

RESEARCH COMMITTEE ON POLITICAL SOCIOLOGY

NEWSLETTER

September 2024



A Brief Overview

The September Newsletter Includes:

- 2 Calls for Papers/Panels
- 2 Book Pre-Publication Announcements
- 6 Book Publication Announcements
- 12 Paper Publication Announcements

CPS Email Adress: rcpscontact@gmail.com

Recent Paper & Article Publications by Members of the Research Committee

Bayındır Goularas, G., Turkan İpek, I.Z., Erözer, E. et al.

Political News Monitoring and Questioning the Trustworthiness of News among Turkish University Students in the Infodemic COVID-19 Environment. (2024) JAYS 7, 83–96.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s43151-024-00117-2>

Chang, Chun-Chih, Yang Zeng, and Xuyi Guo.

“Pathways to Authoritarian Adaptation: How State–Society Interactions Push the Window of Policy Change in China?” (2024). in Political Studies Review <https://doi.org/10.1177/14789299241229404>

Lima Neto, Fernando

Lima Neto, F. (2024). The Fantastic East: Carnavalesque Public Space and Civil Sphere in Brazilian National Identity Building. *Bandung*, 11(2), 355-380. <https://doi.org/10.1163/21983534-11020004>

Magalhães, P. C., & Pereira, M. M.

Women Running for Office Are Less Risk Averse than Men: Evidence from Portugal. (2024). *The Journal of Politics*, 86(3).

Magalhães, P. C., & Costa-Lopes, R.

Populist radical right rhetoric increases discrimination towards minorities: Welfare ethnocentrism and anti-Roma attitudes. (2024). *European Journal of Political Research*, 63(2), 787-797.

Riquelme Parra, S. & Lucía Miranda Leibe.

Academic trajectories in the Southern Cone: marked by the stigmatization of being a woman, migrant, or non-Caucasian. (2024). "SOCIOLOGIA DEL LAVORO " 168/2024, pp 112-130

Said, Atef.

A Political Sociology of Algorithms: Five theses. (2024). ASA POLITICAL SOCIOLOGY SECTION NEWSLETTER, 12–17. Retrieved from
https://www.academia.edu/121536273/A_Political_Sociology_of_Algorithms_Five_These

Susen, Simon

- Humanity and Uncontrollability: Reflections on Hartmut Rosa’s Critical Theory. (2024). Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 324 pp. <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-031-48914-3>
- ‘Twenty-Five Theses on the Task of the Translator: With, against, and beyond Walter Benjamin’. (2024). *Revista Portuguesa de Filosofia*, 80(1–2), pp. 197–270. https://www.publicacoesfacil.pt/product.php?id_product=9339
- ‘The Interpretation of Cultures: Geertz Is Still in Town’. (2024). *Sociologica – International Journal for Sociological Debate*, 18(1), pp. 25–63. <https://sociologica.unibo.it/article/view/18664/17932>
- Simon Susen and Marc Ortman (2024). ‘Das Ende der großen Theorien: Simon Susen im Gespräch mit Marc Ortman’. *Soziopolis: Gesellschaft beobachten*. <https://www.sozio-polis.de/das-ende-der-grossen-theorien.html>

Turkan İpek, I. Z.

La jeunesse universitaire en Turquie. Enquête sur une jeunesse politiquement socialisée.(2024). L'Harmattan, Paris, p.172. ISBN : 978-2-336-44780-3.

Newly Awarded Research Project: Millennium Nucleus on Political Crises in Latin America (CRISPOL)

The Millennium Nucleus on Political Crises in Latin America (CRISPOL) has been selected for funding by Chile's National Research and Development Agency, along with eight other proposals. Over the next three years, this research center will focus on creating a new research agenda to study, analyze, and understand the multifaceted nature of political crises within the Latin American context over the past two decades. By employing a comparative methodology, CRISPOL seeks to identify parallels and distinctions between various instances of political crises across different Latin American countries.

CRISPOL's analytical framework is based on categorizing political crises into two principal dimensions: first, a nuanced understanding of the causative factors, internal dynamics, and broad spectrum of consequences is essential for comparison. Second, the framework distinguishes between vertical, horizontal, and mixed political crises.

The CRISPOL team includes Stéphanie Alenda, former Chair of the Research Committee on Political Sociology, as director, and Christopher Martínez as alternate director. Other team members include Julieta Suárez-Cao, former Treasurer of the CPS, Mauro Basaure, and Rodrigo Medel. These expert researchers bring a diverse range of backgrounds in studying recent Latin American political crises, each contributing a unique theoretical perspective to the project. Their areas of expertise include political institutionalism, sociology of protest, pragmatist political sociology, and historical sociology of events.



