ecpr conference announcements

doi:10.1057/eps.2010.54

IPSA – ECPR JOINT CONFERENCE

The first Joint Conference organised by the International Political Science Association (IPSA) and the ECPR will explore the continuing relevance of the international North-South divide. The Conference will take place in Sao Paulo between 16 and 19 February 2011.

THE JOINT SESSIONS HIT FORTY!

2012 will see the ECPR's flagship event, the Joint Sessions of Workshops, celebrate its 40th year. We are pleased to announce that the 2012 Joint Sessions will be held at the University of Antwerp during the spring of 2012. The deadline for submissions of Workshop proposals for Antwerp is 1 February 2011.

The 2011 Joint Sessions will take place at the University of St Gallen, Switzerland, from 12 to 17 April 2011; the deadline for the submission of workshop papers is 1 December 2010.

4TH ECPR GRADUATE CONFERENCE

The 4th ECPR Graduate Conference will take place in Bremen (dates tbc) in 2012. Please check the ECPR website for further information.

6TH AND 7TH GENERAL CONFERENCES

The 6th ECPR General Conference will take place at the University of Iceland in Reykjavik from 25 to 27 August 2011. This Conference is shaping up to be the biggest the ECPR has ever organised. The deadline for the call for papers is 1 February 2011. The 7th General Conference will take place two years later in 2013 in Bordeaux between 5 and 7 September.

6th ECPR SUMMER SCHOOL IN METHODS AND TECHNIQUES

The 2011 Summer School will take place at the University of Ljubljana between 29 July and 13 August.

For more information on all ECPR events please see the website: www.ecprnet.eu.

(595–597) © 2010 European Consortium for Political Research. 1680-4333/10 www.palgrave-journals.com/eps/
https://doi.org/10.1057/eps.2010.54 Published online by Cambridge University Press

2010 ecpr jean blondel ph.d prizewinner

The Jean Blondel Prize for this year had a record number of entrants that were of a very high standard. As a consequence, this year's short-list was exceptionally strong. In the opinion of the jury any of the short listed candidates may have deserved the prize. Their theses represented different areas and approaches in the field of politics and were all theoretically rigorous, clearly argued and were able to link complex theoretical concerns with a detailed understanding of their own subject.

The Jean Blondel Ph.D. Prize in 2010 is awarded to Paul Gill, University College Dublin for his dissertation on '*The Dynamics of Suicide Bombing in Campaigns of Political Violence*'.

The jury of the prize (Mick Cox, Amy Mazur and Dario Castiglione) considered this dissertation to be well written, engaging and appealing to a wide audience. Its approach is innovative, connecting different areas of political research, and based on solid empirical evidence. It scored high on all the criteria considered by the jury, such as research innovation, methodological awareness, knowledge accumulation, research effort and clarity of execution.

The thesis offers a new and complex perspective of the 'culture of martyrdom' underlying political experiences of suicide bombing. It proposes a multi-dimensional and interactive model of how such culture emerges and is fostered, mixing psychological, organisational and cultural levels of analysis, and borrowing from a variety of literatures such as social identity and social movement theories. It attempts to confirm its thesis by counterfactual arguments, and addresses a political problem of topical relevance.

The short list also included:

Amandine Bled Orsini, Universite de Bordeaux (Sciences Po Bordeaux), '*The Influence of Firms on International Negotiations: The case of the Convention on Biological Diversity*'.
Francesco Giumelli, Istituto Italiano di Scienze Umane, '*Coercing, Constraining and Signaling: Explaining UN and EU Sanctions after the Cold War'*.
Martino Maggetti, Université de Lausanne, '*The De Facto Independence of Regulatory Agencies and its Consequences for Policy Making and Regulatory Outcomes*'.
Laura Valentini, University College London, '*Global Justice: Cosmopolitanism, Social Liberalism, and the Coercion View*'.

The prize will be awarded during the Joint Sessions of Workshops at the University of St Gallen in Switzerland, 12–17 April 2011.

https://doi.org/10.1057/eps.2010.54 Published online by Cambridge University Press

announcement for the 2011 jean blondel ph.d prize

Each year, the ECPR, in association with ECPR Press, awards the Jean Blondel Prize for the best thesis in politics (including international relations, political theory and public administration).

The winner will receive 1,000 euros and the chance to have their thesis published in the ECPR Press' Monographs series.

Theses that have been examined and been deemed to have passed between 1st September 2009 and 31st August 2010 can now be entered for the 2011 prize. The deadline for entries is Tuesday 1st February 2011. Please see the ECPR website for entry rules at www.ecprnet.eu and follow the link to the Prize.

administrative director leaves ecpr

The Administrative Director, Clare Dekker, has left the ECPR to pursue her career in a different direction. Clare became almost synonymous with ECPR, and was its diplomatic face for many years. She was also its 'institutional memory', as there were few things that she did not know or remember about the ECPR's past. She was originally appointed to the ECPR in 1989, and the increasingly important role she played over the subsequent decade was formally recognised in her promotion to the position of Administrative Director in 2000, a post she held for the following ten years. This past decade has witnessed a tremendous expansion in the ECPR, and Clare rose to this challenge, reshaping the support function of ECPR, and promoting the development of a Senior Management Team, to ensure that, as the organisation grew, so it could continue to deliver its services to its members in an efficient and effective manner. If the ECPR has, in its first forty years, been successful, then this success is in no small measure down to the contribution of Clare Dekker. She will be sorely missed, not only for her exceptional talent but also for her good humour and positive attitude in all that she did. We wish Clare all the very best for the future and hope that, as she embarks on a new phase in her career, she does not forget all the good times she had in ECPR. We will not forget her and her extraordinary contribution to the ECPR and European political science more generally.



https://doi.org/10.1057/eps.2010.54 Published online by Cambridge University Press