

Political Studies Harrison Prize 2015

Members of the PSA will be aware that each year *Political Studies* makes an award of the Harrison Prize for the best article published in the journal each year. The Harrison Prize is named in honour of Wilfrid Harrison, who was Chair of Association from 1963 - 1964 and the first editor of *Political Studies*.

Winner

The winner of the Harrison Prize 2015 is: 'Emergency Europe' by Jonathan White (LSE) published in *Political Studies* Issue 2; June 2015.

Citation

White's article identifies a troubling phenomenon in Europe: the increasing turn to emergency politics, typically justified by politicians as 'exceptional measures for exceptional times'. In White's analysis, this is not so much the suspension of supposedly normal rules of liberal democracy as anticipated in Carl Schmitt's analysis of states of emergency. More commonly, it involves a less stark suspension of normal processes of deliberation, accelerated processes of reform, or the hurried creation of new institutions. The paper is written with exemplary clarity; it alerts us to a new phenomenon; and raises troubling questions about this normalisation of emergency politics and its effects on democratic politics. White argues that the rhetoric and practices of emergency politics 'makes a virtue of haste and can delegitimise dissent, undercutting public debate on matters of lasting consequence'.

Judging Panel

The Judges for the Harrison Prize this year were Sarah Childs (Bristol), Anne Phillips (LSE), Stephen Bell (Sydney), Simon Lightfoot (Leeds) and Eric Herring (Bristol). We would like to thank them for their generous support in reading all the articles in the volume and selecting this year's winner.

An outstanding field

The panel for the Harrison Prize 2015 evaluated all 75 articles published in volume 63 of *Political Studies* (five print issues plus the online special issue) according to the guidelines provided. Initially a longlist of potential candidates was created based on the originality, rigour and significance of the contributions. Next the panel agreed on a shortlist of 6 articles. The panel extensively discussed the strengths, scope and importance of each article in the shortlist and ranked them in the final round.

Runners Up

Every year, the Harrison Prize judges comment on the quality of the articles published and which are considered for the award. As Editors of the journal, we agree with them that even those articles which are not selected as winners but nonetheless make it through to the final stage ought to be publicly acknowledged. Here, therefore, are the details of the other articles shortlisted for the Harrison Prize 2015:

Dana Brown and Jette Steen Knudsen: 'Domestic Institutions and Market Pressures as Drivers of Corporate Social Responsibility: Company Initiatives in Denmark and the UK'

Markus Holdo: 'Strategies of Deliberation: Bourdieu and Struggles over Legitimate Positions'

John Horton and Ryan Gabriel Windeknecht: 'Is There a Distinctively Associative Account of Political Obligation?'

Shirin Rai: 'Political Performance: A Framework for Analysing Democratic Politics'

Adham Saouli: 'Performing the Egyptian Revolution: Origins of Collective Restraint Action in the Midan'

Chris Pierson, Cees van der Eijk and Mark Wenman
Editors of *Political Studies*
University of Nottingham