

Anti-Politics and Depoliticisation Special Group Newsletter

September 2014

Welcome to the Anti-politics and Depoliticisation Special Group's first quarterly newsletter. The APDSG's organising team recently expanded and a global network for studying depoliticisation comparatively is being established. APDSG will be applying for a number of research grants, organising various workshops and panels, and developing a number of book proposals over the next year. This newsletter is intended to keep members up to date with the latest developments in the network, and let members know how they can get involved. The newsletter also keeps members up to date with recent publications on anti-politics and depoliticisation.

ECPR Research Sessions



The APDSG convenors were at this year's ECPR Research Sessions in Essex, a productive and lively workshop that produced a number of outputs for development over the next year. Most prominently, this includes the creation of an international network for conducting comparative research on depoliticisation, and an application to the UK Leverhulme Trust for further funding. The network will be run through seven coordinating universities in the UK, Germany, Portugal, Australia, and Hungary, which will hold workshops to develop chapters for edited collections and journal special issues on depoliticisation. Funding will also be provided for a research retreat to develop an interdisciplinary conceptual framework for the project. Network events will be held at the Central European University in Budapest in October and the University of York in December 2014 to begin developing book chapters for edited collections on depoliticisation. The network already includes nearly 90 members, for more information and to become involved, email apdsg.network@gmail.com

One-Day Workshop in collaboration with Political Studies Association and CEU Center for Policy Studies, 10 October 2014, Budapest

The workshop will be the first in a series of collaborative events APDSG has put forward for the 2014-2015 academic year as part of its proposed international comparative project on (de)politicisation. Supported by the PSA Special Activities Funding Award, the workshop will bring together junior and senior researchers from the United Kingdom and Europe to initiate collaboration towards an edited book collection. The accommodation and subsistence expenses of contributors will be covered by the available funds for the full duration of the workshop. A further workshop will be held this December at the University of York, with further details to be announced shortly.

Call for Papers: 2015 Political Studies Association Conference in Sheffield

Next year's Political Studies Association General Conference will be held in Sheffield from April 2015. As a Specialist Group of the PSA we are able to submit special panels around the themes of anti-politics and depoliticisation. If you have an idea for a panel, or a paper that could be included in one of the APDSG panels submitted to the conference organisers, please contact [Matt Wood](#).

Organising Team

The APDSG's organising team has recently been formalised and now includes:

Jim Buller (University of York) – j.buller@york.ac.uk



Jim is formal Chair of the group and heads up the international advisory committee. Jim's research interests include the theory and practice of British public policy, including foreign and defence policy; Europeanisation and the European Union; and the subject area of depoliticisation. He is currently writing a book on 'The International Sources of British Politics'.

Pinar Donmez (Central European University) - DonmezP@ceu.hu



Pinar is one of the founders and currently the primary Convenor of the APDSG. She is also in charge of website content. Her doctoral research has investigated the dynamics of (de)politicisation in the restructuring of state and social relations in the Turkish context within a critical political economy

perspective. She is currently a visiting research fellow at CEU Center for Policy Studies and interested in learning more about how these dynamics play out in different country contexts and issue areas in comparative terms with a particular emphasis on societal (re-)politicisation in the post-crisis context.

Ross Beveridge (Leibniz Institute for Regional Development, (IRS)) - Beveridge@irs-net.de



Ross is the APDSG's blogs and social media coordinator. His most recent research has examined de/politicisation in urban governance, in particular the contestations of infrastructure and environmental policy in Berlin and other German cities. He is particularly interested in how these are generating new forms of politics and political agency in cities.

Matt Wood (University of Sheffield) – m.wood@sheffield.ac.uk



Matt is the APDSG's public engagement coordinator and co-founder in 2013. He writes the quarterly newsletter and is responsible for publicising the group in the policy world and wider public sphere. Matt completed his PhD entitled 'Depoliticisation, Crisis and Governance' in January 2014 and is now working at the Sir Bernard Crick Centre for the Public Understanding of Politics. He has various other interests ranging from everyday politics and political legitimacy to moral panics and the 'impact agenda' in political science.

Caroline Kuzemko (Exeter University) – c.kuzemko@exeter.ac.uk



Caroline is financial coordinator, responsible for allocating the APDSG's annual budget. She is currently part of a team called Innovation and Governance (IGov) investigating complex inter-relationships between modes of energy governance and innovative, sustainable change. Caroline has expertise in international political economy with specialized interests in energy and climate policymaking, governance norms and institutional change.

Adam Standring (New University of Lisbon) - adam.standring@gmail.com



Adam is membership coordinator, responsible for managing membership applications. He is also responsible for engaging with Post-Graduate Researchers together with Jennifer. Adam's Doctoral thesis examines the Europeanization of drug policies.

Jennifer Thompson (Postgraduate Coordinator) - jennifercthomson@gmail.com



Jennifer is the APDSG's postgraduate coordinator, together with Adam Standring. Her doctoral research aims to understand the reasons behind the continued differing abortion legislation in

Northern Ireland and the rest of the UK. Her research takes a feminist institutionalist approach to the study of formal political spaces.

Become a member of the organising team

Membership of the organising team is open to all members of APDSG who are also members of the UK Political Studies Association, and anyone interested in having a role should contact Adam Standing.

Latest Publications on Anti-politics and Depoliticisation

In our quarterly newsletters we'll also be highlighting recently published articles and books that we think would be of interest to APDSG members. We try to pick out publications that are cross- and inter-disciplinary in nature, so should appeal to a wide range of readers. Some recent publications are listed below:

[Darling, J. \(2014\). Asylum and the Post-Political: Domopolitics, Depoliticisation and Acts of Citizenship. *Antipode*, 46\(1\), 72-91.](#)

[Madra, Y. M. and Adaman, F. \(2014\). Neoliberal Reason and Its Forms: De-Politicisation Through Economisation. *Antipode*, 46\(3\), 691-716.](#)

[Strange, G. \(2014\). Depoliticisation, the management of money and the renewal of social democracy: New Labour's Keynesianism and the political economy of 'discretionary constraint'. *New Political Economy*, 19\(1\), 138-154.](#)

[Wood, M. \(2014\). Puzzling and powering in policy paradigm shifts: politicization, depoliticization and social learning. *Critical Policy Studies*, \(ahead-of-print\), 1-20.](#)