

Dear colleagues,

In this email we would like to kindly remind you that the deadline to submit paper and/or panel proposals to the 2020 ECPR General Conference is nearing. The deadline is February 19th. At the end of this email you find the details of our section.

As promised, below we disseminate three calls for papers for panels that have been organized for the 2020 ECPR General Conference. If you feel your paper may contribute to one of the proposed panels please email the contact person indicated in the call.

1) Exploring the political in contemporary youth citizenship

Accepting that politics is “*an activity through which individuals and groups articulate, negotiate, implement, and enforce competing claims to social change or maintain status quo*” (Sheehan 2006: 3), this panel is interested in bringing together a series of interdisciplinary theoretical and empirical papers about contemporary practices, attitudes and models of youth citizenship.

Young people, especially, have expressed a distain about the way in which politics is run and have made a repeated attempt to change long-established practices via, for instance, non-institutionalised forms of political participation. Among these the climate emergency is perhaps the most-far reaching at present, bringing students out of schools and into the streets. Yet, it is also young people whose voices are often unheeded by institutionalised and elite-led narratives on politics, migration or indeed citizenship education. Perhaps one of the most obvious examples to this effect is the overlooked issue of young peoples’ roles in migrant families.

This panels seeks to respond to the resulting paradox in what we call as ‘contemporary models of youth citizenship.’ Specifically, we invite papers which explore the political in the many *arenas, situations and movements* in order to provide a ‘voice’ to young people. Of special interest are papers dealing with case(s) 1) where young people invent new spaces and create options for their voices to be heard; 2) acts of youth citizenship (Isin and Nielsen 2008) are exemplified, whereby young people make ground breaking steps for invoking their political agency on their own or as part of larger social movements and 3) revisit outdated models of and opportunities for youth citizenships to emerge.

Please email paper abstracts (max 300 words) and presenter details (email and institutional affiliation) to Trond Solhaug NTNU (trond.solhaug@ntnu.no) and Nora Siklodi (nora.siklodi@ntnu.no) **by 17th of February at the latest.**

2) Political awareness, political identity, engagement and citizenship.

This panel addresses political awareness (PA) and it’s theoretical and practical relationship to ‘engagement’, political identity and citizenship. Political awareness is understood as a ‘reservoir of predispositions’, which citizens use to understand political messages communicated in public, in interpersonal relations and discussions and active participation in political affairs. Political identities on the other hand may be understood as ‘how people see themselves in relation to the field of politics. Political identity in this conception develops

through empowerment processes and through the subjective acquisition of formal or informal political roles. Both political awareness and political identities are closely related to how people engage with politics and choose to participate. How people are aware of and see themselves in relation to the field of politics may also express how they choose to live their political life as citizens.

We invite contributors who would like to explore one or more of the concepts political awareness, political identity, engagement and its relationship with citizenship.

Please email paper abstracts (max 300 words) and presenter details (email and institutional affiliation) to Niels Nørgaard Kristensen (nnk@dps.aau.dk) and Trond Solhaug NTNU (trond.solhaug@ntnu.no) by **17 February at the latest**.

3) Europeanisation of identities through everyday practices

Analyses of how people imagine, narrate and discursively construct Europe usually cast European identity in strictly political terms such as allegiance towards the EU, attention patterns among politicised citizens, merging news agendas in the media, or overlapping values, normative ideas and shared self-understandings. These approaches cover the formation of conscious political identities, which are geared towards institutions and the integration project of the EU and towards Europe as a space emerging from shared normative convictions.

Given both the growing discontent with Europe and especially the European Union across the public in a reasonable number of European countries, the aim of the panel is to broaden the understanding of politically relevant, yet rather subliminal “identity work” and discursive conceptions related to Europe resulting from leisure time activities. The second aim is to allow for a better understanding of how masses and/or less politically active and interested parts of the society form their identification vis-à-vis Europe. This links to the emerging literature on “social transnationalism” and transboundary forms of activity, mobility and their effects on perceptions and articulations of people across Europe and focuses the Europeanisation dynamics of everyday life.

