

# Knowledge Politics and Policies

## ECPR Standing Group Newsletter



### Inside This Issue

- 1 Message from the SG
- 2 SG Activities - ECPR 2019
- 2 Excellent Paper Award
- 2 ICPP4
- 3 Recent Publications
- 4 Calls for...
- 5 The Europe of Knowledge Blog at Glance

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## Letter from SG Section Convenors

Greetings to all our colleagues as the autumn semester is underway! As we enter our fourth year as a Standing Group, we thank you for your contribution and encourage your continued interest and recruitment of scholars researching international education, research and innovation policies.

From the 4th to the 7th September we gathered in Wroclaw, Poland for the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) General Meeting. During our annual SG meeting, we discussed a variety of issues, including membership, the recent SG activities (later in the newsletter), the next ECPR General Conference Section (which will take place in Innsbruck, 26-28th August), the Excellent Paper Award, among others! That being said, we would like to congratulate Emma Sabzalieva, from the University of Toronto, for winning the 2018 Award of Excellent Paper (later in the newsletter).

Apart from the ECPR General Conference, members of standing group are also involved in the 4th Edition of the [International Conference on Public Policy](#) (ICPP4, 26-28 June, Montreal). Two panels (each with several sessions) were of particular interest: i) [Knowledge Policy Dynamics in the Global Context](#) and ii) [Resilience, Adaptability and Transformability in Public Policies and the Co-evolving Dynamics of Organizations](#) (later in the newsletter).

As with all initiatives, we welcome your input for enhancing the resources and services that the SG can provide to our members.

**Martina Vukasovic and Mitchell Young**

## SG Activities

### Knowledge Politics and Policies SG Section at ECPR 2019

Our Section on **Knowledge Politics and Policies** was allocated a total of 8 panels for the ECPR General Conference held in Wroclaw in the beginning of September!

You can find a short description of each of these panels [on the ECPR website](#) and also in the [SG Blog](#). You might want to take this opportunity to renew your membership in the [Knowledge Politics and Policies Standing Group](#) (note that you have to be logged in with your MyECPR account to be able to renew membership).



Knowledge Politics and Policies SG Section at ECPR 2019, at Wroclaw, Poland.

## Award of the 2018 Excellent Paper from an Emerging Scholar to Emma Sabzalieva

At Wroclaw, we also presented the winner of the Standing Group Award for Excellent Paper from an Emerging Scholar. The fourth competition is underway and we encourage all Standing Group members to nominate their junior colleagues or themselves for this prize. *Details are accessible on the Standing Group's website and the deadline for submission is January 15.*



**Emma Sabzalieva,**  
Winner of the 2018  
Excellent Paper Award  
Competition.  
Emma is a doctoral  
candidate at the  
University of Toronto.

Our jury, comprised of Professor Luis Sanz-Melendez (Instituto de Políticas y Bienes Públicos, Madrid [Institute of Public Goods and Policies]), Professor Susan Robertson (University of Cambridge) and Professor Bjorn Stensaker (University of Oslo), has decided to award the **Excellent Paper Award to Emma Sabzalieva**. Below follows the jury's explanation:

*Concerning conceptualization and the systematic review, Emma proposes two different approaches. The first approach is primarily conceptual and utilizes the Streeck & Thelen (2005) focus on two dimensions: (a) process of change (incremental vs. abrupt) and (b) outcome (continuity vs. discontinuity). This is then used to map more than 30 studies published in English language HE journals from early 1990s onwards concerning HE changes in ex-USSR systems. The second approach takes a more empirical point of departure and, building on identification of three main phases of policy change in Russian higher education – laissez-faire 1991-2003, major reforms 2004-2011, the New Public Management 2012-onwards. This is used to reflect to what extent these phases are also reflected in 23 articles published in Russian language journals, and what are the main issues that were the focus of reforms analysed in these articles.*

*In her paper "Conceptualizing major institutional change in higher education" Emma Sabzalieva refines the conceptualization of institutional change used in higher education literature and develops a systematic review of the studies on change in HE in the countries that once were part of the USSR.*

While Emma's paper is valuable due to its empirical focus on relatively under-researched higher education systems (in particular when it comes to publications in English), it also has a much wider relevance as a clear and transparent example for doing review and systematization of literature. It also provides an incentive for higher education researchers to be more explicit concerning conceptualization and operationalization of fundamental concepts, such as institutional change. For details: <https://standinggroups.ecpr.eu/ecprknowledgepolitics/2019/08/08/excellent-paper-award-2019-to-emma-sabzalieva/>

## ICPP4, International Conference on Public Policy 26-28th June, Montreal (Canada)

Reflection on the participation of Martina Vukasovic at the [International Conference on Public Policy](#) that took place in Montreal (Canada) from the 26-28<sup>th</sup> June. Martina has originally written this text in the [Europe of Knowledge](#) blog).



