included a professor, a lecturer and a PhD student in order to provide a range of developmental opportunities).

'...what I really get from the ECPR conferences is a jolt of intellectual energy and a stronger sense of why the study of politics matters.'

Tell us about your experience of the event.

Hot, hot, hot...and I don't mean the intellectual heat (although that was, of course, intense) but the weather. The sun had come out with some force on the day of my Panel and any areas of outside shade were populated with large clusters of political scientists seeking salvation from the heat. The Panel itself did manage to attract a full house of around twenty-five people and the atmosphere was lively but friendly. The Papers were very different in empirical focus but shared a number of common themes that stimulated a wide range

of questions. There were disagreements and debates and at some points the Paper-givers were relegated to observers as audience members participated in their own mini discussions but a strict Chair and the heat ensured that the Panel kept to time and concluded in very good spirits.

What did you gain by attending the conference?

I met some very nice people and some old friends. I was introduced to a number of new perspectives and strands of literature and I was able to identify some younger scholars who I think may well emerge as professional 'stars of the future'. In a sense the Panel did not come to an end and should be seen as the latest instalment or chapter in the research process. Most of all what I really get from the ECPR conferences is a jolt of intellectual energy and a stronger sense of why the study of politics matters.

Who do you think the event is ideal for?

I think this event is suitable for everyone but particularly for younger members of the profession who want to develop their profile and research networks.

What advice would you give to other participants/Section Chairs etc?

Throw yourself into the conference 100 percent. Arrange a Panel, offer to Chair something or act as a Discussant, turn up to a few Panels about which you know nothing at all and – most of all – talk to people. The ECPR brings together people from all over the world and it can obviously be very intimidating to go somewhere new, to see the 'big names' and to strike-up new relationships but political science is a real 'community' and sometimes a simple smile or friendly comment can strike-up a personal and professional friendship that will last forever.

Will you attend again?

Yes, I am already planning to propose a Joint Sessions Workshop.

i a word from the local organiser, dominique nguyen

Hosting the 7th ECPR General Conference at Sciences Po Bordeaux was an honour and a double-challenge. Not only was it the first time that this prestigious rendezvous of global political scientists would be held in France, but it also coincided with the beginning of the construction programme designed to double the surface of our School. This was a test of our ability to manage a major scientific conference in restricted conditions. The result was an extremely positive and rich experience for our staff, researchers and, above all, our students who participated in a live experience of scientific exchanges and management of an international event. The conference, at the heart of their school, bringing world renowned experts and young researchers from all over, reinforced for our students, the fact that political science is a living discipline at the heart of many issues in our societies, which is to be understood at a global platform. In this respect, the General Conference in Bordeaux will remain a major event in the history of Sciences Po Bordeaux.



summer school perspective

Name: Martina Kühner
Institution: Maastricht University

Tell us about yourself.

I started my PhD in February 2013. I have a background in European Studies and have focused on the international dimension and in particular on (sustainable) development. Although I am still at an early stage of my PhD, I, of course, have some ideas on my future career. I am convinced that academia and politicians need to work closely together in order to enrich each other's work, create mutual synergies and finally make a difference. Therefore, I aim to work in an intersection between research and politics. This could be either within a think tank or consultancy, in academia or even in politics itself.

When did you first hear about the ECPR?

I had heard about the ECPR during my studies, however, it was only when starting my PhD that I started checking the website regularly to learn about new publications, conferences and the Methods School.

Tell us about your experience of being a participant at the Methods School.

The Summer School in Ljubljana gave me the chance to meet ECPR staff and peers and to benefit from ECPR's excellent work for the first time. As I am planning to do case study research in my PhD, I decided to attend the two-week course on case study research. I opted for the School, as both my professor and colleagues who attended in previous years have highly recommended it to me.

What was the best part of the Methods School?