Upcoming Event - Call for Papers

The 28th IPSA World Congress of Political Science in Seoul 12th-16th of July, 2025

Call for Papers/Panels “The Dynamics Between State and Society in a Polarized World”

In their recent analyses, Daron Acemoglu and James Robinson emphasize that the equilibrium in the interaction between state and society is crucial for ensuring liberty and enhancing state capacity (Acemoglu and Robinson, 2019; 2023). Building on their work, we invite scholars to submit papers and open/closed panel proposals that explore the evolving relationship between state institutions and civil society within the context of rapidly evolving political landscapes. How are the increasing trends of autocratization and populism redefining the roles of the state and civil society, and altering their interactions? Leveraging information and communication technologies (ICTs), how do state and societal actors influence one another in their interactions? What are the consequences of state-society interactions, particularly in terms of either strengthening state capacity or empowering civil society?

We welcome contributions that delve into these questions and explore the evolving relationships between state institutions and civil society in today's complex political landscape. Topics of interest include new roles for state and society, innovative forms of interaction, and the transformative effects of ICTs on governance. We encourage scholars from diverse disciplines to provide fresh perspectives on the enduring issue of state-society relations.

Guidelines for Paper Proposals

- 1) Title (no more than 25 words)
- 2) Abstract describing: the paper's research question & methodological approach. Must be in English or French, cannot exceed 350 words.
- 3) If selected, paper presentations must be made orally in-person in no more than 15 minutes.

Guidelines for Panel Proposals

- 1) Title (no more than 25 words)
- 2) Panel description
- 3) List a chair, co-chair (optional) and 1-2 discussants
- 4) (for closed panels) Send the unique paper submission link to 4-6 papergivers to submit their paper abstract.

Deadlines:

Open Panel Proposals: 28 AUG 2024

Papers and Closed Panels: 05 NOV 2024

For more information, follow these links:

[Paper Submission](#)

[Panel Submission](#)

Session Organizers:



María Esperanza Casullo



Chun-Chih Chang

5th ISA Forum of Sociology Call for Abstracts

Sociological Discourse of Livelihoods of Adivasis or Tribal Communities of South Asia (Oral Session)

South Asian population has a mixture of ethnic and tribal groups. Contemporary South Asian societies have witnessed many issues regarding their social, economic, and political frames or discourses. The sociological discourse on rural and tribal communities has further shown how to map inherent identity questions and practices. Thus, debates on the sociological engagement of these social groups are South Asian economies; there is a necessity to understand the livelihood experiences and hurdles faced by the Adivasis or tribal communities of South civilized livelihood regarding areas of livelihood sustainability. The sociological engagement of social groups is necessary to understand the diverse social and economic issues and dynamics of development discourses of South Asia. Further, the quest for livelihoods sustainability is an overarching phenomenon of the development agencies of the state and non- state actors. To keep pace with the developmental challenges in the South Asian economies, it is necessary to understand the livelihood experiences and hurdles faced by the Adivasis or tribal communities of South Asia.

Requirements to Submit an Abstract:

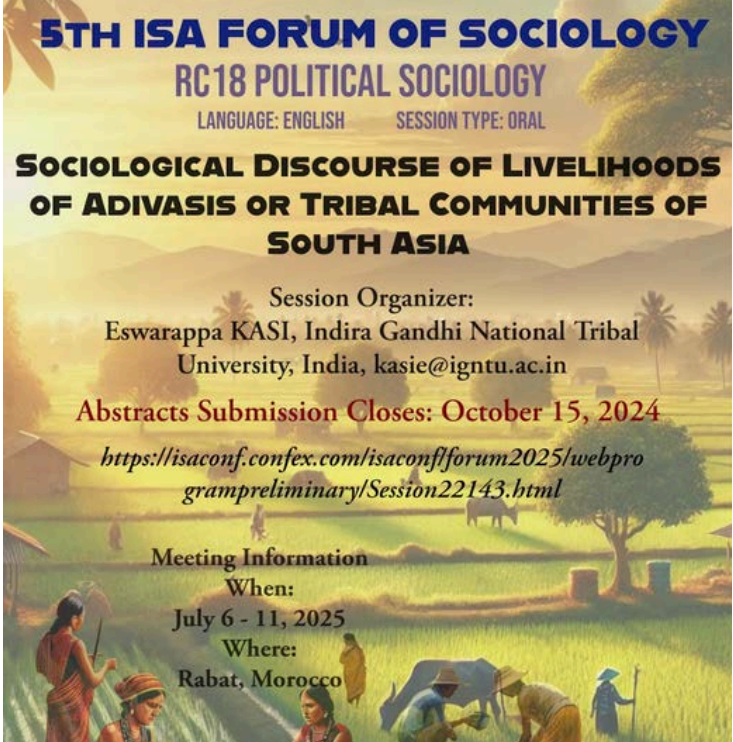
- 1) Title
- 2) Keywords: up to four keywords
- 3) Author(s): Present all authors and co-authors. There's a limit of seven authors.
- 4) Abstract: 300 words maximum, can be submitted in either English, French, or Spanish.

