



Final Conference of the European Election Study 2014

November 6-8, 2015

Venue:

University Palace

Fuchs-Petrolub-Festsaal (O 138)

University of Mannheim, Germany

Academic Conveners: Hermann Schmitt (Universities of Manchester & Mannheim),
Sara B. Hobolt (LSE), and Sebastian A. Popa (University of Mannheim)

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This conference will also celebrate 35 years of European Election Studies which were initiated at the University of Mannheim at the occasion of the 1st direct election of MEPs in 1979

Conference Programme

Friday 6 November

Welcome (13:00 – 13:30 hrs)

Professor Hermann Schmitt, Local Host, PI of the EES 2014, and Current Chair of the EES Association

Professor Rosemarie Tracy, Pro-Rector for Research of the University of Mannheim

Professor Frank Kalter, Director of the Mannheim Centre for European Social Research (MZES) of the University of Mannheim

Panel 1: Candidates and Campaigns (13:30 – 15:00 hrs)

The *Spitzenkandidaten* campaigns in 2014: assessing the importance of information and news exposure for preference formation of voters

Katjana Gatterman, University of Amsterdam

Claes H. De Vreese, University of Amsterdam

Wouter van der Brug, University of Amsterdam

Polarising Without Politicising. The Effect of Lead Candidates' Campaigns on Perceptions of the EU Democracy.

Robert Rohrschneider, The University of Kansas

Hermann Schmitt, Universities of Manchester and Mannheim

Sebastian Adrian Popa, University of Mannheim

Gender Differences in the Use of New Technologies: Candidates' campaigning in comparative perspective

Maarja Lühiste, University of Leicester

Laura Sudulich, Université Libre de Bruxelles

When to talk about Europe? Selective Europeanization of the 2014 EP elections

Zoltan Fazekas, University of Southern Denmark

Sebastian Popa, University of Mannheim

Hermann Schmitt, University of Mannheim

Pablo Barbera, New York University

Yannis Theocharis, University of Mannheim

Panel Chair: Cees van der Eijk, University of Nottingham

Coffee Break 15:00 – 15:30 hrs

Panel 2: Does Europe matter more? (15:30 - 17:00 hrs)

Three dimensions of vote choice: To what extent does the European level replicate the national vote dimensions?

Steven van Hauwaert, Université Catholique de Louvain

Pierre Baudewyns, Université Catholique de Louvain

“Ever-changing” impact of Europe on EP voting behavior: An analysis in Southern Europe

Ilke Toygür, Universidad Autonoma de Madrid

The “nationalization of EU politics” vs the “Europeanization of national politics” in EU elections: A comparative analysis of Germany, Italy and Spain

Mariano Torcal, University Pompeu Fabra

Toni Rodón, University Pompeu Fabra

Euroscepticism and Turnout in the 2014 EP elections

Constantin Schäfer, University of Mannheim

Marc Debus, University of Mannheim

Electoral Euroscepticism, turnout and the economic crisis: evidence from a 108-elections panel study across Europe.

Francesco Nicoli, Università di Trento

Panel Chair: Hermann Schmitt, Universities of Manchester and Mannheim

Panel 3: Parties and party competition (17:00-18:30 hrs)

Patterns of party competition - analytical approach, EU-wide comparison and database

Cees van der Eijk, University of Nottingham

Contextual factors and electoral support for radical left parties in Western Europe

Luis Ramiro, University of Leicester
Raúl Gómez, University of Liverpool
Laura Morales, University of Leicester

What type of Europe? The salience of Europe in EP elections reconsidered

Daniela Braun, University of Munich
Swen Hutter, European University Institute
Alena Kerscher, University of Munich

Fleeing the Centre: The Rise of Challenger Parties in the Aftermath of the Euro Crisis

Sara B Hobolt, London School of Economics
James Tilley, University of Oxford

Panel Chair: Oľga Gyárfášová, Comenius University, Bratislava

20:00 hrs Dinner at *Henninger's Gutsschänke* (individual bills)

Saturday 7 November

Panel 4: Institutional challenges (9:30-11:00 hrs)

The Council's Congruence with the European Citizens

Nathalie Giger, University of Geneva
Zoe Lefkofridi, University of Salzburg

Addressing Europe's democratic deficit: An experimental evaluation of the pan-European district proposal

Damien Bol (King's College London), André Blais (University of Montreal), Sona N. Golder (Penn State University), Philipp Harfst (University of Greifswald), Jean-François Laslier (Paris School of Economics), Laura Stephenson (University of Western Ontario), and Karine van der Straeten (Toulouse School of Economics).