In my view, it was the combination of different parts of the School that made it so valuable and enjoyable. Of course, the classes were the main component and I attended them with curiosity and joy every day. The classes help you better understand the literature and get a good overview of the main elements of the course topics. The daily lab sessions really complemented the lectures, as they allow you to apply the knowledge gained to your own research and to ask more specific questions.

Besides the case study course, the brown bag lunches offered a good opportunity to look beyond my current research focus and get a broader perspective on both theoretical and practical debates relevant for a young researcher. The excellent study facilities on the campus encouraged you to stay even after class in order to digest the input from the day and prepare for the next session. The friendly, helpful and enthusiastic atmosphere amongst the students and the staff kept me motivated to get the most out of the School

and myself, as well as to work long days and sometimes even during the (hot summer) nights (with 30 degrees outside!). I also highly appreciated the non-academic programme of the school, as it was a great opportunity to relax your brain after the long and intense study days (special thanks to Ana Kraševc for this). It was very convenient to sign-up for organised events, so there was no need to spend our time searching for and planning activities ourselves – the programme was ready made to enjoy and have fun!

'The excellent study facilities on the campus encouraged you to stay even after class in order to digest the input from the day and prepare for the next session.'

The varied conversations with other students over a refreshing 'human fish' or some other local speciality were the perfect compensation to the sometimes quite abstract course content and debates. The organised weekend activities allowed us to get to know the beautiful country beyond Ljubljana and to enjoy it alongside an international crowd of fellow students. The balanced programme between hard and productive work and enjoyable and varied leisure activities made this School a complete success for me.

What role has the ECPR and the Methods School played in your career?

It was a very helpful experience, especially at the stage of the research I am currently in. I feel well equipped now to finalise my research design and to start with the empirical part of my research.

What advice do you have for future participants?

You are in excellent hands [at the Methods School], they will support and guide you wherever possible. Do not get scared after the first few days when it is likely you will feel overwhelmed by all the literature you need to read and assignments to hand in. Yes, it is an intensive programme, but you will manage and see the benefits once you have passed the course. I would also recommend to use all the opportunities for training and feedback you can get, for instance to take the exam and write the final paper (even if you do not need the credits for your university). In particular, also do the (daily) assignments and take time after class to digest what you have learned and discuss it with fellow students. The better you prepare in advance for the School, the less stressful it will be during the School itself, as you can only revise the literature instead of having to read several articles a day/night before or after class. I believe that this way you get the most out of it.



A final recommendation: do not forget to get to know the other fellow students to discuss your research, but also to hang out with. This can create a nice team spirit in class, valuable networks for the future, and last but not least, new friendships.

What advice or tips do you have for participants looking to progress in their career?

Stay up-to-date and well-connected with the ECPR network. Be open, curious and use opportunities to travel and meet other people – this can give you fresh ideas and help you to think out of the box and across disciplines.

Where do you see your career progressing to?

I obviously cannot predict yet where my PhD will take me. However, I know that I want to stay committed to my aim to contribute to sustainable development and a more sustainable lifestyle both through my work and in my private life. Therefore, I would also like to encourage the ECPR team to think further on how the sustainability of the Methods School could be further enhanced, in order for these not only to be a long-lasting academic experience, but also one with a low environmental footprint.

I would like to use this opportunity to thank everyone involved for making this great educational and social experience possible.



The ECPR Methods School

The ECPR Methods School is made up of two distinct, but complementary, events: the Winter School in Methods and Techniques (WSMT) and the Summer School in Methods and Techniques (SSMT).

The 2014 WSMT will take place at the University of Vienna from the 14-21 February. Registration is now open but closes on the 14 January.

The 2014 SSMT will take place at the University of Ljubljana between the 24 July and 9 August. Further information will be available on the website in due course.

For more information about either event please contact Denise Chapman dchap@essex.ac.uk

Twitter hashtag: #WSMT14

following the methods school path

Name: Martin Gross

Institution: Universität Mannheim

Tell us about your first experience of the Methods School.