Deadlines:

Abstract Submission Closes: October 15th, 2024.
Abstracts Selection Closes: November 10th, 2024
Notification of Acceptance: December 5th, 2024

For more information, follow these links:

[FAQ](#)
[Rules for all presenters](#)
[Duties and Deadlines](#)



5TH ISA FORUM OF SOCIOLOGY
RC18 POLITICAL SOCIOLOGY
LANGUAGE: ENGLISH SESSION TYPE: ORAL

SOCIOLOGICAL DISCOURSE OF LIVELIHOODS OF ADIVASIS OR TRIBAL COMMUNITIES OF SOUTH ASIA

Session Organizer:
Eswarappa KASI, Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, India, kasie@igntu.ac.in

Abstracts Submission Closes: October 15, 2024
<https://isaconf.confex.com/isaconf/forum2025/webpro/grampreliminary/Session22143.html>

Meeting Information
When:
July 6 - 11, 2025
Where:
Rabat, Morocco

Session Organizer: Eswarappa KASI

Eswarappa KASI is at the Department of Tribal Studies, Art, Culture & Folk Literature, Faculty of Tribal Studies, Indira Gandhi National Tribal University (IGNTU), Amarkantak, Anuppur, Madhya Pradesh, India. He has completed his M.A., M. Phil & Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Hyderabad. His Ph.D. thesis is titled "An Anthropological Study of Livelihoods: The Case of Two Sugali Settlements in Anantapur District of Andhra Pradesh." His area includes broadly Anthropology and the interdisciplinary areas of Development Studies, Area Studies, Tribal Studies, Tribal Development & Politics, Political Sociology, Women leadership and Governance, Marginality and Politics, NGOs, Civil Society, and South Asia. His research has been published in internationally reputed Journals such as Sustainability Science, Critical Sociology, South Asia Research, Journal of Developing Societies, SAGE Open, Journal of Asian and African Studies, South Asian Survey, and Contemporary Voice of Dalit. He has authored a book entitled "Anthropology and Development in a Globalised India: An Ethnography of Sericulture from the South",



Publication - Symposium Conclusions

PS | Political Science & Politics

apsa

SYMPOSIUM: Pandemic and Post-Pandemic
Publication Patterns in Political Science
Guest Editor: Daniel Stockemer

JULY 2024 | VOLUME 57 | NUMBER 3

Introduction to the Symposium

“Constitution-Making in the 21st Century: Lessons from the Chilean Process”

Co-edited by Claudia Heiss & Julieta Suarez-Cao, this publication includes six articles addressing particular aspects of the failed attempt at constitutional replacement in Chile, and a closing article written by us. In it, the authors argue that the Chilean experience helps illustrate four concerns that should be considered carefully in a participatory constitution-making experience: (1) the difficulties of aligning preferences between citizens and the decision-making body; (2) the need to have clear and shared goals from the beginning to reduce an alienating effect of unforeseen reforms; (3) the challenges of direct citizen participation; and (4) the pros and cons of inclusion. In this case, the unprecedented inclusion of women, socioeconomic diversity, and indigenous peoples proved insufficient to secure ratification of the constitutional draft by the electorate. Low indigenous turnout and the limited number of rightist delegates in the Constitutional Convention may have fostered a perception that the assembly was biased and distant from the median voter. This perception was mirrored—albeit with a reversed political dynamic—in the Constitutional Council, where a right-wing majority marginalized the leftist opposition in the discussion of the new draft, ultimately leading also to its rejection in a referendum.