The panel seeks to bring together papers that focus on questions of how Europe is formed in everyday life activities that are not strictly political, such as sport activities or fandom, business or leisure travel, but encompasses also political activities such as transnational or cross-national protests. Its aim is to discuss both different and new ways of identity formation with regards to Europe and the question of how citizenship in the context of Europe is formed.

The panel is pre-approved by the ECPR Standing Group (SG) Citizenship as part of the section [SE03: A Clash of Democracy and Inter/national Citizenship?: Revisiting the Core of Contemporary Citizenship \(Studies\)](#). If you wish to participate please send an abstract of 150-200 words to regina.weber@hochschule-rhein-waal.de, by **Feb 16th 2020** at the latest. If you are unsure whether your proposal fits the panel feel free to get in touch in advance.

Citizenship Standing Group Section Details:

[SE03: A Clash of Democracy and Inter/national Citizenship?: Revisiting the Core of Contemporary Citizenship \(Studies\)](#)

Section Chair: Nora Siklodi

Section Co-Chair: Andrea Szukala

Abstract:

Citizenship has served as a contested arena for social, legal and political struggles for centuries. Yet, its association with nation states remains perhaps the most striking development in its history, given how shared senses of belonging, participation, rights and even democratic ideals have been refashioned by nationalist ideologies. The resulting examples of ‘national’ citizenships frame policies on socio-economic entitlements, security, electoral procedures, migration and even educational curricula across the globe. Considered together, these issues feed into highly antagonistic discourses on differentiation and exclusion, underscoring that national citizenships and by extension nation states are ‘here to stay’. It should thus not come as a surprise that recent attempts to ‘move on’ from ‘national’ citizenships – by drawing attention to the effects of globalisation processes and so advocating for the introduction of cosmopolitan or regional models of citizenship, for example – has been met by scepticism about their genuine pertinence. Nonetheless, it may be too immature to dismiss some of the pressure globalisation processes *are* exerting on ‘national’ citizenships today.

Perhaps most visible among these are the recent headlines depicting angry groups of young activists – prospective national citizens – concerned by the state of the environment and the lack of due attention paid to this issue by the (international) political elite, in somewhat similar but antithetic way to the populist anti-elitism. In the era of ‘fake news’ where the results of ‘democratically administered’ elections are often contested and even found to be questionable on legal grounds, it is the presence of heightened social media activism which leads to emotive *and* often internationally synced series of protests, as part of the better known #metoo movement, for example. Similar expressions of contempt are also noticeable against continued, nation state fused approaches linked to security and border control policies, which have been dismissive towards basic human rights in the context of the migration crisis or even longer-term regional integration vs independence policies, in the light of the violent protests in Hong Kong or the more peaceful but equally emotive mobilisation against the (populist) Brexit fiasco. While citizen activism is taking the centre stage of *international* politics, what they are, apparently, lacking is the democratic credentials ‘national’ citizenship models *supposedly* retain.

Against this backdrop, SG Citizenship is calling for panel and paper proposals interested in addressing one of the following key themes from a range of theoretical and empirical perspectives:

- **Notions, practices and issues of (intern/national) citizenship**, including its meaning and significance; as well as any revisions and/or recent advances which has strengthened, altered or potentially defied theoretical or policy expectations from identity (politics), entitlements, security, border controls, migration and educational structures, among others.
- **Waves of citizen activism**, including the focus of movements, as well as insights about the attitudes, struggles and dispositions of citizens and non-citizens and, more broadly, the role and place of civil society and social movements concerning notions

and practices of democratic politics; and the involvement and responses of legal, political, educational and economic institutions.

- **Questions of democratic (inter/national) citizenship credentials**, including the settings and scope of citizenships, from possible ideological as well as socio-spatial divisions (between classes, generations, genders, cultures, etc., as well as non/globalized and non/democratic regions), with special considerations about the implications of heightened social media and fake news vis-à-vis declining trends of electoral participation.
- **Citizenship/civics education**, including a consideration of how state-led education is coping with the "old" inclination to instil nationalistic ideals against the new reality of global citizenship