I attended the ECPR Winter School in Vienna in 2012 and 2013 as well as the ECPR Summer School in Ljubljana in 2013. All three events have been a highlight in my professional career so far. Using both quantitative and qualitative approaches in my PhD, I was looking for seminars or workshops that could both broaden and deepen my methodological perspectives and skills. Many colleagues recommended the ECPR methodological programme as a good opportunity for me to gain insight in a great variety of different methods – and they were absolutely right. Both the Winter School and the Summer School gave me the opportunity to combine different courses just when I needed them for my research.

What courses have you undertaken?

I have taken courses including 'Working with Comparative Survey Data' with Ineke Stoop, 'Statistical Modelling of the Spatial Theory of Voting' with Paul W. Thurner, and 'Qualitative Comparative Analysis and Fuzzy Sets: Basics and Advanced Issue in Set-Theoretic Methods' with Patrick Emmenegger and Carsten Q. Schneider. Fortunately, the brilliant organisation of the various Methods School enabled me to attend an additional two introductory software courses to SPSS and STATA in the afternoons.

How did the courses help you?

All the courses helped me a lot in carrying out my own research with regard to local coalition formation. The highly motivated and encouraging lecturers impressed me a lot. They were always pleased to help us when we were facing problems with our own data sets. The intensive courses were demanding, but every minute of reading the literature, listening to the instructors and teaching assistants, and applying the method during the lab sessions and the homework assignments was worth the effort. Most importantly, the instructors did not stop after teaching us the basics of the methodological requirements, but also presented the very latest innovations in the field – critiques, possible methodological responses to criticism, and very good 'How-to-do-sections'. Furthermore, the possibility to combine qualitative and quantitative courses with courses on software programmes has been one of the main advantages of the Methods School.

I left every Methods School with the feeling that I am now able to conduct substantial research in the respective field with the appropriate method at hand. But it was only after attending several conferences – and indeed applying some

of the methods learned at the various Methods School that I fully see the true benefit of the Winter School and Summer School: enabling young researchers to play a leading role in their respective fields with regard to the appropriate use of methodological techniques.

What else made the Methods School a success for you?

Don't forget the warm atmosphere of both the Winter School and the Summer School. Certainly, the locations – Vienna and Ljubljana – played a big role for the success of the Methods School. Both cities are marvellous and culturally rich. Most of the times, I could not decide which theatre, cinema, museum, opera or castle I should see first, so it has been very helpful that various ECPR organisation teams organised a series of social activities. There are at least three things you have to do when you're attending the Summer School in Ljubljana – eat a lot of ice cream at one of the cafés and restaurants near the Three Bridges, take the chance to attend the open air cinema at the castle above the city, and take part in one of the marvellous excursions around Ljubljana.

'I left every Methods School with the feeling that I am now able to conduct substantial research in the respective field with the appropriate method at hand.'

These social events were every time a highlight of my Methods School's experience. It is a great chance to meet new people from various countries and academic institutions in Europe and beyond. Of course, it is an opportunity to meet some potential co-authors, but more importantly, it is an opportunity to make new friends. Friends you will never forget and, in my experience, friends you will meet several times at a variety of conferences, workshops, and seminars – and all of this thanks to the excellent team behind the scenes. Therefore, I am very excited to attend again the Winter School in Vienna in 2014, learning more about new approaches in Qualitative Comparative Analysis, and – hopefully – making new friends and seeing some of the 'old' ones.



To find out more about the Methods School, visit the Methods School section on the ECPR website or email Denise Chapman, Methods School Manager at methodsschools@ecpr.eu.

funding update

Want to attend an ECPR event but worried about the cost?

This is when ECPR membership really can help you. Individuals affiliated with ECPR member institutions receive a significant discount on all conference and event fees, while Full members (i.e., those from within Europe or from institutions that have upgraded from Associate status) can apply for funding to help cover their costs of attendance. Below is a list of application dates for all upcoming ECPR events; more information, including the amounts available for each event and eligibility criteria, can be found on the website.