"When it comes to higher education, research and innovation, there were three interesting panels with active participation of members from the [ECPR Standing Group Knowledge Politics and Policies](#). First, "Knowledge Policy Dynamics in the Global Context", comprising two sessions, included papers on role of consultants in academia, politics of higher education in general and internationalization in particular, governance capacity of stakeholder organizations, pull and push factors of academic mobility, Bologna Process through international regimes lens, and institutionalization of applied research. Second, the "Bridging Science and Diplomacy in Global Policy Making" panel, comprising three sessions, focused on comparisons between EU, US, China and former USSR scientific diplomacy, discussions on differences and similarities between cultural and education diplomacy, use of science diplomacy on broader diplomatic efforts, and exploring tools of science diplomacy (including branding). Finally, the third panel focused on theorizing internationalization of higher education from a policy perspective".

You can read the whole piece here:

<https://standinggroups.ecpr.eu/ecprknowledgepolitics/2019/08/01/knowledge-policy-dynamics-in-the-global-context-international-conference-on-public-policy-2019/>

## Recent Publications

Cardoso, S.; Carvalho, T. & Videira, P. (2018) Is it still worth working in academia? Portuguese academics' perceptions on the changes in their employment and working conditions. *Higher Education Policy*. DOI: 10.1057/s41307-018-0123-7.

Carvalho, T. & Correia, T. (2019). Identity and Health Research. In M. Saks & J. Allsop (Eds.) *Researching Health: Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Methods*. (pp. 409-426). London: Sage.

Carvalho, T. & Videira, P. (2019). Losing autonomy? Restructuring higher education institutions governance and relations between teaching and non-teaching staff. *Studies in Higher Education*. 44 (4), 762-773. DOI: 10.1080/03075079.2017.1401059.

Chou, M. & Ravinet, P. (2019). Designing global public policies in the twenty-first century. *Handbook on global policy and transnational administration*, Oxford: Oxford University Press. pp. 437-452.

Dakowska, D. (2019). Higher education policy in the European union. In *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780190228637.013.1480>.

Dakowska, D. (2019). Decentring European Higher Education Governance: the Construction of Expertise in the Bologna Process. In: Mark Bevir, Ryan Phillips (Dir.), *Decentring European Governance*, Routledge, pp. 82-101.

Dakowska, D. & Serrano-Velarde, K. (2018). European Higher Education Policy. In Hubert Heinelt et Sybille Münch (dir.), *Handbook of European Policies: Interpretive Approaches to the EU* [Handbooks of Research on Public Policy, sous la direction de Frank Fischer], Edward Elgar, pp. 260-272.

Dakowska, D. (forthcoming). Higher Education Policy in the European Union. In *Oxford Encyclopedia of European Union Politics*. Oxford University Press. DOI:10.1093/acrefore/9780190228637.013.1480.

Diogo, S. (forthcoming) Why Bologna still matters? The examples of policy travelling in Portuguese and Finnish Higher Education. *European Journal of Cultural and Political Sociology*.

Diogo, S.; Barbosa, M. & Carvalho, T. (2019). An International Comparative Perspective on Higher Education Institutions Governance and Management. In Moreira, A.; Jen-Jacques, P. & Bagnall, N. (Eds.) *Intercultural Studies in Higher Education: Policy & Practice*. Hampshire: Palgrave. pp. 109-136. ISBN: 978-3-030-15757-9.

Fothergill, B. T., Knight, W., Stahl, B. C., & Ulnicane, I. (2019). Intersectional observations of the Human Brain Project's approach to sex and gender. *Journal of Information, Communication and Ethics in Society*.

Jungblut, J., Vukasovic, M., & Steinhart, I. (2018). Higher education policy dynamics in turbulent times—access to higher education for refugees in Europe. *Studies in Higher Education*, 1-12.

