

# ALEKSANDRA SOJKA

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### CONTRIBUTION

My contribution will be my enthusiasm and dedication to the goals of GSN, based on the belief that transnational experiences and cooperation constitute a crucial element of any young researcher's career. I am deeply convinced that we need to foster these exchanges by offering PhD students opportunities to connect to, meet and collaborate with colleagues from other European countries, as the ECPR does. I am also involved in local and transnational networks of women in (political) science and I will bring to the GSN my dedication to working towards gender equality.

### EXPERIENCE

I have experience in management of international education programmes. I have worked as a coordinator of a European postgraduate programme (with seven different participating countries), as a way to finance part of my studies. Furthermore, I obtained my BA in Poland, defended my MA in the Netherlands, I am carrying out my PhD in Spain, and I have spent considerable time as a visiting researcher in Hungary, Germany and Italy. This made me aware of the differences between European education and academic career systems, their opportunities and social contexts. Most importantly, these experiences allowed me to form strong international networks which I consider one of the most valuable elements of my academic training. I will contribute to GSN my transnational experience, as a student, researcher, as well as manager, which could be useful to better understand the needs of graduate students across Europe.

### OTHER INFORMATION

In my doctoral research I study the emerging European identity of the enlarged EU-28 and it is fascinating to see how young researchers in Europe constitute a completely new generation, more mobile, multilingual and transnational than ever before. I would be very happy to become part of an institution which encourages these changes.