Event	Application process opens	Closes
Winter School Vienna 2014 ECPR Grant	01/10/2013	29/11/2013
Joint Sessions Salamanca 2014 Joint Sessions Graduate Grant	04/11/2013	10/01/2014
Joint Sessions Salamanca 2014 Joint Sessions Young Scholar's Grant	04/11/2013	10/01/2014
Graduate Student Conference Innsbruck 2014 ECPR Grant	24/02/2014	25/04/2014
General Conference Glasgow 2014 ECPR Grant	15/03/2014	20/04/2014
Summer School Ljubljana 2014 ECPR Grant	01/03/2014	02/05/2014



For more information about ECPR funding contact Anna Foley at afoley@ecpr.eu

dates for diaries

January

Religion, Democracy and Law conference

Supported by: Standing Group on Religion and Politics
14 – 15 January 2014

February

2014 APSA Teaching and Learning Conference

7 – 9 February 2014

ECPR Winter School in Methods and Techniques

14 – 21 February 2014

March

International Studies Association 55th Annual Convention

26 – 29 March 2014

IAPSS World Congress 2014

31 March 2014 – 6 April 2014

April

ECPR Joint Sessions of Workshops

10 – 15 April 2014

PSA 64th Annual International Conference

14 – 16 April 2014

The UACES Student Forum Annual Research Conference

24 – 25 April 2014

Regional Studies Association Global Conference 2014

27 – 30 April 2014

June

7th ECPR Standing Group on the European Union Pan-European Conference

5 – 7 June 2014

Summer Institute on the Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models (EITM)

Supported by: Standing Group on European Union
14 – 27 June 2014

Regional Studies Association European Conference

15 – 18 June 2014

Human Rights and Change Conference

Supported by: Standing Group on Human Rights and Transitional Justice
16 – 18 June 2014

British International Studies Association Conference

18 – 20 June 2014

EPSA Annual General Conference

19 – 21 June 2014

Intensive Summer School on Serious and Organised Crime

Supported by: Standing Group on Organised Crime
23 June – 5 July 2014

5th ECPR Standing Group on Regulatory Governance Biennial Conference

25 – 27 June 2014

The Political Economy of Politics in Latin America – Summer School

Supported by: Standing Group on Latin American Politics
25 June – 4 July 2014

1st European Conference on Teaching and Learning Politics - International Relations and European Studies

26 – 27 June 2014

July

Standing Group Summer School on Interest Groups

Supported by: Standing Group on Interest Groups
2 – 9 July 2014

ECPR Graduate Student Conference

3 – 5 July 2014

ECPR Research Session 2014

8 – 11 July 2014

ECPR Summer School in Methods and Techniques

24 July – 9 August 2014

August

WISC Global International Studies Conference

6 – 9 August 2014

APSA Annual Meeting and Exhibition

28 – 31 August 2014

September

UACES 44th Annual Conference

1 – 3 September 2014

ECPR General Conference

3 – 6 September 2014

PhD Summer School on Political Parties and Democracy

Supported by: Standing Group on Political Parties
7 – 14 September 2014

Summer School on Methods for Research on Participation and Mobilisation

Supported by: Standing Group on Participation and Mobilisation
15 – 26 September 2014

Crowdsourcing for Politics and Policy conference

Supported by: Standing Group on Internet and Politics
25 – 26 September 2014

could you host an ecpr event?

Each year ECPR member institutions open their doors to colleagues from around the world by hosting an ECPR event. Be it a small meeting, such as the Research Sessions where a university welcomes some 40 or so academics for a few days of intensive collaboration, or a large-scale international conference where some 2,500 scholars converge on an institution and indeed a town or city, there are huge benefits to be had for the host and surrounding locale.

The ECPR is currently seeking a host for the 2015 Research Sessions. For more information, please contact Jenna Barnard at researchsessions@ecpr.eu.





publications news

EPSR expands to four issues per year

Building on its success, the ECPR's newest journal, *European Political Science Review (EPSR)* will go from three to four issues per year from 2014. Does your library have a subscription to *EPSR*? If not, you could be missing out on vital new research. To recommend *EPSR* to your librarian visit the Cambridge University Press website.

