

## PADEMIA WORKSHOP

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

University of Tampere, 14-15 April, 2016

#### CALL FOR PAPERS

Scholarly understanding of whether or how European parliaments engage in foreign affairs is still rather limited. Even when research does exist – such as comparative studies on parliamentary control over troop deployments and CFSP or studies on the international role of the European Parliament – it tends to treat legislatures as unitary actors, hence neglecting the political dynamics of parliamentary foreign policy decision-making. This is in striking contrast with research on the U.S. Congress, where American scholars have made efficient use of behavioural data to analyse voting patterns, committee decision-making, and the motivations of individual deputies in various foreign affairs questions ranging from war powers to international trade.

The aim of the workshop is to redress this balance through examining (a) the participation of various parliamentary actors – political parties and individual MPs – and/or (b) the role of parliamentary forums or instruments – committees, plenary debates, questions, parliamentary delegations, inter-parliamentary contacts etc. – in foreign affairs. ‘Foreign affairs’ is understood broadly, covering all types of external relations, including military missions and conflicts, defence and intelligence, national or European foreign and security policy, trade policy, or international agreements on various policies (such as environment, energy or human rights). Both comparative analyses and case studies are welcome as long as they make an empirical contribution to the literature and do NOT treat parliaments as unitary actors. Papers can focus either on national legislatures or on the European Parliament – or on how domestic legislatures and the EP influence foreign affairs together. Particularly attractive are proposals that aim at exploring the interaction between legislators’ preferences and/or party ideology and engagement in foreign policy.

The workshop will begin on Thursday afternoon (14 April) and finish on Friday afternoon (15 April). Funding is available to support travel and accommodation expenses for paper-givers from PADEMIA member institutions. Non-PADEMIA members are invited to apply as well, as a limited amount of funding is available for external participants.

Please send your paper proposal, including a title and abstract (maximum of 300 words), to the workshop convenor Tapio Raunio ([tapio.raunio@uta.fi](mailto:tapio.raunio@uta.fi)) by 15 January 2016.