Jungblut, J., Stensaker, B., & Vukasovic, M. (2018). 24 What kind of quality assurance leads to improved performance and accountability? The views of European students. In *Research Handbook on Quality, Performance and Accountability in Higher Education*. pp. 321. Edward Elgar Publishing.

Moscovitz, H., and M. Zahavi. (2018). The Bologna Process as a Foreign Policy Endeavour: Motivations and Reactions to the Externalization of European Higher Education. *European Journal of Higher Education*. DOI:10.1080/21568235.2018.1561316.

Nokkala, T. & Diogo, S. (2019). Research Groups in Transition: Patterns of profiling and embeddedness in organisational and national contexts. *Higher Education*. DOI: 10.1007/s10734-019-00393-5.

Pinheiro, R., Young, M., & Šima, K. (Eds.) (2018). *Higher Education and Regional Development: Tales from Northern and Central Europe*. Springer.

Reith, F. & Seyfried, M. (2019). Balancing the Moods: Quality Managers' Perceptions and Actions Against Resistance. *Higher Education Policy*, 32(1): 71-91.

Seidenschur, T., Veiga, A., Jungblut, J. & Magalhães, A. (2019). Hopes, beliefs, and concerns: narratives in German and Portuguese universities regarding Brexit. *Higher Education*, online first, 1-18.

Sørensen, M., Young, M. & Pedersen, P. (Eds.) (2019). *Lost in transition? On the migration to English language research publications*. Responsible University. Palgrave Macmillan.

Sørensen, M., Geschwind, L., Kekäle, J., Pinheiro, R. (Eds.) (2019). *The Responsible University Exploring the Nordic Context and Beyond*. Palgrave Macmillan.

Vukasović, M., Birkholz, J., & Brankovic, J. (2019). Is the Europe of Knowledge the talk of the town? Exploring how members of the European Parliament refer to higher education. *European Journal of Education*, 54(1), 103-116.

Seyfried, M., Ansmann, M. & Pohlenz, P. (2019). Institutional isomorphism and effectiveness: the adoption and implementation of quality management in teaching and learning in Germany. *Tertiary Education and Management* 25(2): 115-129.

Seyfried, M. & Reith, F. (2019). Mixed Methods for Research into Higher Education: Solving the Problem of Institutionalized Introspection? In Jeroen Huisman & Malcolm Tight (Eds.) *Theory and Method in Higher Education Research*, Vol. 5, pp. 111-127.

Seyfried, M. (2019). Undisclosed desires: quality managers' normative notions regarding the implementation of quality management. *Assessment & Evaluation in Higher Education*, 44(7): 1106-1119.

Siekkinen, T.; Pekkola, E. & Carvalho, T. (2019). Changes and Continuities in Academic Career Structures – Finnish universities as a living lab. *Higher Education*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10734-019-00422-3>.

Wang, J., Hooi, R., Li, A. X., & Chou, M. H. (2019). Collaboration patterns of mobile academics: The impact of international mobility. *Science and Public Policy*, 46(3), 450-462.

## Calls for Events, Conferences & more....

**26th World Congress of Political Science**, Pannel at IPSA WC 2020 (Lisbon, Portugal), 25-29 July 2020

Paper proposals deadline: 10<sup>th</sup> October 2010. More information at:

<https://wc2020.ipsa.org/wc/panel/what-divides-us-what-connects-us-discipline-political-science-time-reforms>

**CfP ECPR 2020 Joint Sessions**, Toulouse (France), 14-17 April 2020, Paper proposals deadline 5 November 2019

More information at: <https://ecpr.eu/JointSessions>

**ECPR Winter School in Methods and Techniques**, Bamberg (Germany), 14-21 February 2020

Registration deadline 12 December 2019. More information at: <https://ecpr.eu/Events/140>

**CfP UACES 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference**, Belfast (Northern Ireland), 6-9 September 2020, Deadline 19 January 2020

More information at: <https://www.uaces.org/events/conferences/belfast/#.XYowtKhPY>

**Eu-SPRI 2020 conference New horizons for Science, Technology and Innovation Policies**, Utrecht (Netherlands), 3-5 June 2020.

