

The Standing Group on Federalism and Regionalism has a Section with 8 Panels at the ECPR General Conference in Glasgow.

([Section 09](#) Comparative Territorial Politics and Policy). Below is the list of Panels. Please contact the Chair(s) of the Panel in which you think your Paper will best fit with an abstract. Deadline: 15 February 2014.

1) Independence Referenda: Scotland and Catalonia in Comparative Perspective

This panel welcomes papers studying the different facets of the independence referenda that will be held in Scotland and (possibly) Catalonia: the initiation of the consultation process, the normative and legal debates surrounding the referendum, the institutional regulation of the process, public opinion and position of political parties before and during the campaign, and finally the potential outcomes of the referenda and their consequences for the independence movement, including the discussion of various forms of independence within the European union.

Chair: Michael Keating m.keating@abdn.ac.uk

2) Elections, Public Opinion and Political Accountability in Multi-Level systems

This panel invites papers that study the impact of multilevel governance on responsibility attribution and individual vote choices. The aim is to answer the core questions affecting democratic accountability in such systems: Do citizens distinguish areas of responsibility between different levels of government? Are regional elections merely second order or do voters cast their choice based on regional-level issues and performance? How does this vary by voter, party and institutional context? The panel welcomes papers adopting a comparative perspective that employ cross-national and comparative case analyses.

Chair: Sandra León sandra.leon@york.ac.uk

3) Party Politics, Issue-Competition and Decentralisation

Decentralisation and the accommodation of ethnic groups is an increasingly contested issue for political parties. The assertiveness of regionalist parties has compelled state-wide parties to recognise demands for greater territorial autonomy. Regionalist parties have, in turn, adjusted their ideological profile and diversified their list of objectives in response to the electoral and institutional strategies of state-wide parties. The panel seeks to identify the sources and consequences of party strategies on these main dimensions of competitions and invites participants working in the areas of electoral behaviour, parties and party competition.

Chair: Anwen Elias awe@aber.ac.uk

4) **The Dynamics of Federal Regimes**

This panel welcomes papers that study the evolution of federal and regional structures over the medium and long run. The panel seeks to link analytic approaches grounded in historical institutionalism, that employ concepts such as critical junctures, path-dependence, and gradual institutional change, with studies of micro and macro-level changes in the scale of authority in regionalized or federal systems. Applying historical institutionalist approaches to the evolution of federal regimes in this way will serve to reveal the causes, internal logic and trajectory of these changes.

Chairs: Bettina Petersohn Bettina.Petersohn@uni-konstanz.de
Jorg Broshek jbroshek@wlu.ca

Comparative Territorial Policy

5) **Federalism and Conflict Management in Divided Societies**

This panel welcomes papers that discuss the management and accommodation of territorial differences in multinational states. The coexistence of distinct national groups within a state poses distinct challenges to its institutions: strengthening of territorial identities and autonomist demands, demands for inclusion in central decision making, questioning of the legitimacy of central institutions and constitutional authorities to question decisions taken at the sub-state level. This panel encourages theoretical and empirical contributions that address how federations deal with these issues.

Chair: Wilfried Swenden w.swenden@ed.ac.uk

6) **Public Policy Divergence and Convergence in Multi-Level States**

This panel aims to address the question of what shapes the dynamics of policy convergence and divergence in multi-level states. The migration of authority to regional governments has provided regions with the space to conduct divergent public policies. Conversely, central governments pre-occupied with ensuring the equal rights of citizens and the effective coordination and implementation of central policies have steered regions towards convergent policies. This panel wishes to examine what explains these tendencies across regions and policy areas, and across countries, over time.

Chair: Simon Toubreau simon.toubreau@cepc.es

7) **Sub-National Interest Representation in the EU**

The intertwined processes of regionalization and European integration have increased the economic differences and competition between regions. Subnational authorities are now responsible for the implementation of national and European laws and regions have adopted specific policies to combat

unemployment and generate economic growth. In addition, the EU has created opportunities for regions to influence European legislation and to attract European subsidies. This panel seeks to explore how subnational authorities deal with the challenges and make use of the opportunities provided by the multilevel governance structure of the EU.

Chair: Michael Tatham tatham.michael@gmail.com

8) **Federalism and the Financial and Economic Crisis**

Federal countries are experiencing critical times. The advent of a global financial and economic crisis has brought into question the ability of federal governments to effectively steer their economies toward recovery as well as the capacity of the European Union and its member-states to coordinate their economies within a monetary union. This panel explores the effect of the financial and economic crisis on multi-level systems by identifying how territorial structures of multilevel systems have conditioned government responses to the crisis and how have they adjusted and evolved in response to crisis.

Chair: César Colino ccolino@poli.uned.es