

State Theory Group Constitution

1 Name

The group shall be called the State Theory Specialist Group of the Political Studies Association.

2 Objects

- Maintain a network to facilitate communication and collaboration between individuals researching and teaching state theory, within the UK and overseas
- Provide a forum, via the PSA annual conference and regular meetings of the group, for the presentation and discussion of research
- Develop and promote state theory as an area of teaching and research

For the purposes of this group state theory is defined broadly. It embraces theoretical and empirical work that seeks to enhance our understanding of the nature and development of, and prospects for, the state. The focus of the group is not confined to the contemporary or capitalist type of state, but embraces other historical and socio-economic contexts. The group welcomes work on the state from any theoretical perspective.

3 Membership

Membership shall be open to all members of the Political Studies Association (PSA) of the UK (and similar national associations) and to others with a professional interest in state theory.

There shall be an annual membership fee, the amount to be determined each year at the annual general meeting. The fee for members of the PSA will be less than that for non-members. A reduced fee will be payable by graduate students.

4 Officers

The officers of the group shall normally comprise a Convenor and a Vice-Convenor. The annual general meeting may decide to appoint additional officers. 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 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. Casual vacancies shall be filled by the annual general meeting of the group at the first available opportunity.

6 Annual General Meeting

The annual general meeting shall normally be held during the group's annual conference, or at the PSA Annual conference. The AGM shall elect officers and act as an advisory group.

7 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.

8 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 drafted by the convenors in October 2010 for formal ratification at the next AGM of the State Theory Specialist Group]