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## PADEMIA Community News

### Save the Date! PADEMIA Annual Conference dates fixed

The date for the PADEMIA Annual Conference 2016 has been set to 19-20 May, 2016. As usual, the conference will take place in the Fondation Universitaire in Brussels. More information on the conference will shortly be circulated!

### Sofia Vasilopoulou receives ESRC Future Leaders Grant

PADEMIA Member Sofia Vasilopoulou, University of York, has received the ESRC Future Leaders Grant entitled:

*'Eurocepticism: dimensions, causes and consequences in times of crisis'*, which will run from 2016 to 2018. Congratulations to Sofia from the PADEMIA Community!

### Katjana Gattermann receives NOW grant

Katjana Gattermann has been awarded an individual research grant by the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) for her project *'Facing Europe: The personalization of European Union politics in news coverage and its consequences for*

*democracy'* (€250.000, 2016-2020). The media provide a crucial link between EU citizens and their representatives. Studying the personalization of EU news coverage is therefore important in view of the debates about the EU's alleged accountability deficit. The project integrates three subprojects which aim at (1) understanding whether we see an increase in personalized news coverage of EU politics over time, (2) explaining which factors are responsible for variation at the temporal, country and individual level, and (3) assessing the effects of personalized EU news content on citizen awareness, political trust and cynicism towards the EU. The project's findings contribute to the question of the EU's democratic legitimacy.

### Talks from UCD Workshop "Direct Democracy Considered – Irish, Scottish, Swiss, and Transnational European Perspectives on the Use of Referendums" online

Talks from the international and interdisciplinary conference on direct democracy co-hosted by the Law School and the School of Business of the University College Dublin- and including perspectives from Ireland, Switzerland and Scotland - have been put up online by UCD Business ELearning at:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Azh243\\_3BCM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Azh243_3BCM)

The first talk is on the referendum process in Ireland. The others are all available down the sidebar (including a discussion involving all the speakers that took place at the end).

The conference was co-organised by Pademia member Professor Gavin Barrett of the Sutherland Law School and Dr Roland Erne of the UCD School of Business.



## PADEMIA One-to-One PhD Tutorials

One-to-one PhD tutorials are a service for PADEMIA Members. The aim of these tutorials is to provide PhD-students within PADEMIA with direct personal access to more senior scholars in the network. This way they can receive personalized feedback from scholars with whom they would otherwise be unlikely to discuss their dissertations.

These PhD tutorials rely on electronic means of communication. As a rule they will involve two contact moments, of which at least one will be by phone/Skype and the second one can be through e-mail. The first contact is used for familiarization and instruction on the basis of a previously communicated short project description. Subsequently, the PhDs are expected to deliver a (small) assignment or writing sample. During the second contact moment, this assignment is discussed and further feedback shall be given. More information can be found in the intranet on <http://www.pademia.eu/login/>. PADEMIA members have been provided a password. Should you have any questions, please contact [alexander.hoppe@uni-koeln.de](mailto:alexander.hoppe@uni-koeln.de)

## Past Events

### PADEMIA Workshop at the University of Ljubljana

On 12 October 2015, PADEMIA visited the University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Social Sciences, which hosted a workshop that looked at the international role of the European Parliament (EP), from the perspective of inter-parliamentary relations. The workshop has been organised by our PADEMIA member,

Professor Zlatko Šabič, with the assistance of the Faculty's Centre of International Relations. The purpose of this two-day workshop was to look at the extent to which the European Parliament uses its potential to set or implement policies by co-operating with IPIs, but also with national parliaments as indicated above, to address regional and global issues of importance to Europe. The participants at this two-day workshop, who came from nine countries, have indeed touched upon several interrelated topics of concern to international activities of the EP.

By way of introduction, they looked at the status of the EP as an international parliamentary institution (IPIs). A fresh perspective on the already rich literature in this field has been offered for discussion. The papers that followed studied the role of the EP in specific areas of co-operation, notably on issues that currently occupy the attention of the European Union and its institutions, including, of course the EP: immigration issues and the Ukraine crisis. Special attention has been given to the role of the EP in parliamentary diplomacy. Two participants in the workshop group have offered their insights. One discussion was concentrated on the EP'S role in parliamentary diplomacy in the Middle East, whereas the other discussed the topic by using two case studies: the Responsibility to Protect and the Arab Spring.

