



**PSA TERRITORIAL POLITICS
SPECIALIST GROUP**

CAPITALS, THE CENTRAL STATE, & CONSTITUTIONAL POLITICS

**Call for Papers: Capitals, the Central State, and Constitutional Politics
PSA Territorial Politics Specialist Group Conference**

18-19 May 2023

Queen's University Belfast

In-person event

Territorial politics and the crises thereof have long been the subject of scholarly and public conversation. Sub-state conflicts, such as Scottish and Catalan independence referendums and fragile peace processes in Northern Ireland and Kosovo, have invigorated these studies. However, territorial and nationalist politics also happen in state capitals. The central state is a space for designing multi-level institutions, mobilizing nationalist discourses, and creating and contesting national identity. Global political crises, such as climate change, COVID and financial recessions, and the development of international organisations often challenge dominant state nationalism. At the same time, state nationalism is, as Billig coined, often 'banal'. In this conference, we seek to make this aspect of territorial politics explicit.

We welcome proposals that address the territorial politics of the central state in a wide variety of cases, in and outside of the UK. The following themes might be particularly relevant:

- State nationalism or patriotism
- Territorial discourses of state-wide politicians or political parties
- Re- or de-centralization of policymaking
- National identity and cultures
- Urban politics and capital cities

How to submit your paper proposal

Please submit your abstract and details through this [application form](#) by the 15th of January 2022. We will notify applicants by the 15th of February 2022.

There is no participation fee, but presenters are responsible for arranging accommodation, travel, and dinner expenses. We encourage junior researchers, researchers of the Global South, women, and minorities to submit their proposals. Limited funding is available for early career researchers to cover expenses.

Any questions? Contact judith.sijstermans@abdn.ac.uk.