Decentralization, responsibility attribution and vote: Disentangling the avenues for accountability in multilevel contexts

Sandra León, University of York
Amuitz Garmendia Madariaga, Binghamton University

Economic voting in European Parliament elections in the ‘bail-out’ countries

Martin Okolikj, University College Dublin,

Stephen Quinlan, GESIS, Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences, Mannheim

Panel Chair: Paolo Segatti, University of Milan

Coffee Break 11:00 – 11:30 hrs

Panel 5: Political Behavior and EP Elections (11:30-13:00 hrs)

The backbone of democracy: electoral availability and European elections

Federico Vegetti, Central European University

Cristiano Vezzoni, Università degli Studi di Trento

Paolo Segatti, Università degli Studi di Milano

Towards convergence in times of crisis? Assessing opinion congruence between voters and parties in eight EU elections

Sofia Vasilopoulou, University of York

Katjana Gattermann, University of Amsterdam

Policy Positions in the Eyes of the Beholder:

Voters' Understanding of Parties' Positions on the left/right and on European Integration

Christopher Williams, MZES, University of Mannheim

Christine Arnold, Maastricht University

Contextual Political Information and Timing of Vote Decision

Lilach Nir, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Panel Chair: Mark N. Franklin, EUI

Buffett Lunch 13:00 – 14:00 hrs

Panel 6: Voting Behavior in EP elections (14:00-15:30 hrs)

Habituating to the New Normal in a Post-earthquake Party System: the 2014 European Election in Greece

Eftichia Teperoglou, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Emmanouil Tsatsanis, University Institute of Lisbon (CIES-IUL)

Slovakia and the turnout conundrum

Oľga Gyárfášová, Comenius University, Bratislava

Karen Henderson, Comenius University, Bratislava

Authoritarianism and Support for the Radical Right

Erik R. Tillman, DePaul University

The role of partisanship in governing turnout at EP elections

Mark N. Franklin, MIT & EUI

Panel Chair: Michael Marsh, TCD

Coffee Break 15:30 – 16:00 hrs

Panel 7 (Jubilee Panel): 35 Years of European Election Studies – their contribution to the study of European integration and comparative political behaviour (16:00-18:00 hrs)

Roundtable:

Pascal Chelala (TNS Opinion); Edward Fieldhouse (ESRC); Alexia Katsanidou (GESIS Archive); Eckard Kämper (DFG); Michael Marsh (TCD); Jacques Nancy (European Parliament); Claes de Vreese (UvA).

Chair: Sara B. Hobolt (LSE)

Concluding Remarks

18:00 hrs Professor Marc Debus, Director Research Department *European Political Systems and their Integration*, MZES

EES-A Board Meeting

18:15 – 19:15 hrs (for members only)

20:00 hrs Conference Dinner at *Ristorante Della Bona* (upon invitation)

Sunday 8 November

CERES Board Meeting

8:30 – 10:00 hrs at Whyndham Hotel (for members only)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Study

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The Euromanifestos of political parties are currently being analysed; this part of the study has been funded in the framework of the EUENGAGE project under the Horizon 2020 funding scheme of the European Commission.

The content of Twitter communications of EP candidates and their followers during the election campaign was ‘harvested’ on behalf of TNS and made available through TNS to the research group.

The Conference

The conference would not have been possible without the generous support of its host institution, the MZES.

The conference is co-funded by the Fritz-Thyssen-Foundation.

The conference dinner on Saturday night is co-sponsored by the Mercator Foundation.

The Convenors

Hermann Schmitt, Sara Hobolt and Sebastian A. Popa are most grateful to all institutions and actors involved for their support.