

PSA FRENCH POLITICS, POLICY AND SOCIETY SPECIALIST GROUP: CONSTITUTION

Name

The group shall be called the UK Political Studies Association French Politics, Policy and Society Specialist Group

Objectives

To preserve the strong tradition in the UK of the study of France, and to promote it amongst successor generations; to bridge the various sub-disciplines that contribute to the study of French politics; to connect UK scholars with their counterparts and their professional associations elsewhere in the world; and to support high quality research on all aspects of French politics through a web presence and the backing of initiatives including specialist workshops, postgraduate conference presentations, and prizes in recognition of excellence.

Membership

Membership shall be open to all members of the UK Political Studies Association and others with an active research and/or teaching interest in French Politics & Policy.

Officers

The officers of the group are the co-convenors and the Treasurer. They shall hold office for four years and, once the founding term has expired, shall be elected by separate vote from among the members of the group at the group's AGM (or equivalent). They must be a current PSA member. The co-convenors and Treasurer shall be eligible for re-election. Bringing other people onto the group's management team shall be permitted.

Records

Records shall be kept by the co-convenors and Treasurer 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.

Vacation of office

The co-convenors shall vacate their office upon resignation or upon dismissal by resolution of a general meeting of the group.

Meetings

Meetings can be held, at the discretion of the Co-convenors and Treasurer, 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 co-convenors. No fewer than 14 clear days notice of an annual general meeting shall be given. Other general meetings shall be called at the discretion of the co-convenors or at the written

request of no fewer than six members of the group. Notice of no fewer than three clear days, excluding weekends and bank holidays, shall be given.

Finance

On vacating office, the co-convenors & Treasurer of the group shall hand over the books of account and relevant papers to his or her duly elected successors. Applications by the group to the PSA for grants of money shall be made at the discretion of the co-convenors. The Co-convenors & Treasurer 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 co-convenors and Treasurer will decide how to allocate the money. Only PSA members are eligible to receive funding from the group for any activity. The group will award an annual prize totalling £100 for the best paper on French Politics at the PSA conference, under the title 'the Vincent Wright Prize'. The prize will be judged by a leading expert selected by the Co-convenors in consultation with the Treasurer.

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.