Deadline for paper proposals 15 February 2020. More information at: <https://euspri2020.sites.uu.nl/call-for-sessions/>


**CfP 2020 STS Conference**, Graz (Austria), 4-6 May, Deadline for session proposals 30 October 2019


More information at: <https://sts-conference.isds.tugraz.at/event/10/overview>

**EASST/ 4S conference**, Prague (Czech Republic), 18-21 August 2020, Deadline for panel proposals 31 October 2019;

Deadline for papers and closed panels 29 February 2020. More information at: <https://www.easst4s2020prague.org/>

# The Europe of Knowledge Blog at Glance

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This blog is hosted on Ideas on Europe 


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**Latest**

24  
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## How do we manage knowledge? Let us count the ways



*Europe of Knowledge*



ECPR Standing Group on Knowledge Politics and Policies meeting in Wrocław, 4 September 2019

### Europe of Knowledge


This is the official blog for ECPR Standing Group on Knowledge Politics and Policies. (Previously - ECPR Standing Group on the Politics of Higher Education, Research and Innovation). We started as IJAESS's collaborative research network on the European Research Area (2013-2016). This Standing Group brings together scholars whose work relates to the deeply interconnected fields of higher education, research, and innovation to encourage debates and research on the politics and policies in these areas. Over the past decades, several developments have contributed to the growing political significance of higher education, research, and innovation in international, regional, and national arenas. The aim of this blog is to communicate our research findings to the wider international academic and policy communities. Dr Inga Ulnicane coordinates this blog on behalf of the Standing Group.

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ABOUT THE ERA CRN

Read all about us [HERE](#)

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**Recent Articles**

**Conceptualizing major institutional change in higher education**

Published on 16 August 2019 by Europe of Knowledge | No Comments


Emma Sabzalieva Institutions and major institutional change Institutional theories and concepts offer valuable insights into stability and incremental change within institutions. In higher education, Clark's (2004) notion of a 'steady state of institutional change' (169) neatly encapsulates this idea. However, far less consideration has been given to the transformative potential of higher education both to [...]



**Knowledge Policy Dynamics in the Global Context (International Conference on Public Policy 2019)**

Published on 30 July 2019 by Europe of Knowledge | Comments Off on Knowledge Policy Dynamics in the Global Context (International Conference on Public Policy 2019)


Martina Vukasovic The fourth edition of the International Conference on Public Policy (ICPP) took place 26-28 June 2019, in Montreal (Canada), on the premises of the University of Concordia (following the 1st ICPP in Grenoble in 2013, the 2nd ICPP in Milan in 2015, and the 3rd ICPP in Singapore in 2017). The conference included more than 150 thematic panels organized into [...]



**Unbundling of higher education provision**

Published on 14 June 2019 by Europe of Knowledge | Comments Off on Unbundling of higher education provision

Simona Torotcoi In the beginning of May 2019, Mariya Ivancheva – a Lecturer in Higher Education Studies at the University of Liverpool – was invited at Central European University to give a talk on unbundling; a topic, which gained greater traction in higher education provision, research and policy. Previous to working on this subject Mariya [...]



The [Europe of Knowledge Blog](#) is the official blog of the ECPR Politics of Higher Education, Research and Innovation Standing Group. The aim of this blog is to communicate our research findings to the wider international, academic and policy communities. The blog publishes up to 1000 word posts (with links, references and photos) on recent publications, events and policy in the fields of higher education, research and innovation in Europe and beyond. It is a great way to communicate your research to a broader audience of academics and policy-makers.

Please consider contributing to the blog. If you have any ideas for contributing entries, contact Inga Ulnicane: [ingaulnicane@gmail.com](mailto:ingaulnicane@gmail.com)

## About the SG

Our newsletter is published three times annually, and includes summaries of recent events, upcoming events, announcements, calls for papers, a list of recent publications from SG members, and more! Next issue: April 2020

The Standing Group on Knowledge Politics and Policies, (European Consortium for Political Research) Standing Group was established in February 2016. We seek to bring together scholars whose work relates to the deeply interconnected fields of higher education, research, and innovation to encourage debates and research on the politics and policies in these areas. We aim to generate comparative insights on all aspects of scholarly research—methodologies, theories, data collection, processing and analysis—into the dynamics and complexities of knowledge policymaking around the world.

For more information about the SG and its activities visit our website:

<https://standinggroups.ecpr.eu/ecprknowledgepolitics/>