Publication Information:

Heiss, C., & Suárez-Cao, J. (2024). Introduction to the Symposium, “Constitution-Making in the 21st Century: Lessons from the Chilean Process.” PS: Political Science & Politics, 57(2), 245–247.
doi:10.1017/S104909652300096

Author: Claudia Heiss

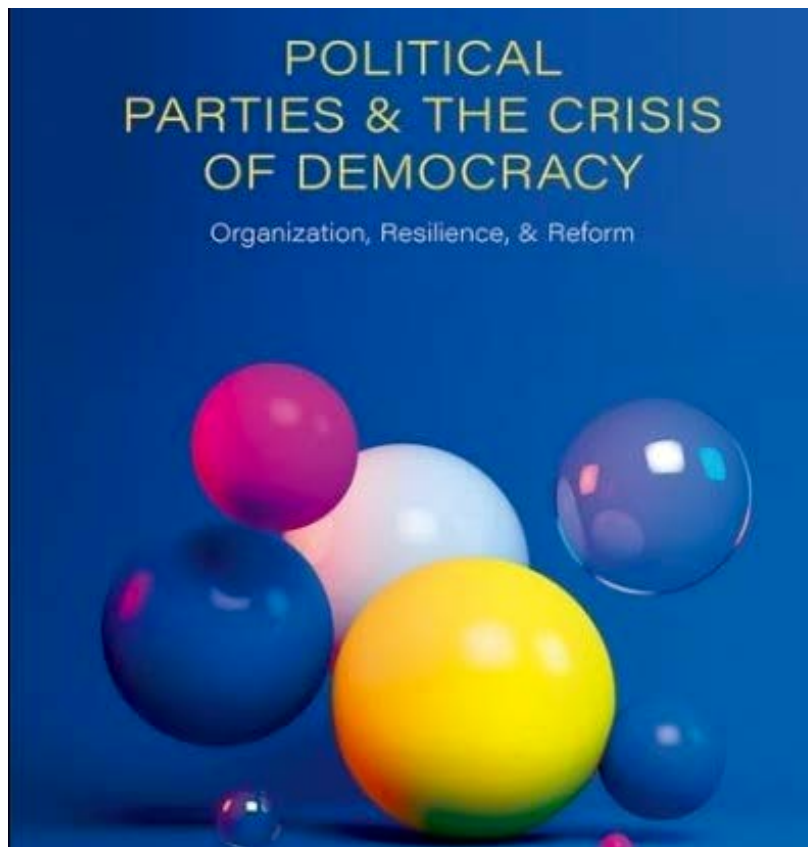
Faculty of Government, Universidad de Chile

Claudia Heiss holds a PhD in Political Science from the New School for Social Research, an M.A. degree from Columbia University, and is a journalist from the University of Chile. She is an assistant professor at the Faculty of Government of the University of Chile, where she led the Gender Equality Commission (2018) and was Head of the Political Science Undergraduate Program (2019-2024). She is an adjunct researcher at the Millennium Nucleus for the Study of Politics, Public Opinion and Media in Chile, MEPOP, and the Center for Conflict and Social Cohesion Studies, COES. She was a visiting researcher at the Center for Latin American Studies at American University, CLALS, in Washington DC (2023). Her areas of research are constitutionalism, constitutional states of exception, and politics in Chile. Her work has been published by journals such as the Journal of Democracy, Latin American Politics and Society, Political Science and Politics, Constellations, and Revista de Ciencia Política. She is the author of the book "Why do we need a new constitution?" (In Spanish, Aguilar 2020). She was the President of the Chilean Association of Political Science (2012-2014), a member of the Technical Commission to enable the constituent process in Chile (2019), and was in charge, on behalf of the University of Chile, of the Public Hearings mechanism in the Executive Secretariat of Citizen Participation of the 2023 constitutional process. She is a Council member at Comunidad Mujer and a member of Red de Politólogas.



Political Parties and the Crisis of Democracy. Organization, Resilience, and Reform

Democracy is in decline, and the share of world's population living in freedom under democratic government has decreased considerably as authoritarian practices proliferate. Surprisingly, most of the analyses that study these developments give little attention to the role of political parties in the decline of democracy, although there is a broad consensus about the relevance of political parties for the functioning of democracy. How parties can contribute to democracy is best understood by looking at a very diverse range of cases in different parts of the world. Instead of taking a regional approach, which dominates the literature on political parties, this book takes a global perspective. It brings together experts from four continents, which opens up fresh comparative perspectives on the role of political parties in the democratic process. It asks how parties contribute to the consolidation of democracy, why they fail today, why new parties emerge and displace old parties, and also what parties need to do in order to survive cut-throat competition, above all with new (and sometimes not so new) variants of populist parties. The book takes a unique global focus, covering old and new democracies in different regions of the world. It covers Western and Central Europe, Asia-Pacific, Latin America and Africa, Turkey, and Israel. This includes presidential, semi-presidential, and parliamentary democracies, and also some countries where democracy is seriously threatened or eroding. It offers unique comparative perspectives combined with a detailed analysis of individual countries and their party systems. The book shows that parties are central actors for the consolidation of democracy, but that organisational reforms are necessary to cope with social change such as individualisation, the decline in party membership, and the impact of new media and modern communication, thus counteracting the fragmentation of party systems and the decay of democracy.



