



**European Governance and Politics Programme – Annual Conference 2020/2021**

## **EUROPE'S CHANGING POLITICAL SYSTEM AND ISSUE SPACE. WHAT LESSONS FROM THE 2019 EUROPEAN ELECTIONS?**

**25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021 | Zoom**

### **Organizers**

**Lorenzo Cicchi** | European University Institute

**Diego Garzia** | University of Lausanne

**Brigid Laffan** | European University Institute

**Alexander H. Trechsel** | University of Luzern

**Abstract.** The 2019 European Parliament elections have been described as 'a fateful election for Europe'. Despite the outcome not matching the feared landslide success of Eurosceptic and populist forces, the general picture is that of a European Union where polarization and politicization is higher than the past. The EGPP Annual Conference 2020 presents high-level scholarly research on, broadly, the drivers and consequences of the electoral results of May 2019, as well as the European political space and its (reshaped?) dimensionality.

## Conference Programme

Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021

- 14.15 - 14.30 Introduction  
Welcome by the organizers
- 14.30 - 15.00 Opening keynote speech  
Introduction by **Brigid Laffan** | European University Institute  
**Simon Hix** | London School of Economics (TBC)
- 15.00 - 16.30 Panel I – Europe’s issue space (1/2)  
**Chair & discussant: Alexander H. Trechsel**  
*Betrothed or strangers together? Territorial divides and electoral change in Western Europe* **Davide Angelucci** and **Lorenzo De Sio** | Luiss University Rome  
*New challenges for representative democracy: the changing issue space in Western Europe* **Nicola Maggini** | Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies  
*Beyond the U-Curve: Citizen and Party Preferences on European Integration in Multidimensional Policy Space* **Dimitër Toshkov** | Leiden University  
*Comparing Party Positions in a European Multidimensional Political Space: a Cross-Validation of the EU Profiler/euandi Longitudinal Dataset, 2009-2019* **Frederico Ferreira da Silva** | University of Lausanne **Andres Reiljan** | European University Institute **Lorenzo Cicchi** | European University Institute | **Diego Garzia** | University of Lausanne and **Alexander H. Trechsel** | University of Luzern
- 16.30 – 17.00 Break
- 17.00 – 18.30 Panel II Europe’s issue space (2/2)  
**Chair & discussant: TBC**  
*GAL/TAN Cleavage in the European Parliament: Scrutinizing Euroscepticism across Party Groups from 2009 to 2019 and Beyond* **Catarina Silva** and **Laura Ferreira-Pereira** | CICP/University of Minho – Braga, Portugal  
*The European Foreign Policy Space: Continuity and Change in the European Parliament* **Wolfgang Wagner** | Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam and **Tapio Raunio** | University of Tampere  
*European solidarity as a contested terrain after the crises: a multidimensional approach* **Alessandro Pellegata** and **Francesco Visconti** | University of Milan  
*The Union of Self-Interest? Party and Voter Level Support Towards European Integration Across Different Policy Domains* **Andres Reiljan** | European University Institute **Frederico Ferreira da Silva** | University of Lausanne **Lorenzo Cicchi** |

**Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

09.00 – 10.30 Panel III – Institutions (1/2, electoral systems)

**Chair & Discussant: Lorenzo Cicchi**

*How can I vote? European Parliament elections 2019*

**Alina Dobрева** | European Parliamentary Research Service

*One Game Played by Two Dozen Rules: An Analysis of National Electoral Models and Electoral Strategies at the 2019 European Parliament Election* **Višeslav Raos** | University of Zagreb

*How to measure electoral victories in the European Parliament*

**Luciano Bardi** | European University Institute and **Enrico Calossi** | Università di Pisa

*Transnational Lists or Double Proportionality at future European Elections?* **Friedrich Pukelsheim** | University of Augsburg

10.30 – 11.00 Break

11.00 – 12.30 Panel IV – Institutions (2/2, Spitzenkandidaten and selectorate)

**Chair & discussant: Brigid Laffan**

*Can the Spitzenkandidat process create a European public sphere? The case of German, Luxembourgish, French, Belgian, Spanish, Italian, Greek, and British press* **Stergios Fotopoulos** and **Luciano Morganti** (VUB Brussels)

*European elections? A reality check on MEP recruitment* **Friedrich Pukelsheim** | University of Augsburg, **Kai-Friederike Oelbermann** | Anhalt University of Applied Sciences and **Wilhelm Lehmann** | European University Institute

*The transformation of political elites in the European Union after 2008. What is next after the constraining dissensus?* **Marcel Hadeed** | Robert Bosch Foundation and **Monika Sus** | Hertie School & Polish Academy of Science

12.30 - 13.30 Break

13.30 - 15.00 Panel V – Citizens (Party choice & turnout)

**Chair & discussant: Diego Garzia**

*Running Fast, Broad but Less Deep? The relationship between Internet campaigning and political attitudes during the 2019 EP elections* **Tiago Silva** | University of Lisbon

*Issues That Mobilize Europeans. Understanding the role of key policy issues for voter turnout in the 2019 EP elections* **Daniela Braun** | LMU Munich and **Constantin**

**Schäfer** | University of Münster

*A European Parliament Election as a Referendum* **Richard Rose** | University of Strathclyde and **Ian McAllister** | Australian National University

15.00 - 15.30 Break

15.30 - 17.00 Panel VI – Case study: populism and radical right

**Chair & Discussant: TBC**

*Putting the Blame Back on Brussels: Self-Defense Strategies of the Radical Right in the 2019 European Elections* **Boris Popivanov** | Sofia University

*Populist Mediatization: How Hungary's Fidesz Became the Strongest Populist Party in the EU (1989–2019)* **Mátiás Máté** | Corvinus University of Budapest

*The growing electoral success of the (Northern) League* **Alessio Scopelliti** | University of Bristol

*Far-Right in the European Parliament: The Greek case between radical-right populism and extremism* **George Kordas** | Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences

17.00 – 17.30 Conclusions and next steps

Closing remarks by the organizers