The discussion was enriched by discussants, all of them MEPs: Mr Igor Šoltes, Ms Tanja Fajon, and Mr Lojze Peterle. Their vast experience from working at national, (inter)governmental and (inter)parliamentary level has been of enormous help to participants to check their academic insights against 'realities' in parliamentary relations. For more information about this workshop, please contact Zlatko Šabič at [zlatko.sabic@fdv.uni-lj.si](mailto:zlatko.sabic@fdv.uni-lj.si), or check the hashtag #PADEMIA on Twitter.



### **PADEMIA Workshop at the WZB Berlin**

On 12 and 13 November, the PADEMIA Training Workshop on “Analyzing Parliamentary Democracy with Advanced Content Analysis Methods” was organized by our colleagues at the WZB in Berlin. The workshop focused on methodological and practical considerations in the rigorous analysis of parliamentary democracy in Europe. It addressed the different forms and shapes of the discourses produced in and by parliaments. This ranged from transcripts of plenary debates and committee reports to media and online resonance of parliamentary affairs. Doctoral students of parliamentary affairs were able to exchange their ideas and discuss their research with their peers, as well as with senior academic colleagues.

During the two days of the workshop, Pieter de Wilde and Christian Rauh offered teaching sessions on the method of content analysis. In the paper sessions, participants were able to present their research. In total, 14 participants benefitted from the splendid organization of the workshop, for which we would like to thank our colleagues in Berlin!

### **PADMIA Workshop at the University of Cambridge**

Our colleagues in Cambridge organized a workshop on 26 and 27 November. Workshop participants analysed how the current different crises which hit the EU in the last years impacted on the political party systems of its Member States. Both the (re-) emergence of far left as well as far right parties has been discussed, leading to a potential hollowing out of the mainstream. Since the financial and

Eurozone crises that started in 2007 and 2010 respectively, European politics has been fundamentally fractured and is currently being completely reframed. Parties of the far left have emerged or re-appeared to fight the narrative of austerity politics promoted by the EU, notably by Germany and the UK. Meanwhile, parties of the far right have gradually become more acceptable to voters frustrated by the twin pressures of globalisation and European integration. The recent, ongoing refugee crisis on Europe’s shores brings a new sets of pressures to European politicians and is furthering impacting party politics as those on the left seek humanitarian responses, those on the right look for hard-nosed policies and tighter borders. Such changes are seen in national and European elections as well as referendums and raise interesting new questions about the future of European political parties.

### **PADEMIA Workshop at Sciences Po Paris**

On the 3rd and 4th of December 2015, a seminar on institutional engineering related



to legislatures was organized in Sciences Po (Paris). The organizing institutions

were the PADEMIA network, an academic network of 50 European universities focused on parliamentary democracy and funded by Erasmus+ and, in Sciences Po, two research centers, the LIEPP and the



CEE. Conveners were Selma Bendjaballah, Olivier Rozenberg and Guillaume Tusseau, all from Sciences Po. During two days, twenty five scholars came from all around Europe discussed of the politics, features and evaluation of institutional reforms aimed at strengthening parliaments. They discuss of many issues in that respect: Why do those reforms tend to be more numerous all around Europe? How are they developed, realized and implemented? And, what are there consequences? Cases studies from many countries (Iceland, Israel, Spain, Finland, UK, France...) made clear that beyond idiosyncratic features, institutional engineering reforms face similar challenges and processes, especially the fitness between the reforms and good practices on the one hand, and MPs' individual interest on the other. Institutional development paths also matter for adopting successfully parliamentary reforms. In the end, the great interest of the workshop confirms that the issue of reforms in parliament and institutional engineering tend to be increasingly central to the attention of the scientific community. Contact: [olivier.rozenberg@sciencespo.fr](mailto:olivier.rozenberg@sciencespo.fr)

## [PADEMIA Members introduce themselves](#)

### **Centre of International Relations, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana**

The CIR was established in 1981 as an independent institution, with no political or state affiliation. It forms an integral part of the research Institute of Social Sciences at the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of

Ljubljana, which is the largest interdisciplinary public institution for education and research in the social sciences in Slovenia. In addition to conducting research most of the staff at the CIR also carries out teaching and other assignments that fall within the Centre's fields of interest. The CIR aims to promote co-operation with other similar institutions, in publishing, organising conferences and workshops, consulting and performing other professional activities in the field of international relations. CIR research provides the basis for the graduate and undergraduate courses in International Relations at the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana. The research results are widely disseminated, both within Slovenia and abroad. CIR research is interdisciplinary. Its members include experts in International Relations, International Economic Relations, International Law, International Organisations, Theories of International Relations, Political Science, History, European Integration, International Business, and International Security. In PADEMIA, the CIR has actively participated in the annual conferences and organized a workshop in Ljubljana on "The European Parliament in the Contemporary World". Professor Zlatko Sabic is the colleague in charge of PADEMIA in Ljubljana.



