



Political Studies
Association



Irish Politics Group

Constitution

(adopted April 2010)

Name

The group shall be called the UK Political Studies Association Irish Politics Specialist Group

Objectives

The objectives of the group are:

- 1) to promote the study of the government and politics of Ireland, north and south
 - 2) to facilitate contact between scholars (senior academics, new entrants and graduate students) and practitioners engaged in the study of Irish politics, including fostering close links between the PSA and the Political Studies Association of Ireland (PSAI)
 - 3) to organize conferences and other events
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Membership

Membership shall be open to all members of the UK Political Studies Association. No more than 25% of total membership shall be made up of non-PSA members, not including such reciprocal arrangements that may be made with the PSAI. After full consultation and approval by members at the AGM, an annual membership fee may be charged, the rate also to be determined each year at the Annual General Meeting.

Governance arrangements

The group shall be governed by an executive committee of officers, consisting of at least a Convenor/Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. All of these should be members of the group and of PSA (other officers may be elected as deemed necessary). Tenure of office holders shall be three years, elected by secret ballot at the Annual General Meeting of the group. All officers shall be eligible for re-election without term limit. The committee may co-opt not more than two members. Officers shall vacate office upon resignation or dismissal by resolution of a general meeting of the group. Vacancies arising between AGM's shall be filled *pro tem* under such rules of procedure as the committee shall direct.

Records

The executive officers shall make appropriate arrangements for keeping accurate records of membership and activities (including minutes of meetings, financial accounts, and the Annual Report). This will be available for inspection by any member of the group.

Meetings

An Annual General Meeting shall be held, either during the PSA annual conference or at other group events. Other meetings shall be arranged as necessary.

Finance

Funding applications to the PSA shall be made at the discretion of the committee by the treasurer of the group, who shall present a report to each AGM. Decisions about expenditure shall be taken by the executive committee after wide consultation with group members. Funds may be disbursed on a range of activities, including *inter alia* organising conferences and other activities, facilitating attendance at conferences, and promoting the development of graduate students. Income may be raised through conferences and other events; for group sponsored events, the charge for non-PSA members shall be higher than that for PSA/PSAI members.

PSA Constitution

The operation and activities of the group shall be in conformance with the Constitution of the PSA.

Amendment of the Constitution

This constitution may be amended or altered only by a resolution supported by two-thirds of the members present and voting at a general meeting, provided that no alteration shall contravene any part of the PSA's Constitution.

This constitution shall be made available to all members of the group on request.