Do you have access to *EPS*?

European Political Science (EPS) is the ECPR's professional journal and as such online access is a free benefit of membership. Access to *EPS* is made available to all ECPR member institutions via their library. If your university is a member but you don't have access to *EPS* please contact Rebecca Gethen rknapp@essex.ac.uk who will be able to set this up for you.

EJPR expands its output

From 2014 the *EJPR* will increase the number of articles it publishes each volume. For those that still read the printed copy of the journal, this increase will also accompany a reduction in the number of issues published in each volume and a change in the format size. Both of these changes have allowed the increase in overall pagination at no extra cost to the ECPR or publisher.

PDYi – have you used it yet?

The *Political Data Yearbook (PDY)* is a unique resource bringing together data on election results, national referenda, changes in government and institutional reforms for a range of countries within and beyond the EU. The printed version is published at the end of each volume of *EJPR* and includes notes and analyses by leading country experts. In 2012 the *PDYi* was launched; a fully searchable, interactive version of the printed yearbook, containing data spanning over 20 years. This highly valuable resource was developed in conjunction between the ECPR and publishers Wiley-Blackwell, led by the Editors' expertise and vision, and it is completely free of charge. Visit the *PDYi* at www.politicaldatayearbook.com.

a record-breaking year for ECPR Press

2013 has been the biggest and best year yet for the ECPR's book publishing arm, with a record 23 books rolling off the ECPR Press since the beginning of January.

Our prodigious output showcased hugely diverse fields of interest across the pol sci spectrum, from political economy with Moschella & Tsingou's *Great Expectations, Slow Transformations* and Eleni Panagiotarea's *Greece in the Euro*; political geography in Jefferey M Sellers et al's *The Political Ecology of the Metropolis*; political sociology in Niilo Kauppi's *A Political Sociology of Transnational Europe*, Simone Abendschön's *Growing Into Politics*; and political history in Paula Cossart's *From Deliberation to Demonstration: Political Rallies in France 1868 – 1939*.

We've made selected titles from our Studies in European Political Science series more affordable sooner, releasing them in paperback for a fraction of the price of their hardback counterparts. And our eBook catalogue continues to grow, with titles available on a number of online platforms.

We kicked off the year with the book that turned out to be 2013's best-seller: *Policy Making in Multilevel Systems* by André Kaiser, Jan Biela and Annika Heinl, and finished it with our first-ever memoir: Richard Rose's compelling *Learning About Politics in Time and Space*.

In-between we published some important comparative works, including Danijela Dolenc's *Democratic Institutions and Authoritarian Rule in Southeast Europe*, Nikoleta Yordanova's *Organising the European Parliament* and, most recently, Bengtsson et al's *The Nordic Voter* – currently flying off the ECPR Press shelves!

If you haven't visited the Press for a while, why not take a moment to browse our catalogue? We think you'll like what you see.



standing group spotlight

Standing Group on Organised Crime

Convenors:

Felia Allum (University of Bath)

Francesca Longo (University of Catania)

Sum up briefly what the SG on Organised Crime stands for?

The SGOC is a multidisciplinary, cross-country and cross academic-practitioner Standing Group, it seeks to transcend borders in order to improve our understanding and analysis of organised crime in its various forms.

Is the Group involved in any political science events?

Given the multidisciplinary nature of the topic and the varying backgrounds which characterise the Group's members, the Group has organised Panels and Sections in several national and European academic political science and criminology conferences (for example, the Italian SISP and the British PSA annual conferences). Since its creation in 2001, the Group has been very present in ECPR events: it has organised Sections at various General Conferences as well as organising three Summer Schools with funds from the ECPR and the EU.

What current threats face Europe?

'Organised crime poses many different threats in Europe. Apart from the obvious, such as drug trafficking and human trafficking and many others...'