## [Recent Publications](#)

The Routledge Handbook of European Elections, edited by Donatella M Viola and foreworded by J.H.H. Weiler, explores the multifaceted dimension of the European Parliament's (EP) electoral contests across the European Community and European Union



since 1979. After setting a general empirical and theoretical framework, this collaborative project presents original contributions from leading experts in the field. Each case study adheres to a common template that makes it easy to compare data, methodology and outcomes.

A comparative chapter closes the Handbook followed by an extensive coverage of the 2014 EP contest with a detailed analysis of the newly elected European Assembly in terms of political group and gender composition.

The volume aims to enhance readers' understanding of the European Parliament and revive their interest in the European integration process. By providing a wide range of national and European facts and figures, this investigation represents a comprehensive reference guide to scholars, practitioners and students of the European Parliament, European elections, political parties, European Union, comparative politics. More information on:

<https://www.routledge.com/products/9780415592031>

“This volume represents an important step forward in overcoming the gap of public knowledge over EP electoral contests.”

David-Maria Sassoli, Vice-President of the European Parliament

“No student or practitioner will work on the European Parliament in the future without using this Handbook as an essential source of data and information.” Giuliano Amato, Former Prime Minister of Italy

“The community of political scientists was waiting for an inclusive and fully documented volume on EP elections.”

Olivier Costa, College of Europe, Belgium

“This is the definitive Handbook on European Parliament elections.”

Simon Hix, London School of Economics (LSE), UK

Crum, B. (2015). ‘**A Multi-Layered Social Europe? Three Emerging Transnational Social Duties in the EU**’, in A. Crespy & G. Menz (Eds.), *Social Policy and the Eurocrisis. Quo Vadis Social Europe* (pp. 161-181). Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Crum, B. & Curtin, D. (2015). **The Challenge of Making European Union Executive Power Accountable.** in S. Piattoni (Ed.), *The European Union: Democratic Principles and Institutional Architectures in Times of Crisis* (pp. 63-87). Oxford: Oxford University Press

Gattermann, K., Högenauer, A.-L. and Huff, A. (2015). **Research note: Studying a new phase of Europeanisation of national parliaments.** *European Political Science*, advance online publication 16 October 2015; doi: 10.1057/eps.2015.56

Gattermann, K. and Vasilopoulou, S. (2015). **Absent yet popular? Explaining news visibility of Members of the European Parliament.** *European Journal of Political Research* 54(1): 121-140

Gattermann, K. and Hefftl, C. (2015). **Beyond Institutional Capacity: Political Motivation and Parliamentary Behaviour in the Early Warning System.** *West European Politics* 38(2): 305-334



## Upcoming Events

### PADEMIA Workshops:

#### Tackling the European Council – Raising Awareness for a Key Institution SUMMIT Kick-off Conference and PADEMIA Workshop

Organizer: Linda Dieke, Johannes Müller Gomez, Alexander Hoppe (University of Cologne), Mirte van den Berge (TEPSA)  
When and where: 28-29 January, Brussels

#### EU communication transformed? Politics and media in crisis mode

Organizer: Leonard Novy (IfM Berlin)  
When and where: 8 March 2016, Cologne  
**Call for papers open until 8 January**

#### Variation in national parliamentary control and inter-parliamentary cooperation in EU affairs

Organizer: Jan Karlas (Charles University Prague)  
When and where: 7-8 April 2016, Prague  
**Call for papers open until 10 January**

#### Legislatures and foreign affairs: political parties, committees, and individual MPs

Organizer: Tapio Raunio (University of Tampere)  
When and where: 14-15 April, Tampere  
**Call for papers open until 15 January**

#### Opening the Parliamentary “Black Box” - The Internal Politics of National Parliaments in the Shaping of EU Affairs

Organizers: Thomas Christiansen/Christine Neuhold (Maastricht University), Eric Miklin (University of Salzburg)  
When and Where: 13 May 2016, Salzburg  
**Call for Papers open until 1 February**

Find more information on PADEMIA Workshops at [www.pademia.eu](http://www.pademia.eu)

The next PADEMIA newsletter will be published in February 2016. If you want to share your news, events or publications, or introduce your Institution, contact us via [alexander.hoppe@uni-koeln.de](mailto:alexander.hoppe@uni-koeln.de)

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