Publication Information:

Poguntke, Thomas, and Wilhelm Hofmeister (eds), *Political Parties and the Crisis of Democracy: Organization, Resilience, and Reform* (Oxford, 2024; online edn, Oxford Academic, 22 Aug. 2024)

[Available Through Open Access Here](#)

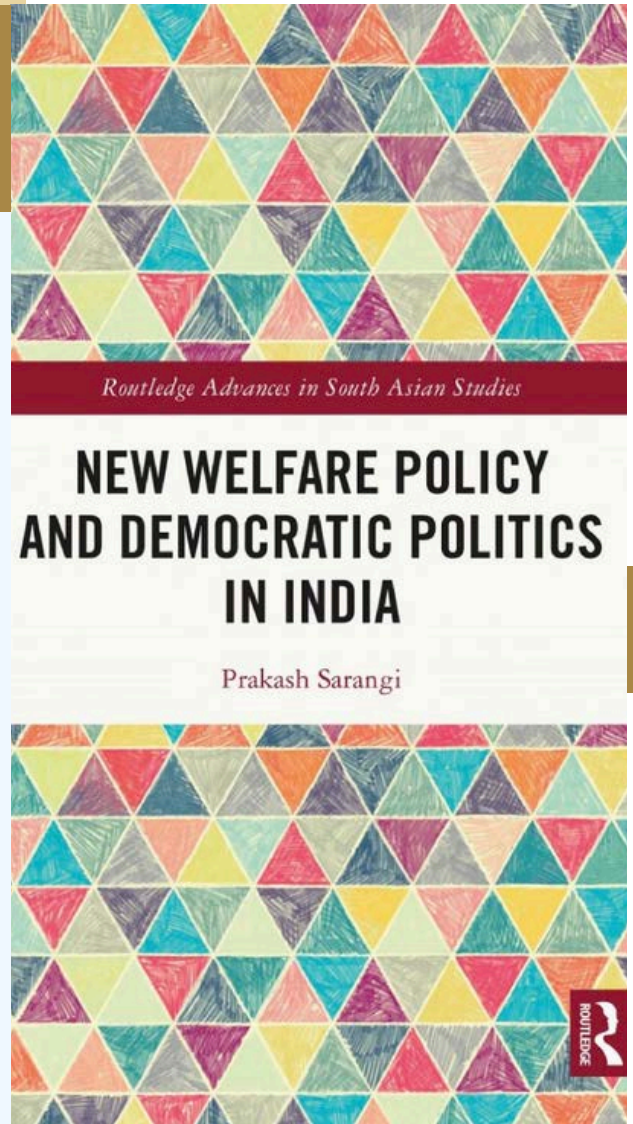


Author: Dr. Thomas Poguntke

Thomas Poguntke is Professor of Comparative Politics at the Heinrich-Heine University Düsseldorf and Director of the Düsseldorf Party Research Institute (PRuF). Previously, he held chairs at the universities of Keele, Birmingham and Bochum and was Visiting Fellow at the European University Institute in Florence and at the Australian National University. He is author and editor of numerous publications on political parties and comparative politics and is currently directing the Political Party Database Project together with Susan E. Scarrow, Paul D. Webb and Emilie van Haute.

New Welfare Policy & Democratic Politics in India

This new publication offers an analysis of India's welfare policy during the last couple of decades. It looks at how welfare policy making is viewed as a function of party competition and voter mobilization, showing a gradual transformation of political clients into entitled citizens through which democratic politics in India has redefined its contemporary welfare discourse. The book argues that political parties formulate policies in order to respond to the voices of citizens and shows that a new welfare architecture emerged in India, characterized as responsive welfare. India has witnessed a sharp rise in such voices, which have been disadvantaged by a globalizing market. The size and vulnerability of this group has made them politically significant and electorally salient. These welfare aspirants have found a new political space through political parties to negotiate and assert their claims on the state, creating a milestone in India's democratic politics trajectory, in the form of entitlement based welfare policy. The book compares and evaluates the implications of these new welfare policies in the contexts of two governments: the Congress-led government during 2009-2014 and the BJP-led government during 2014-2019. The empirical data reveal remarkable similarities in their electoral pledges, policy outputs, policy outcomes and accountability towards citizens. These findings indicate significant convergence in their welfare policies, sans ideology or ethnic support base. It also reveals that the ideological differences among the two major parties do not prevent remarkable continuities in the formulation and implementation of welfare policies during their incumbencies, thus allowing for a bipartisan acceptance of a citizen-centric welfare policy.