There are other threats that urgently need to be studied and analysed as they remain under-investigated. For example, the European implications of toxic waste management by Italian mafias, the continuous relationship between white collar professionals and organised crime groups in money laundering projects, the evolving crime-terror nexus which exists in Europe, the emerging relationship between cybercrime and organised crime, the distribution of counterfeit goods (including fraudulent medicine), the trafficking in cultural property and the role of public-private partnerships and non-governmental organisations in countering terrorism, organised crime and corruption).

In connection to this, one of the developing trends in the field of organised crime is understanding its relationship and interaction with security studies. The blurring of boundaries between the internal and external dimension of security, the set of implications illegal activities are producing on States and intergovernmental dynamics, the consequences of new forms of interaction between terrorists, cybercriminals and paramilitary groups, all means that new lines of research are constantly being developed and these require a wider multidisciplinary perspective.

What does the Group focus on?

The Group focuses on (1) giving a voice to new empirical-research, (2) developing dynamic theoretical frameworks for emerging issues, (3) engaging in a concrete academic-practitioner discourse and (4) organising Summer Schools where there is a solid training and exchange of information.

Who do you think would be interested in joining the Standing Group on Organised Crime?

The Group has pursued – since its beginning – a multidisciplinary identity, aiming at attracting academics from various backgrounds, as well as practitioners. Therefore, it is open to students; academics from various backgrounds; law enforcement officers; lawyers; analysts, etc. The main aim is to bridge the gap between academics and practitioners in order to create a concrete dialogue and exchange of information in order to improve our understanding of organised crime today.

What else does the Group do?

The Group seeks to be active on various fronts (<http://www.sgocnet.org/>): It has published a newsletter, a blog and various edited volumes (*Organised crime and the Challenge to democracy*, Routledge 2003; *Defining and defying organized crime: discourse, perceptions and reality*, Routledge 2010) and organised three Summer Schools (Catania, 2009; Leuven, 2010; Ohrid 2011).

The Group has one immediate project, in 2014 the Group will launch its own online journal (*The European Review of Organised Crime*) in order to implement its multidisciplinary and cross academic-practitioner approach in a long term academic project. This is its next challenge.

What plans does the Group have for 2014?

The Group has just had a Section accepted for the ECPR General Conference in Glasgow in September 2014. In addition, the Group has recently been awarded an Erasmus Intensive Programme grant to organise a series of Intensive Summer Schools on Serious and Organised Crime (ISSOC). The first Intensive Summer School on Serious and Organised Crime will take place in June 2014 and is an advanced and high quality training programme offered to Masters students eager to study serious and organised crime and the shifting challenges regarding its prevention. The first Summer School will concentrate on two specific topics: (1) the implications of the European economic crisis on criminal activities and (2) the EU's prevention strategies against organised crime.

For more information please see the website www.sgocnet.org/

ecpr prizes

The ECPR welcomes new submissions for the Stein Rokkan Prize and Jean Blondel PhD prize.

Stein Rokkan Prize

Every year, the political and social science community comes together to commend an exceptional contribution to the field of comparative social science research with the prestigious Stein Rokkan Prize. This prize has an inspiring history in commending the work of key academics in the field.

The ECPR, International Social Science Council (ISSC), and the University of Bergen are delighted to announce that the nomination process for the 2014 Prize is now open. Thanks to the tremendous generosity of the University of Bergen this prize includes a \$5000 award and attendance at the next ISSC Conference in 2015 in Durban, South Africa.

In 2013, **Dorothee Bohle** and **Bela Greskovits** were awarded the prize for their book entitled *Capitalist Diversity on Europe's Periphery*.

Further information about the Prize and how to nominate is available on the ECPR website under Prizes. Submissions should be sent by email to Louise Soper at lhawk@essex.ac.uk before 15 February 2014.



