

Constitution of the PSA Specialist Group: Politics and Policy in East Asia

First Officer: Co-convenor and Treasurer - Dr Liam McCarthy

Second Officer: Co-convenor – Dr Leanne-Marie Cotter

Name: The group shall be called the UK Political Studies Association Politics and Policy in East Asia

Objectives

The objectives of the group are:

1. To promote and advance the study of politics, government and governance in East Asia
2. To facilitate contact and communication between people with an academic or professional interest in East Asia
3. To maintain a high public profile for the results of research in these areas.
4. To bring together and create a stronger sense of identity and common purpose among those political theorists, political scientists, economists, historians, and practitioners who currently study East Asia
5. To encourage the creation and dissemination of high quality research on all aspects of (theoretical and empirical) research on East Asia through a web presence and by specialist conferences and workshops.
6. To organise collaborative work, group conferences, panels at general conferences and other events; and awarding prizes.
7. To encourage and create an inclusive environment for post-graduate students, those new to the research area, or those who may want engage with the region.

Membership

Membership shall be open to all members of the UK Political Studies Association and others with an active research, teaching and/or professional interest in East Asia.

Officers

The group shall have two officers, a Convenor and a Co-Convenor. Both will hold office for three years and shall be elected by a vote among the members of the group, conducted either at the group's AGM or by electronic means (for example via e-mail). Both officers must be current members of the PSA. The Lead Convenor and Co-Convenor shall both be eligible for re-election. Sharing the post of convenor between two people shall be permitted.

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, providing an annual report to the AGM, liaising with the PSA in undertaking these tasks, (responsibility may be delegated to other members of the group).

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. If necessary, interim arrangements shall be made by the advisory group. Casual vacancies shall be filled by the annual general meeting of the group at the first available opportunity

Records

Records shall be kept by the Lead Convenor and made available for inspection by any member of the group if so required. These records will include minutes of any meetings and the annual report. Current membership lists shall be maintained.

Annual General Meeting

The annual general meeting shall normally be held during the PSA's annual conference.

Meetings

Either type of meeting can be held, at the discretion of the convenor, using telephony or other electronic media instead of an actual gathering. The annual general meeting shall be held during the PSA annual conference each year or at another time, at the decision of the convenor. No fewer than 14 days notice of an annual general meeting shall be given. Other general meetings shall be called at the discretion of the convenor or at the written request of no fewer than six members of the group. Notice of no fewer than three days, excluding weekends and bank holidays, shall be given.

Finance

On vacating office, the Lead Convenor of the group shall hand over the books of account to his or her duly elected successor.

Applications by the group to the PSA for grants of money shall be made at the discretion of the Lead Convenor. The Lead Convenor may decide to make available sums of money to facilitate the presence of speakers at the PSA annual conference or other appropriate academic conferences. In that case, a decision on the amount to be made available will be decided no later than two months prior to the conference and bids for funding will be invited from the group's membership. Once all bids have been received, the Lead Convenor will decide how to allocate the money.

Only PSA members are eligible to receive funding from the group for any activity.

Each year the group will award a prize or prizes totalling £100 for the best paper on East Asia (by PSA members, or those attending PSA Annual Conference, or specialist conference/workshops). The prize will be judged by a selected member of the PSA Specialist Group Politics and Policy in East Asia, in consultation with the previous years' winner and at least one other member of the group co-opted for that purpose. None of the judging panel will be eligible for a prize that year.

PSA Constitution

The group shall be governed by the appropriate clauses of the PSA constitution with regard to any matter not covered by this constitution.

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 a general meeting, provided that no alteration shall contravene any part of the PSA's Constitution. This constitution shall be made available to all members of the group on request.