Author: Prakash Sarangi



Prakash C. Sarangi is an MA from Delhi University and a Ph.D. from the University of Rochester, NY. He was the Vice-Chancellor, Ravenshaw University, Cuttack, Professor of Political Science and Pro-Vice-Chancellor at the University of Hyderabad, an ICSSR Senior Fellow, Visiting Professor at the Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Senior Academic Consultant at the ICSSR among other assignments. His awards include Fulbright Fellowship at University of Wisconsin-Madison, Linnaeus Palme Fellowship at University of Uppsala, Baden-Wuerttemberg Fellowship at University of Heidelberg. Prof. Sarangi's academic interests revolve around democratic theory and practice. His publications include *New Welfare Policy and Democratic Politics in India*; *Essays on India's Political Economy* and *Liberal Theories of State: Contemporary Perspectives*.

Publication Information:

Sarangi, P. (2024). *New Welfare Policy and Democratic politics in India*. Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge.

Reason, Religion and Modernity Gadamer-Habermas Debate

Reason, Religion and Modernity - Gadamer-Habermas Debate

This book deals with the question of understanding religion and its relationship with politics in the context of developing countries. It reviews specific theories, such as modernisation theory, marxism, liberalism, hermeneutics and critical approach to explain questions related to religion and religious traditions. The book focuses on the recent attempts to theorise religion by Jurgen Habermas. It argues modernisation and orthodox Marxian theory are inadequate in understanding the recent spurt of religious phenomenon in politics. It discusses Hans-Georg Gadamer's view to show a way forward regarding dialectical hermeneutics in facilitating a dialogue between different traditions and religions. The book is of interest to students, scholars, practitioners of development, and all those who concern themselves with the questions of religion, tradition, modernity and secular well-being in developing countries such as India and beyond.



Author: Anil Kumar Vaddiraju

Anil Kumar Vaddiraju is Professor of Political Science at the Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bengaluru, India.

He studied at Jawaharlal Nehru University and the University of Delhi. Political philosophy is one of his abiding academic interests.

Publication Information:

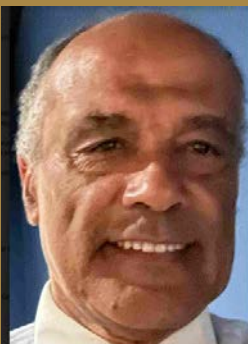


The Future Generations as a Political Object

The future generation is named, linked and measured. This fundamentally exploratory text seeks to consider this future and these representations concerning a political dimension of future generations. The political question of the future generation remains unanswered, while going beyond the usual mechanisms described by political sociology. Such a community nevertheless includes cultural, temporal and social axes; it is both the extension of the concrete and the current and is the bearer of an indeterminate difference. This projection is always strong because the future is consubstantial with political projects. This socio-political need for the future generation can be identified in multiple very different regimes, whether autocratic, democratic, royal, federal, theocratic. There are still ongoing debates regarding the institutions and actors who declare themselves capable of analyzing, or even representing, the interests of future populations. In this effort of projection, these constitute a real political issue in the present.

Publication Information:

Satineau, M. (2024).
Les générations futures comme objet politique. Paris: Connaissances et Savoirs.



Author: Dr. Maurice Satineau

Dr. Maurice Satineau, member of International Political Science Association (IPSA), Professor at Ecole Supérieure d'Economie (Lausanne, Switzerland), researcher in political science and consultant for political affairs. He has published about 20 books or studies. The latest were about Political Ecology (2012 and 2016), French Social Instability (2020), Covid Pandemy (2020 and 2022), and war in Ukraine (2023).

