

ECPR Citizenship Standing Group Newsletter

13 August 2020

ECPR General Conference

As the ECPR General Conference approaches, as promised, we provide details on the panels of [our section](#): *A Clash of Democracy and Inter/national Citizenship?: Revisiting the Core of Contemporary Citizenship (Studies)*

Our section will take place over seven panels virtually 24-28 August 2020.

We hope to see many of you there. Please kindly be reminded that those who are not registered for the Conference still have the opportunity to take part as an observer (information can be accessed [here](#)).

Panel List:

1. P046 Citizenship and Identity in Education (24/08/2020 11:00 - 12:45)

Citizenship Education used to be conceptualized for socialization into the political community of a (nation-)state. The nation state itself claimed to have an identity and its foundation was said to be a community also referring to a specific identity. Inheriting this identity led to the access to political, material and social resources. In times of globalization, migration and postmodernism these concepts are becoming challenged and civic education needs to react. This is especially difficult as there are contradictory predictions, theories and approaches. Is it at all still appropriate to use the nation as a reference point for citizenship education? Is this perhaps even necessary in order to provide something stabilizing to the uncertainties of globalization? Or does this always lead to nationalist, exclusionary tendencies? On the other hand, if (national) states are not abolished in the close future or if they even experience an upswing as observed since the 1990s: How to handle identity/ies in increasingly diverse societies? Should it be the goal of civic education to make a unifying, possibly homogenizing identity offer or to demand such a thing - or should identity and state and citizenship be fundamentally rethought? The question of citizenship and identity is also linked to debates about democracy, its values and practices. Who belongs and who doesn't? Who is entitled to speak and when? Who is being spoken to and how? Who are we not talking to? Is it democratic not to talk to certain people and groups? How do you talk in a democratic way, entitling (or disqualifying) you as a democrat? Who do you have to be, what do you have to know and what do you have to be able to do in order to be involved in political discourses? And who decides about all that?

2. P048 Citizenship and Religion III: Interrogating Liberalism, Secularism and Post-Secularism (27/08/2020 10:45 - 12:30)

In recent years, religion has become a crucial factor in debates about citizenship. Whereas most European states embrace liberal political secularism, and the right to religious freedom is protected for all citizens, religion still often functions as an important marker of difference.

According to thinkers such as Joan Scott, Saba Mahmood and Yolande Jansen, this is not an unfortunate coincidence. They argue that it is precisely the separation of a purely political citizenship from a social, religious and cultural private self that allows for the entrenchment of social differences in liberal, secular societies. What is more, discourses of liberalism and secularism have often been invoked to exclude minority groups and advocate the supreme position of (Judeo-)Christian secularism in contrast to other religious groups, primarily Muslims. These questions of European identity have recently been brought into sharp focus by the emergence of new forms of populism, which make claims about the Judeo-Christian as well as liberal and secular identity of ‘the people’. This panel investigates the inclusionary potential of liberal secularism. It aims to interrogate the central assumptions driving liberalism and secularism, and their potential complicity in politics of stigmatisation, discrimination and exclusion. In doing so, we take into account the various ways secularism has been operationalized in different contexts. In which contexts does liberal secularism lead to exclusion? Where is it indispensable for the protection of religious minorities? And how do these different elements go together? The panel also asks the question of alternatives to current understandings of liberal secularism. More specifically, we aim to investigate whether a post-secular model of citizenship – which acknowledges and recognizes religious and philosophical traditions broadly construed as valuable heritage – could provide better tools for achieving egalitarian citizenship.

3. P049 Citizenship in Rural Studies (28/08/2020 11:15 - 13:00)

A person’s understanding of “Citizenship” is not only shaped by his or her relationship with a nation-state, but is also organized and shaped by non-state structures and cultural aspects. In the current situation, rural spaces are challenged in several dimensions. Examples include decreasing and aging rural populations, a lack of public service offerings, and structural shortcomings in the health system. These and other conditions affect not only peoples’ life situation, but also how their perception of the political system and how they experience themselves as citizens. This panel asks about rural citizens’ living conditions and their active engagement within the political community or their distancing from the political system.

