

Minutes SG Meeting Southern European Politics ECPR 16 December 2022

14 Attendees

Agenda

1. Vote of thanks
2. Introduction of the new Steering Committee
2. Feedback from the annual meeting of the ECPR Standing Group Chairs
3. Report on recent activities of the Standing Group
5. Planning of future Standing Group activities
6. Any other business

Standing Group Chairs Meeting

- Our SG very engaged – general conference, joint sessions of workshops
- many technical issues
- much stronger chances of acceptance at general conference with standing group sponsorship
- asked for more space for standing group sponsored panels from ECPR
- early career scholars – Nicolò Conti and others proposed offering more training events, particularly in methods, particularly for more peripheral institutions or institutions that don't have the expertise. Seemed to be well received by ECPR. Also pushed for more funding to attend conferences, etc.

Discussion

- Roula Nezi: offered to help in this area and to share her experience with this issue at PSA.
- [my sound went away, so I missed some discussion]
- scholars at risk, in places such as Ukraine, Turkey. Suggested online events to give people more access. Theoretical and methods training. Small winter or summer school on southern Europe.
- Have a chat with PSA Greek Politics specialist group. Have organized free events in Athens. Social movements and discourse analysis.
- PSA gives money for these types of events. We would also do skills training: writing a CV, cover letter, etc.
- for many, ECPR winter/summer schools are too expensive (especially for nonmembers). More can be done to cover or partially cover costs, but doesn't think the model is going to change.
- perhaps could push for more scholarships because doesn't see the costs changing. ECPR doesn't understand southern Europe. Costs of ECPR membership very high for Greece. Don't understand that PhD students aren't funded in Greece and don't have access to conference funds, etc.

- can ECPR develop a plan that standing groups can have money to award funds?
- we as a standing group were able to give 3 fee waivers for the general conference. Find out if this funding is available for next year.
- there are travel scholarships, but they are competitive.
- very few institutions belong to ECPR.
- create an EDI committee in standing group. This could help gain attention from ECPR. Roula Nezi would be happy to head it up.
- need a clear cut demand/document to present to ECPR.

Recent Activities

General Conference

discussion

Follow up with the people that presented at the conference. General comments, not necessarily related to our group: quality of the discussants is a concern (didn't seem to apply to our group). ECPR is an opportunity for young people to get feedback. Senior colleagues are starting to think that presenting research isn't as valuable. Important to take this into account. Be proactive in recruiting papers that might go to thematic/subject matter groups.

Give instructions to discussants. Get them to stimulate discussion. Need to be active at all steps of the process. Reach out to all networks.

Try to attract well known scholars to be discussants, etc.

Try to organize some online panels on Zoom for people who can't attend. Maybe include hybrid or Zoom panels in the call.

Future activities:

Proposal for general conference tentative theme: Innovation and change in SE. We wanted to include a section member in the sections' organization: Carolina Plaza. It will be organized by Nicolò Conti and Carolina Plaza.

Feedback: good topic. Be careful with the wording so that people know they fit. EDI and inequality are good things to mention for UK. Innovative practices in participation.

Other business

Twitter: keep it and we'll revisit later.

APSA: Iberian politics related group.

We can organize other events online, such as a book discussion.

Let's plan an ongoing seminar (2 coordinators maybe).

But let's also be flexible if someone want to present or organize.