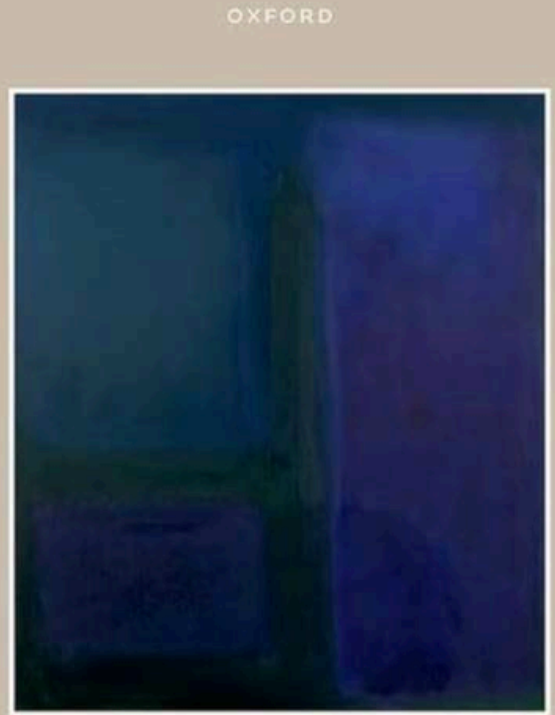
Religious Voting in Western Democracies

This book offers a systematic exploration of the role of religion and religiosity in electoral politics in Catholic, Protestant, and religiously mixed countries across Western Europe and in the United States. The chapters approach the relationship between religion, religiosity, and electoral behaviour from a variety of different angles. They include analyses of secularization trends; comparative studies of the links between vote choice and religiosity; longitudinal single country studies; and a novel discussion of the theoretical underpinnings of the politicization of religion that provides a radically new framework for the analysis of the role of religiosity in election studies.

The volume shows that despite the expectations of secularization theory, religiosity remains relevant when casting votes. It also argues that the traditional notion of religious cleavage should be replaced with the more accurate idea of religious voting. Chapters draw on National Election Studies data and comparative datasets such as European Values Studies (EVS), European Social Surveys (ESS), and European Election Studies (EES) to empirically test expectations regarding religious voting. The results show that variations in religious voting are conditional on both the agency of political and ecclesiastical leaders when politicizing religious issues and the legacies of previous societal and political religious conflicts, regardless of whether the original party system had a predominant religious cleavage.

Publication Information:

Montero, José Ramón, Paolo Segatti, and Kerman Calvo (eds), *Religious Voting in Western Democracies* (Oxford, 2023; Oxford Academic, 20 July 2023), <https://doi.org/10.1093/oso/9780198807858.001.0001>,



Religious Voting in Western Democracies

EDITED BY José Ramón Montero,
Paolo Segatti, & Kerman Calvo

Author: José Ramón Montero

The Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM).

José Ramón Montero (Cádiz [Spain], 1948) is Professor Emeritus of Political Science at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM). He obtained his PhD in Law at the Universidad de Santiago, and has taught at the Universities of Granada, Santiago, Zaragoza, Cádiz, and Complutense de Madrid. He has been Visiting Fellow at the Universities of Harvard, California in Berkeley, Ohio State, Barcelona, Autónoma de Barcelona, Pompeu Fabra, País Vasco, del Desarrollo in Santiago de Chile, Guadalajara in México, Minas Gerais in Belo Horizonte, Mayor de San Andrés in La Paz, Institut d'Études Politiques-Bordeaux, ICSTE-Instituto Universitário de Lisboa, and European University Institute (EUI) and Istituto Italiano di Scienze Umane, both in Florence, as well as Professor of Political Science at the Center for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences, Juan March Institute, and Instituto Empresa, both in Madrid.

He has been Dean of the School of Law at the Universidad de Cádiz, Deputy Director of the Centro de Investigaciones Sociológicas (CIS) in Madrid, and head of the Department of Political Science and International Relations (UAM). Has been a member of the Standing Committee for the Social Sciences, European Science Foundation. Has also served as director of the Economics and Social Science Programme, Spanish Ministry of Education and Science, vice-president of the Spanish Association of Political Science, and member of the Editorial Committees of the European Journal of Political Research, European Political Science Review, and Revista Española de Ciencia Política. He is currently a member of the Academia Europea, the European Social Survey, and the Comparative National Elections Project.

He has published extensively on electoral behavior, political parties, electoral systems, political participation, and political culture. Among his publications are *Democracy in Modern Spain* (2004), *Political disaffection in contemporary democracies* (2006); *Citizenship and involvement in European democracies* (2007); *Democracy, intermediation, and voting on four continents* (2007); *Elecciones generales 2004* (2007); *Roads to democracy* (2008); *The politics of Spain* (2009), *Elecciones generales 2008* (2011), and *Religious voting in Western democracies* (2023).



The Recasting of the Latin American Right

Polarization and Conservative Reactions

Edited by André Borges, Ryan Lloyd,
and Gabriel Vommaro



The Recasting of the Latin American Right: Polarization and Conservative Reactions

Available September 2024

This book analyzes the transformation of the political right in Latin America in response to the strengthening of left-wing parties and movements throughout the region.

While Latin America's post-2000 left has been widely studied, little is known about right-wing political formations during and after that time. There is a paucity of research on recent phenomena associated with the reorganization of the Right: the polarization of Latin American electorates and elites; the rebranding of pre-existing conservative parties; the creation of new right-wing parties; and the rise of the radical right. This volume provides a comprehensive account of the strategies used by the political right since 2000. It analyzes both the supply side (parties, movements, and personalist vehicles) and the demand side (voters and public opinion) to provide a description and explanation of how the right has recast itself as a new political force across the entire region of Latin America.



