



# 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 Studie, which were initiated at the University of Mannheim at the occasion of the 1<sup>st</sup> direct election of MEPs in 1979*

# Conference Programme

## (near final)

### **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 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

**Do Candidates Matter? The Influence of Commission President Candidates on attitudes towards 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

**The politicization of the institutional set-up of the EU in European Election Campaigns 2014 in Germany, the United Kingdom and Denmark**

Lisa H. Anders, University of Potsdam  
Thomas Tuntschew, University of Potsdam

**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, Catholic University of Leuven  
Pierre Baudewyns, Catholic University of Leuven

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

Ike 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: Institutional challenges (17:00-18:30 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 (University of Montreal), 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

Amuítz 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

**20:00 hrs Dinner at *Goldene Gans* (individual bills)**

**Saturday 7 November**

**Panel 4: Parties and party competition (9:30-11:00 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

**Normalizing EU party competition? A longitudinal study of national parties' Euromanifestos**

Daniela Braun, University of Munich

Swen Hutter, European University Institute

## **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

### **Coffee Break 11:00 – 11:30 hrs**

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

#### **Voter Uncertainty and Party Strategy in EP Elections**

Guido Tiemann, Institute for Advanced Studies, Vienna

#### **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, Michigan Institute of Technology & European University Institute

### **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 (European Election Studies); Jacques Nancy (European Parliament); Maria Theofilatou (European Commission, tbc); Cora Ziegenbalg (Volkswagen Foundation, tbc).

*Chair: Sara B. Hobolt*

**Concluding Remarks**

18:00 hrs Professor Marc Debus, Director Research Department *European Political Systems and their Integration*, Mannheim Centre for European Social Research

**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***

*The Voter Study of the 2014 European Election Study was designed and carried out in co-operation with the European Parliament. The EES part of the study was funded by a consortium of private foundations, led by the Volkswagen Foundation and supported by the Mercator Foundation, the Swedish Riksbank Foundation, and the Portuguese Gulbenkian Foundation. In charge of the fieldwork, TNS Opinion generously supported the study.*

*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 study.*

***The Conference***

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

*The conference dinner on Saturday night will be 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.*