Political Studies Association 67th Annual International Conference, Glasgow

10 – 12 April 2017

Media Programme

In 2017, the PSA’s Annual Conference will be opened up to the media for the first time. Press passes are available by registration only, and will offer access to all events listed in the media programme below.

Please contact stefanie.mair@psa.ac.uk to register for a press pass.

If you are interested in attending other conference sessions outside of this programme this will be decided on a case by case basis. Please contact Stefanie.Mair@psa.ac.uk to enquire.

Sunday 9 April (pre-conference event)

17:30 - 20:00, England after Brexit: The View from Scotland
Leading thinker on Englishness, Dr Andy Mycock (University of Huddersfield), talks to top Scottish commentators on the recently intensified deliberations about English identity politics and constitutional reform. Prompted by the Scottish independence referendum, the Brexit vote, and the introduction of ‘English Votes for English Laws’ and devolution of power within England, debates about the developing 'politics of England' have lacked voices from elsewhere in the UK.

This event will bring together Zara Kitson (Green Party), Robin McAlpine (Common Weal), and David Torrance (Glasgow Herald columnist) to discuss the form and content of English identity and constitutional politics and its potential implications for Scotland.

Monday 10 April

11:15 – 12:15 Gender and Politics: Political Recruitment and Parliament
Professor Sarah Childs (University of Bristol), Dr Meryl Kenny (University of Edinburgh) and Rt Hon Harriet Harman QC MP (Member for Camberwell and Peckham), will discuss the various issues and obstacles surrounding gender equality in politics including; gender equal recruitment, making parliament more diversity friendly, and feminising political leadership. Drawing on some of their latest research, panellists will look at these issues through a comparative lens in terms of the differences between Holyrood and Westminster.

12:30 – 13:30 Perspectives on Brexit
Hear from leading academics, Professor Anand Menon (King's College London and Director of the UK in a Changing Europe initiative) and Professor Michael Keating (University of Aberdeen), plus MEP Anneliese Dodds (Member for South East England) on how the Article 50 process might play out, both in the UK and Brussels, whether the UK will be able to negotiate a trade deal within two years, and the potential constraints on that ability.
14:15 – 15:45 Q&A with Rt Hon Harriet Harman QC MP (Member for Camberwell and Peckham)
Professor Sarah Childs (University of Bristol) is in conversation with Harriet Harman who will be signing copies of her new book, A Woman’s Work.

Tuesday 11 April

13:30 – 15:30 'Designing for Democracy' Roundtable
Sponsored by the PSA Parliaments and Legislatures Specialist Group
This session will explore the relationship between architecture and democracy through a focus on the proposed multi-billion Restoration and Renewal Programme for the Palace of Westminster. The Rt Hon. Lord Blunkett (House of Lords/University of Sheffield), Lord Norton of Louth (House of Lords/University of Hull), Professor Matt Flinders (Chair, PSA), Professor Sarah Childs (University of Bristol), Dr Henrik Schoenefeldt (University of Kent), Dr Stephen Thornton (Cardiff University) and Dr Paul Seaward (History of Parliament Trust) will come together to discuss the issues, draw on best practice and help shape the agenda going forward. This event forms part of the wider Designing for Democracy research and public engagement programme conducted by the Crick Centre.

15:30 – 17:00 The Impact of the French Presidential Elections
Leading experts on French politics, Dr Sue Collard (University of Sussex), Professor Robert Elgie (Dublin City University), Dr Aurélien Mondon (University of Bath), Dr Nicholas Startin (University of Bath) and Dr Benjamin Leruth (University of Kent / University of Canberra) share their predictions and insights on the upcoming French presidential elections.

19:30 - Conference dinner with Nicola Sturgeon
Scotland’s First Minister and leader of the Scottish National Party, Nicola Sturgeon, will address conference delegates with a short speech followed by a Q&A with delegates. Members of the press will be invited to listen to the speech from a gallery.

Wednesday 12 April

11:00 – 12:30 Parliamentary Reform
Speakers: Fiona McLeod MSP (Member, Commission on Parliamentary Reform, Scotland), Very Rev Dr Lorna Hood (Member, Commission on Parliamentary Reform, Scotland) and Professor Lord Norton of Louth (University of Hull)
Chair: John McCormick (Chair, Commission on Parliamentary Reform, Scotland)

Please note: The Commission will not be in a position to talk about what a final report will conclude, so no advance sight of recommendations can be given.

13:30 - 15:00 Making Sense of the EU Referendum?
Brexit will impact more than UK/EU relations, bringing many social policy areas up for debate that did not feature predominantly in the referendum campaign. Drawing on data from the British Election Study, Dr Kathryn Simpson (Manchester Metropolitan University), Dr Sioned Pearce (Cardiff University), Dr Stuart Fox (Cardiff University) and Professor John Curtice (University of Strathclyde), will assess the potential impact of the Brexit vote across a range of domestic policy areas, including immigration, the economy and health.