Author: Gabriel Vommaro

Gabriel Vommaro is Professor at the Universidad de San Martín and Researcher at the CONICET in Argentina. He received his PhD from the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales. His books include *Conservatives against the Tide* (2023) and *Diminished Parties* (2021; edited with Luna, Piñeiro & Rosenblatt).

Publication Information:

Vommaro, G., Lloyd, R., & Borges, A. (2024). *The recasting of the Latin American right: Polarization and Conservative reactions*. Cambridge, United Kingdom: Cambridge University Press.

Pre-Publication - Book Announcement

Symbolic Policy

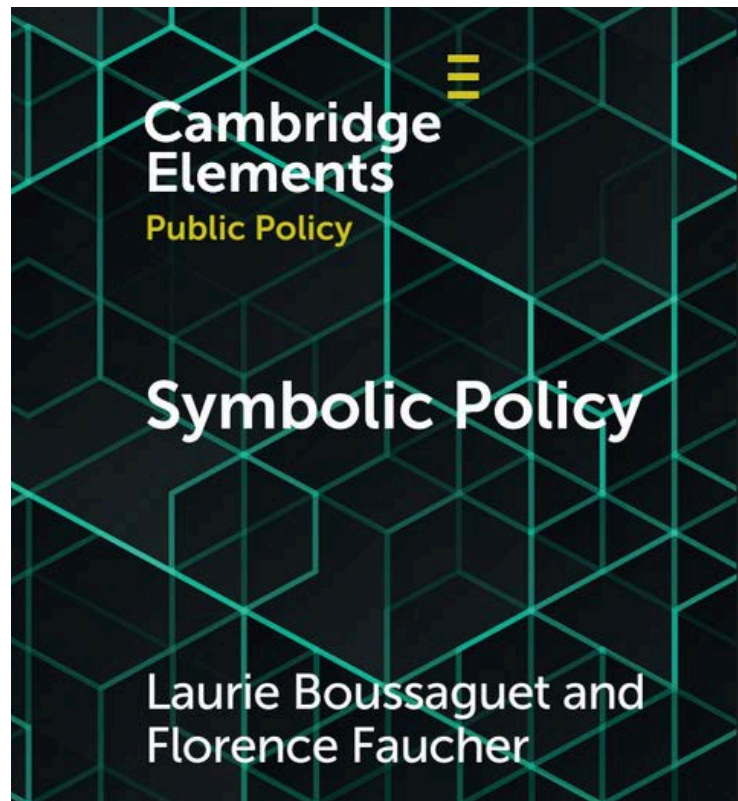
Co-Authored by: Florence Faucher & Laurie Boussaguet

Coming Soon

Symbols are everywhere in politics. Yet, they tended to be overlooked in the study of public policy. This Element shows how they play an important role in the policy process, how they are used to shape citizens' representations thanks to their ability to combine meanings and to stimulate emotional reactions. It uses crisis management as a lens through which this symbolic dimension is analysed, and it focuses on two case studies (governmental responses to the Covid-19 crisis in Europe in 2020 and to terrorist attacks in France in 2015). The Element shows how the symbolic enables leaders to claim legitimacy for themselves and their decisions, and foster feelings of reassurance, solidarity and belonging. All politicians use the symbolic, whether consciously or otherwise, but what they choose to do varies and is affected by timing, the existence of national repertoires of symbolic actions and the personas of leaders.

Publication Information:

Laurie Boussaguet &
Florence Faucher,
2024. Symbolic Policy,
Cambridge University
Press, 76p.



Co-Author: Florence Faucher



Florence Faucher is Professor of political science at Sciences Po and Director of the Centre d'études européennes et de politique comparée (CEE) at Sciences Po in Paris. She previously worked in the UK and in the USA, and served as Secretary to the Research Committee on Political Sociology from 2006 to 2010. Florence's research has developed in several strands, connected by an interest in understanding the transformations of modes of "doing" politics in contemporary Europe. She has extensively worked on forms of engagement in and with politics, in political movements and parties in France and in the UK (green parties, centre right and centre left parties). She has explored the effects of blurring the boundaries between the public and the private spheres of action: from lifestyle to democratic practices. She has shown how ideas developed in new parties (such as green parties) have driven a thrust for reform in well-established political parties through shifts in collective representations and in modes of taking decisions (deliberations, ballots and consultations in particular). Her interest in anthropology and in comparative approaches have led her to reflect on symbolic practices and her most recent projects have focused on [the uses of the symbolic in public policy](#), leading to the publication of Symbolic Policy with Laurie Boussaguet (CUP 2025).