

Call for Papers - Democratic Innovations: Responding to Great Challenges

ECPR 2019 General Conference

University of Wrocław, Poland

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Democratic Innovations: Responding to Great Challenges

ECPR 2019 General Conference

Submit your paper or panel proposal by February 18th, 2019

This section is endorsed by the Standing Group on Democratic Innovations

Section Chairs: Edana Beauvais, McGill University & Matt Ryan, University of Southampton

Although democratic innovations provide good news stories for advocates of political reform, political systems are still straining to provide basic democratic goods. Are democratic innovations a solution or a distraction from democracies' greatest ills? How can innovation in democratic systems provide for empowered participation that develops personal preferences into enriched collective opinions and clever collective decisions? What kinds of democratic innovations are required to enhance the democratic capacities of political systems?

The 2019 ECPR Conference Democratic Innovations Section Proposal addresses these questions by bring-ing together advocates and skeptics of democratic innovations. This section is structured around three themes: Innovating Inclusions, Enriching Public-Opinion through Innovation, and Innovating Demo-cratic Decision-Making.

Innovating Inclusions

Democracy begins with inclusion. How can democratic innovations address challenges of inclusion in increasingly pluralised and globally interconnected societies?

Enriching Public Opinion Through Innovation

Collective rule requires that people combine their personal preferences into collective agendas. How can democratic innovations harness the potential of new technologies, social movements, and institutional design for sharing useful information and making connections?

Innovating Democratic Decision-Making

Growing global interdependencies, polarisation, and disa ected citizens contribute to political gridlock and fuel anti-democratic sentiments. How can demo-cratic innovations support the decision- making ca-pacities of democratic systems?

We welcome paper and panel proposals on or before February 18th, 2019.

Papers and panels must be submitted through the ECPR Portal. Papers submitted as part of a Panel do not need to be resubmitted individually. To make a proposal, you and your co-author(s) must have MyECPR pro les. Alternatively, your Paper can be part of a pre-formed Panel proposal, co-ordinated and submitted as a complete Panel by a Panel Chair.

About the Section Chairs

Dr. Edana Beauvais is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Centre for the Study of Democratic Citizenship, McGill University. Her research considers how demo-cratic innovations can be designed to neutralize in-equalities and promote more inclusive deliberation and policy-making. She is a collaborator on the Participedia Project and a member of Equal Voice Canada. Her recent publications appear in the Euro-pean Journal of Political Research, the Oxford Hand-book of Deliberative Democracy, and PS: Political Science and Politics. Edana can be contacted at edana.beauvais@mail.mcgill.ca.

Dr. Matt Ryan is Lecturer in Governance and Public Policy at the University of Southampton. His research focuses on democratic innovation and par-ticipation in politics, the policymaking process, and social science research methods. He chairs the re-search committee of the Participedia Project, a global network of scholars and practitioners dedicated to understanding participatory democratic innovations. His most recent publications appear in the European Journal of Political Research, Nonpro t and Volun-tary Sector Quarterly, and Local Government Studies. Matt can be contacted at m.g.ryan@soton.ac.uk.