

SISG Constitution

1 Name

The group shall be called the Security and Intelligence Studies Group (SISG) Specialist Group of the Political Studies Association.

2 Objects

1. To promote and advance the study of security and intelligence, in its narrow and widest connotations.
2. To facilitate contact and communication between people with an academic or professional (practitioner) interest in security and intelligence issues. .
3. To maintain a high public profile for the results of research in these areas.
4. To achieve these objectives by: organising group conferences, panels at general conferences and other events; and facilitating publications in scholarly journals and with academic and trade press outlets.

3 Membership

Membership shall be open to all members of the Political Studies Association (PSA) of the UK (and similar national associations, including BISA and the ECPR) and to others with a professional interest in security and intelligence issues.

For the 2010-11 academic year there shall be no annual membership fee, but this is subject to review by the executive committee (see 4, below) annually. In years where there is a fee, this shall be at a reduced rate for PSA/BISA members and at a further reduced rate for graduate students.

4 Officers

The officers of the group shall comprise a Convenor, a Treasurer and a Communications Officer. The term of office for each shall normally be three years but each may serve up to two terms consecutively. They shall be current PSA members and shall be elected in separate votes by members of the group at the appropriate annual general meeting.

The duties of the officers shall include:

- Ensuring that membership records are managed efficiently
- Maintaining financial records and overseeing financial arrangements
- Producing and circulating newsletters and other suitable communications
- Ensuring that arrangements are made for the annual conference and the group's activities at the PSA conference
- Liaising with the PSA
- Ensuring the production of publications as agreed by the membership
- In undertaking these tasks, responsibility may be delegated to other members of the group.

5 Advisory group

There shall be an advisory group comprising all former convenors of SISG willing to be involved. Members of the advisory group shall offer advice and support to the current officers and have the responsibility of ensuring that the group is run satisfactorily and in accordance with custom and practice established since its inception.

6 Vacation of office/casual vacancies

Officers may resign at any time or may be removed by resolution of the annual general meeting of the group. If necessary, interim arrangements shall be made by the advisory group. Casual vacancies shall be filled by the annual general meeting of the group at the first available opportunity.

7 Annual General Meeting

The annual general meeting shall normally be held during the group's annual conference, although for 2010-11 it will be held at the PSA Annual Conference in March 2011.

8 Political Studies Association

The group shall be governed by the appropriate clauses of the Articles of Association of the PSA with regard to any matter not covered by this Constitution.

9 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 an annual general meeting, provided that no alteration shall contravene the Articles of Association of the PSA.

(Constitution drawn up by RM DOVER, and to be confirmed by the SISG in March 2011, at the PSA Annual Conference).