

CONSTITUTION OF PSA SPECIALIST GROUP: THE POLITICS OF WORK AND WELFARE

1. Name

The group shall be called the UK Political Studies Association Specialist Group The Politics of Work and Welfare.

2. Objects

The objects of the group are to:

- (i) to promote the study of the politics of work and welfare;
- (ii) to bring together scholars working in this area and facilitate contacts between them;
- (iii) to develop theoretical and empirical research in the area of work and welfare, both in the UK and elsewhere where comparative approaches may be useful;
- (iv) to explore new political science approaches to the study of work and welfare.

3. Membership

Membership shall be open to all members of the UK Political Studies Association. Officers shall verify PSA membership when registering new specialist group members. Membership of non-PSA members shall be limited to no more than 50% of the total membership.

There is no annual membership fee.

4. Officers

The officers of the group shall be members at the time of election. They consist of the Chair, Secretary and Treasurer, and such other officers as the group deems necessary. They shall hold office for three years and shall be elected by separate vote from among members of the group at Annual General Meetings of the group. Officers shall be current members of the PSA. An officer shall be eligible for re-election subject to being a current member of PSA and the specialist group.

5. Records

Records shall be kept by the Secretary and made available for inspection by any member of the group if requested. Such records will include minutes of any meetings, minutes of the AGM, and the Annual Report. Current membership lists shall be maintained.

6. Government

The group shall be governed by a Committee consisting of the Officers of the group, as defined in 4 above, and not less than two other members of the group who shall be elected every three years under such rules as the AGM shall direct. The Committee shall have powers to co-opt up to two members.

7. Vacation of office

Any Officer shall vacate his/her office upon resignation or upon dismissal by a resolution of a general meeting of the group.

8. Casual vacancies

Whether of Officer or of other members of the Committee, vacancies shall be filled by election from among the members of the group under such rules of procedure as the Committee shall direct. All those elected to such casual vacancies shall be current members of the PSA.

9. Annual General Meeting

The AGM shall be held during the PSA annual conference or at a special one-day conference convened at the decision of the Committee. Not less than fourteen days clear notice (i.e. excluding weekends and bank holidays) of the AGM shall be given. At least five members of the group shall be present for the AGM to be quorate.

10. General meetings

General meetings shall be called at the direction of the Committee or at the written request of not less than six members of the group. Notice of not less than three clear days shall be given.

11. Finance

Applications by the group to PSA for grants of money shall be made at the discretion of the Committee by the Treasurer of the group. The Treasurer shall present a report to each AGM, which will decide how current and expected income is to be spent during the period prior to the following AGM.

The Committee may decide to make funds available to facilitate the presence of speakers at the PSA annual conference. In that case, a decision on the amount to be made available shall be decided by the Committee no later than two months prior to the PSA annual conference, and bids will be invited from the group's membership.

On vacating office, the Treasurer shall hand over the books of account to his/her successor.

12. PSA Constitution

The group shall be governed by the appropriate clauses of the PSA Constitution with regard to any matter not covered by the group's Constitution.

13. Amendment

The group's 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 alternation or amendment shall contravene any part of the PSA Constitution.

The group's Constitution shall be available to all members on request.