Jean Blondel PhD prize

The ECPR awards an annual PhD prize for the best thesis in politics (broadly conceived to include International Relations, Political Theory and Public Administration) nominated by a Full member institution that, with revision, could be potentially published as a book within the ECPR Press' Monographs series.

The 2013 Jean Blondel PhD Prize for the best thesis in politics was awarded 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?*

ECPR Full member institutions are invited to nominate one candidate's thesis. Further information about the nomination procedure can be found on the ECPR website.

Submissions must be sent to Laura Pugh at lpugh@essex.ac.uk before midnight on 2 February 2014. After the judging panel has deliberated, the winner will be announced on 30 September 2014.



The ECPR awards six prizes and awards each year to celebrate excellence achieved within the discipline. To find out more, visit the Prizes section on the ECPR website.

membership news

Updating MyECPR

Early next year, Official Representatives (OR) will be asked to check their institution's contact details to make sure everything is up-to-date. This way, we can ensure that copies of journals and important membership information are being sent to the correct individuals. If you'd like to make any amends, please email Sharleni Inbanathan at membership@ecpr.eu who will be happy to assist.

Membership benefits

Please note all membership benefits for 2012/13 members ceased on 30 November 2013. If your institution was planning to renew or if you believe your institution has already paid, please email membership@ecpr.eu to let us know as soon as possible.

Jobs e-bulletin

Back in 2012, the ECPR started offering all member institutions the option to advertise academia jobs for free via a monthly e-Jobs Bulletin; this has been extremely successful, showing there is great demand for this service throughout

the membership and wider profession. Sent to over 14,000 political and social science academics across the world, you can rest assured your job vacancy is being seen by the right candidates. If you would like to promote a job, please email jobs@ecpr.eu with the job title, deadline for application, institution name and a weblink to the full job description. To receive the Jobs Bulletin subscribe to the ECPR News mailing list, via your MyECPR account. If you don't yet have a MyECPR account it only takes a few minutes to set up via the ECPR website.

Publications e-bulletin - New for 2014!

In 2014, we will be launching a new publications e-bulletin. Bringing together the ECPR's highly regarded publishing portfolio, the monthly bulletins will highlight key articles from the journals *EPS*, *EPSR* and *EJPR* alongside newly published works from the Comparative Politics (Oxford University Press) and Research Methods (Palgrave Macmillian) series and the ECPR Press. Short articles will examine key challenges and developments in the publishing profession that are likely to affect the discipline, while special offers will provide access to key material. The first one will be sent in late January.



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*The Nordic Voter:
Myths of
Exceptionalism*

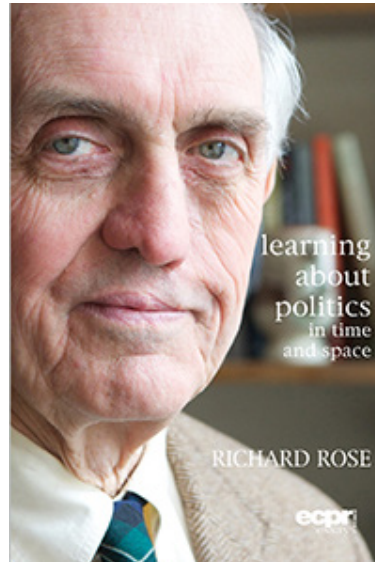
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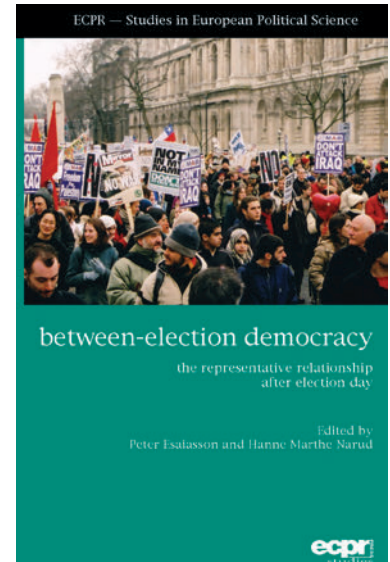
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