

RC08 NEWSLETTER



No. 1 – DECEMBER 2016

Issued by the IPSA Research Committee of Legislative Specialists (RC08)

Editorial Board

Zdenka Mansfeldová * Michael Edinger * Petra Guasti *
Irina Khmelko * Hilmar Rommetvedt * Peter Tunkis

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	2
MINUTES OF RC08 - LS BUSINESS MEETING	4
REPORT ON RCLS ACTIVITIES.....	8
UPCOMING CONFERENCES	12
MEMBERS' PUBLICATIONS.....	16
JOURNALS ON PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (1)	18
CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS	20

NEWS ON PARLIAMENTARY RESEARCH

INTRODUCTION

ZDENKA MANSFELDOVÁ

Dear members and friends of RCLS,

We are delighted to present you the first issue of the RC08 – Legislative Specialists Newsletter. The idea came out on the business meeting, held during the IPSA Congress in Poznań in July this year and met with the support of participants at the meeting.

What is our aim? We would like to bring you in brief and clearly arranged form twice a year (spring and autumn) information on the most important events in our Research Committee, about upcoming events, new publications, and important messages that you can overlook on our website. We want this form to reach the maximum number of our members, of which there are currently 183 registered.

The Newsletter will come out in electronic form and there will be no financial costs for RC budget.

We welcome your feedback on the newsletter, your comments, suggestions, and criticism. The Newsletter cannot exist without the information that you send us.

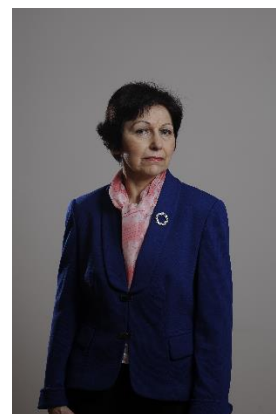
Please, write to us at zdenka.mansfeldova@soc.cas.cz, or for correspondence related to the Newsletter contact michael.edinger@uni-jena.de. Messages to all RCLS members should be circulated via rclsmembers@googlegroup.com

Sincerely yours,

Zdenka Mansfeldová

Chair of RC08 – Legislative Specialists

<http://www.rcls-ipsa.org/>



Notification on RC08 – Legislative Specialists membership

According to the latest information from the IPSA Executive our Research Committee has 183 registered members. Regional distribution of members is following:

Europe	92
North America	28
South America	24
Asia	19
Africa	12
Australia/Oceania	8.

The membership fee is 25 USD per two years, starting from 1 January 2017. How to pay it:

WIRE TRANSFERS (in US \$) should have the following information:

From: SENDER`S NAME

To:

Frederick Staphenurst
1227 Sherbrooke Street West - 35
Montreal, QC
H3G1G1

TD Canada Trust
1130 Sherbrooke Street West
Montreal, QC
H3A2M9
CANADA

Transit: 47581
Institution: 004
Account: 7137426
SWIFT CODE: TDOMCATTOR

AND an email should be sent to Frederick Staphenurst by the sender advising that a payment has been sent.

CHEQUES (IN US \$) can be sent to me for deposit and should be clearly marked `For RCLS` in the memo section.

Frederick Staphenurst
(McGill University)
1227 Sherbrooke Street West - 35
Montreal, QC
H3G1G1
CANADA

MINUTES OF RC08 - LS BUSINESS MEETING

Poznań, 2016

RC08 – Legislative Specialists (RC08) business meeting, held on 27 July 2016, from 19:30 – 20:30 (Poland, venue Poznań Congress Center, Pavilion 15 (PCC-15/ 1.5)).

Business Meeting Minutes

RC08 - LS Members present: Zdenka Mansfeldová, Rick Stapenhurst, Julia Swanholz, Ellie Valentine, Werner Patzelt, Peter Tunkis, Julia Fontaine, Kevin Kerbill, Michael Edinger, Hilmar Rommetvedt, Daniela Prokschova, Elena Semenova, Petra Guasti, Hamazasp Danielyan.

Agenda

1. Intro
2. Summary of the RC08 report 2010-2016
3. Website
4. Membership
5. Board Elections
6. Misc.

1. Intro

Co-chairs Zdenka Mansfeldová and Frederick Stapenhurst welcome all participants & thank the Program Chair Hilmar Rommetvedt for the excellent preparation of the RC08 panels for the IPSA Congress.

2. Report Summary of RC08 Activities 2010-2016

North America (Irina Khmelko – RC 08 Director of Research): organized workshop in 2015, round table with practitioners in Washington D.C, and two meetings in 2016 - scholars and practitioners and panel in New Orleans and Chicago;

Europe - cooperation with (a) the ECPR - parliamentary opposition - 2 panels at the ECPR in Prague and a book project; (b) Thomas Saalfeld and the ECPR a standing group on parliaments, Munich Conference, and would adjust to organize meetings not to collide with the IPSA, (c) EU ENGAGE, (d) German-Australian project on Elites in Federal countries (Berlin 2017 practitioners conference, Canberra – 2017 conference);

IPSA 2016 World Congress: Number of panel/individual paper proposals -14 panels were accepted, but with the change of location, some panels were dropped or fused. Therefore, not all panels were as focused as one would have wanted them to be. 9 panels took place, of which 3 panels were joint endeavors with others RCs. IPSA allows 4-6 papers per panel; 4 papers are ideal and 5 papers per panel should be maximum. However, because of the likelihood of dropouts, it is difficult to know how many papers we end up with.

The full version of the Report will be available on the RC08 website soon.

