

Parliamentary accountability

Assessing the link between citizens and elites in national and supranational politics

A PADEMIA Summer School

INSTRUCTORS

Prof. David Farrell :: University College Dublin

Prof. Stefanie Bailer :: University of Basel

Prof. Jon Slapin :: University of Essex

Dr. Derek Greene :: University College Dublin

Dr. Thomas Winzen :: ETH Zürich

Dr. James P. Cross :: University College Dublin

Prof. Gavin Barrett :: University College Dublin

Aims and scope

Parliaments play central roles in European political systems at both the national and supranational level. At the national level, they bring together the democratically elected representatives of the people, who to a greater or lesser degree seek to represent the interests of their constituents. At the supranational level, with the Lisbon treaty, the European Parliament has cemented itself as a central decision-making institution of the European Union. At both levels, parliaments have a significant hand in legislating, budget - making, and legitimating the policy-making processes. Recent challenges such as the economic and refugee crises, the rise of euroscepticism and extremist nationalist parties, and the emergence of conflicts of varying intensity close to EU borders have reinforced the idea that European parliaments, now more than ever, need to legitimate their work and attempt to address the policy challenges faced by Europe. This PhD School seeks to investigate how they might do so, and the manner in which parliaments connect with and represent the citizens of Europe at the national and supranational levels.

The PhD School invites young scholars working on research questions relating to national and European parliaments to present a research paper and get feedback from peers and leading academics in the field of parliamentary research. We invite work addressing (but not limited to) questions of:

- The impact of national and European parliamentary elections on parliamentary activities
- The link between citizens and parliamentarians at the national and supranational levels
- Parliamentary speeches and their content, including the application of quantitative and qualitative text-analysis techniques
- Parliamentary voting behaviour
- The communication strategies of parliamentary representatives through the media, and online through social media platforms
- The role of parliamentary committees in policy-making processes
- The evolving role of national parliaments in European and EU politics
- The impact of formal and informal institutions on parliamentary decision-making processes

The summer school will be structured around morning presentations by leading scholars in the field of parliamentary politics, and will be followed with afternoon presentations from PhD participants. Our aim is to provide young scholars with networking opportunities with established experts in the field, and to get feedback on their research.

Host institution

The Dublin European Institute (DEI) supports scholarly research and debate on the sources, processes, and implications of European integration and governance. Its activities focus on the evolution and functioning of the European Union and other European institutions, as well as the ways in which developments at the individual, group, regional, national, and global levels shape or are shaped by European integration and governance. In so doing, the Institute contributes to an informed public discourse related to Ireland's place in the geographic, cultural, historical, economic, and political space that is 'Europe'. The DEI is the oldest and largest university centre for research on European affairs in the Republic of Ireland.

Applications

Applicants should send a CV and a short abstract of no more than 500 words explaining the topic of their PhD research, the paper they plan to present, and the reasons why they should be invited to participate to james.cross@ucd.ie.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: April 1st, 2016. Successful candidates will be notified by April 15th, 2016.

Fees, travel and accommodation

There is **no fee** for participation. The summer school will cover travel expenses (up to €350) and hotel accommodation for up to 3 nights for 14 selected participants.

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Wednesday June 1st

14:00-15:00	Introduction and keynote lecture Dr. James P. Cross :: University College Dublin Prof. Gavin Barrett :: University College Dublin Keynote: TBC
15:00-15:30	☕
15:30-17:30	PhD Workshop 1 Papers 1-4
17:30	Welcome reception
19:00	Dinner

Thursday June 2nd

THE ELECTORAL CONNECTION

9:30-11:00	Morning Lecture 1 Prof. Stephanie Bailer :: University of Basel
11:00-11:30	☕
11:30-13:00	Morning Lecture 2 Dr. Thomas Winzen :: ETH Zurich
13:00-14:00	Lunch
14:00-15:30	PhD Workshop 2 Papers 5-7
15:30-16:00	☕
16:00-17:00	PhD Workshop 3 Papers 8-9

Friday June 3rd

MEPS AND THEIR ACTIVITIES IN PARLIAMENT

9:30-11:00	Morning Lecture 3 Prof. Jon Slapin :: University of Essex
11:00-11:30	☕
11:30-13:00	Morning Lecture 4 Dr. Derek Greene & Dr. James P. Cross :: University College Dublin
14:00-15:30	PhD Workshop 4 Papers 10-12
15:30-16:00	☕
16:00-17:00	PhD Workshop 5 Papers 13-14
Dinner	

Saturday June 4th

Hotel checkout