4. P072 Contemporary Inter/national Citizenship I (25/08/2020 11:15 - 13:00) &

5. P489 Contemporary Inter/national Citizenship II (27/08/2020 13:30 - 15:15)

This panel brings together contributions, which study current practices of citizenship in the context of migration or across state borders and by citizens and non-citizens alike. Whether looking at claims leading to the development of a new model of citizenship (such as present in the case of EU citizenship) or, to the contrary, claims that point to the continued prevalence of national models (apparent in United Kingdom following the Brexit vote), there is no doubt that ideals, notions and practices of citizenship are undergoing considerable changes. This panel brings together empirical and theoretical contributions addressing resulting developments, from changes to citizenship and migration discourses, senses of identity, claims for rights or forms of political participation among citizens and non-citizens alike.

6. P 135 Exploring the Political in Contemporary Youth Citizenship (26/08/2020 10:30 - 12:15)

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.

7. P276 Political Awareness, Political Identity, Engagement and Citizenship (24/08/2020 13:45 - 15:30)

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

Publications

Please find below some of the recent publications shared by our Standing Group members. Thank you to all who shared!

- 1) Kamenou, Nayia. 2020. "'When One Doesn't Even Exist': Europeanization, Trans*Subjectivities, and Agency in Cyprus." *Sexualities*, online first. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1363460720904648>

Kamenou, Nayia. 2020. "Difficult Intersections: Nation(alism) and the LGBTIQ Movement in Cyprus." In *Intersectionality in Feminist and Queer Movements: Confronting Privileges (Routledge Advances in Feminist Studies and Intersectionality)*, edited by Elizabeth Evans and Eléonore Lépinard (London and New York: Routledge), 162-182. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9780429289859-9>

Kamenou, Nayia et al. 2019. *The LGBTI Movement in Cyprus: Activism, Law, and Change Across the Divide*. Published in English, Greek, Turkish, and German. Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung. ISBN: 9789963202164. Available at: <https://www.fescyprus.org/publications/>

Kamenou, Nayia. 2019. "Feminism in Cyprus: Women's Agency, Gender and Peace in the Shadow of Nationalism." *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, online first. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14616742.2019.1687000>

Kamenou, Nayia. 2019. "Sexuality, Gender and the (Re)Making of Modernity and Nationhood in Cyprus." *Women's Studies International Forum* 74: 59-67. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.wsif.2019.03.007>

- 2) Reichert, F., Torney-Purta, J., & Liang, W. (online first). Teachers' organizational participation: Profiles in 12 countries and correlates in teaching-related practices. *Theory & Research in Social Education*. DOI: [10.1080/00933104.2020.1795764](https://doi.org/10.1080/00933104.2020.1795764)

Reichert, F., Lam, P., Loh, E. K. Y., & Law, N. (2020). *Hong Kong students' digital citizenship development: Initial findings*. [Report published in English and in Chinese; Chinese title: 香港中小學生數碼公民素養:首階段研究報告.] Hong Kong: The University of Hong Kong. URL: <https://ecitizen.hk/publications/reports>

- 3) Rohde-Liebenau, J. (2020) Raising European Citizens? European Identity in European Schools. *JCMS: Journal of Common Market Studies*, <https://doi.org/10.1111/jcms.13050>.
- 4) Siklodi, Nora. (2020) [The Politics of Mobile Citizenship in Europe](#). Palgrave Macmillan.
- 5) Willem Maas, "[European Citizenship and Free Movement after Brexit](#)," in Scott L. Greer and Janet Laible, eds., *The European Union after Brexit* (Manchester University Press 2020)

Willem Maas, "[Citizenship and Free Movement in Comparative Federalism](#)," in Nils Ringe and Jae-Jae Spoon, eds., *The European Union and Beyond: Multi-Level Governance, Institutions and Policy-Making* (Lanham: ECPR Press 2020).

Thank you for your collaboration!

Sincerely,

Andrea, Bernard, Didem, Gal and Nora