

Political Studies Association, Annual International Conference

10 – 13 April 2022, University of York, #PSA22

Hybrid conference

Deadline for abstracts and panel proposals: Monday 27th September 2021.

The PSA Media and Politics Group invites members to submit paper abstracts or panel proposals for the PSA Media and Politics stream at the PSA Annual International Conference 2022.

Papers may be related to the conference theme, Politics from the Margins, but other topics from across the disciplinary and methodological traditions are also welcomed.

Please submit abstracts (max. 300 words) and panel proposals by email to the convenors at psampg@gmail.com by **Monday 27th September** (please note that this is an earlier deadline than the direct individual submission to the PSA). We also welcome emails earlier than this date to ask for our advice on potential panel proposals. We have a limited number of panels we can submit so we may not be able to include all submissions. Decisions about inclusion in the MPG panels will be communicated on Monday 4th October 2022, giving you until **Monday 11th October 2022** to submit individually if you are unsuccessful.

The PSA uses the Ex Ordo system for online submissions. **If your abstract is successful and included in the PSA MPG stream, we will provide further guidance on how to submit your abstract/panel proposal to ensure it is included in our allocated panels.**

Please note that the 2022 PSA Annual International Conference is planned as a hybrid conference which blends the digital world and physical world together to produce the opportunities and interactions of a physical conference, with the added accessibility of an online conference.

On all submissions, please include an email address for the corresponding and the institutional affiliation. Please also indicate if you are a postgraduate student.

If you wish to propose a panel, please note for following stipulations from the organising committee:

- Panel proposals should include a panel overview (max. 300 words), outlining the title, synopsis, and chair details.
- Panels usually consist of three to four papers and a chair. A discussant is optional.
- Panels should aim to reflect the diversity of the profession, and all-male panels will not be considered.

Theme and further details:

Politics from the Margins

The conference takes 'the margins' as a vantage point to investigate political issues and developments. As the world reels from one of its worst crises in a generation, issues, and actors hitherto at the margins of politics have forced their way to the mainstream. Issues of health and human development have compelled a radical rethinking of statehood, citizenship and political order. The salience to global politics of actors in Asia and Africa, often marginalized in the past, can

no longer be ignored. Marginal seats can move to the centre of attention. Marginalised actors can make claims on the mainstream for a redistribution of power, status, and resources. Marginal risks — of financial crisis, epidemic, climate catastrophe — can take on major significance. Indeed, what is regarded as a mainstream and what as a marginal political issue is a point of significant contention and subject to changes which need to be mapped and investigated.

The conference invites reflection on shifting centres of power in the global, regional, national and subnational political order. Devolution, Brexit and 'levelling up' policies have compelled us to rethink the mainstream and the margins in British politics. The rise of the BRICS and other emerging markets force a reconceptualisation of mainstream and margin in global politics. Across the world, political subjects at the margins interrogate mainstream understandings and practices of politics and power. While marginalisation of some political subjects has become further entrenched, other previously dominant voices feel newly marginalised. How does politics change and who benefits when those who feel left out or behind make their voices heard? What mechanisms contribute to their silencing or to their move to alternative forms of politics? Finally, inspired by the growing calls for diversifying and decolonising research and teaching in politics, this PSA conference seeks to cast a critical and reflexive eye on political science scholarship by considering what or who is positioned on the margins within our scholarship and academic community and what could be gained by including marginalised perspectives, voices and topics. To that end, we invite contributions that help us to think not only 'from' but also 'with' the margins, 'against' the margins or even 'beyond' the margins.

While the main theme of this conference is Politics from the Margins, the Media & Politics Group operates an open and inclusive policy, and empirical, theoretical, and practice-based research dealing with any aspect of media and politics is welcomed. This may include areas of political communication and journalism, but also includes a broader view of the political within such areas as online media, television, cinema and media arts, both factual and fictional.

Possible areas include:

- How might foundational theories for understanding contemporary political communication be adapted to include more marginal subjects/contexts?
- The role of various media in bringing marginal issues/voices to the mainstream
- The methodological challenges of researching media and politics from the margins
- Decolonising/diversifying political communication research
- The role of affect, emotion, and authenticity within political communication
- Disinformation, misinformation and threats to democratic health
- The opportunities and challenges of digital campaigning
- The media's changing role in political communication practices and/or public diplomacy
- Datafication and challenges to democracy
- The rise of alternative political media and changing public attitudes towards mainstream media
- The role of social media platforms in mainstreaming marginalised groups/perspectives (for better or worse)
- Activism, social movements and the media
- The power of political satire, cartoons and memes
- The politics of representation across media genres
- Media, communication and inequality

Further information on registration fees and conference location can be found [here](#):

<https://www.psa.ac.uk/events/psa22-annual-conference>

Further information on the PSA Media and Politics Group and details on how to join can be found here: <https://www.psa.ac.uk/specialist-groups/media-and-politics>

Follow the PSA Media and Politics Group on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/psamsg>