3. Website

Please forward calls for papers and conferences, publications etc. to be published on the RC08 website to Zdenka Mansfeldova (zdenka.mansfeldova@soc.cas.cz);

Erik Fritsche, the current webmaster, will be leaving Dresden University – RC Co-Chairs and members express big thank you for his work;

For the future - Werner Patzelt will try to recruit a research assistant to act as webmaster (honorary role), but with no guarantee;

Peter Tunkis (Ohio University) volunteers to act as a webmaster, in case TU Dresden plan will not work out (Plan B).

4. Membership

Issue: RC08 does not know exactly, who are the members of RC. At the business meeting in Madrid 2012, we decided to stop collecting membership fee due to a high fee for bank transfer. This decision combined with lack of communication from the IPSA secretariat on RC membership led to a problem of identifying RC08 members: now there are about 350 email addresses on the RC08 list, but limited number of participants in RC08 events;

Solutions:

Rick Stapenhurst will try to compel IPSA into providing their mailing list or better to say, information, who from the IPSA members indicated interest to join RC08;

In a long run, reintroduction of the symbolic membership fee would allow for more clarity as well as to allow RC08 to co-fund activities (using PayPal should be easier);

Collection of fees would require an appointment of a new treasurer and opening of a bank account (in order to recover money from the previous treasurer, received IPSA RC funding and handle membership fees);

Decisions:

Reintroduction of the fee from 1.1.2017 (25 USD per two years, if not paid three times, then membership is discontinued- details will be elaborated by the Board) - PROPOSAL UNANIMOUSLY ACCEPTED;

Establishment of an RC08 David M. Olson Award for the best IPSA World Congress paper by a junior scholar - PROPOSAL UNANIMOUSLY ACCEPTED. Zdenka Mansfeldova discussed this proposal with David Olson and he agreed. The board will clarify the details of nominations and the procedure selection of the best paper prior to the IPSA World Congress in Brisbane.

5. Board Elections

IPSA Research Committee Guide for RC Chairs, last version from May 2016, Article 8:

„The affairs of each research committee shall be directed by an elected board consisting of no fewer than seven and no more than twelve members. The board shall be elected for four years, with the possibility of re-election for an additional two-year period. Board elections shall include at least two new members at each election. No officer of a research committee may remain as an officer in the same substantive capacity for more than six years and more

than an extra four years in a second position. If possible, board members should represent different countries and approaches in their fields of interest.“

The changes were accepted with the result:

Change to a chair/vice-chair system, minimum of 7 and maximum 12 members of the Board, 4 years and one re-election for an additional two-year period, officers for 6 years maximum, and maximum 4 years in another position.

Current RC08 officers:

Rick Stapenhurst elected for 4 years (until 2018)

Hilmar Rommetvedt elected for 4 years as program chair (until 2018)

Zdenka Mansfeldová elected for 2 years (until 2016)

Nomination:

To prepare for the elections of Board, and to enable those members who will not be able to join us in Poznań, the current Board decided to compile a list of candidates via on-line communication as well as to receive nominations during the Congress, up to the beginning of the business meeting. Nominated candidates must be members of RCLS and, of course, should be informed and concur with their nomination.

Despite repeated calls, only a few nominations came, and not all were discussed with the candidate.

There were 10 candidates who accepted their nominations up for election. No nomination did not come to the site before the business meeting.

Discussion on the new rules and their implication with results:

- change from 2 Co-chairs to Chair and Vice-chair;
- Chair will be elected for four years;
- Election of treasurer;
- call for more regional diversity – new members from Asia, Africa, and Latin America will be actively sought;

Elections:

Zdenka Mansfeldová elected RC08 Chair unanimously;

Frederick Stapenhurst elected RC08 Vice-chair and Treasurer unanimously;

Hilmar Rommetvedt elected RC08 Program Chair unanimously;

7 board members elected unanimously. They are:

Omer Faruk Genckaya, Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey

Ken Coghill, Department of Management, Monash Business School, Monash University, Australia

Werner Patzelt, University of Technology, Dresden, Germany

Michael Edinger, University of Jena, Germany

Irmina Matonyte, ISM University of Management and Economics, Vilnius, Lithuania

Irina Khmelko, University of Tennessee, Chattanooga, USA

Petra Guasti, Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany and Institute of Sociology at the Czech Academy of Sciences, Czech Republic

RC08 plans to have a 12-member Board; after this election, there are 10 members of the Board. The remaining two members should be elected at the next business meeting in 2018. The effort is to attract members of the Board from still underrepresented regions.

6. Misc

The proposal by Board member Michael Edinger to issue a twice-yearly RC08 newsletter. The idea was accepted and the implementation will be discussed further by members of the Board.

Joint dinner

Minutes were taken by Petra Guasti

REPORT ON RC08 ACTIVITIES

RC08 AT THE IPSA WORLD CONGRESS AT POZNÁN 2016

RC08 coordinated 9 panels at the 24th IPSA World Congress in Poznań:

The panels and papers covered various aspects of parliamentary government, such as representation and gender issues, executive-legislative relations and accountability, parliamentary activities and legislative development programs etc.

Full list of panels:

- Parliamentary Activities, Career Tracks and Accountability
(joint panel with RC02 Political Elites)
convenor: Julien Navarro
- Parliament's Fiscal Scrutiny Function
convenor: Helaina Gaspard
- How Can We Fix Representative Democracy?
convenor: Dachi Liao
- European Legislatures/Developments
convenor: Hilmar Rommetvedt
- Executive-Legislative Relations
convenor: Hilmar Rommetvedt
- Shaving a Square Peg for a Round Hole: Implementing Fixed Donor Plans in Changing Legislatures
convenor: Robert Nakamura
- Parliamentary Capabilities for a World of Inequality
convenor: Ken Coghill
- The Representation of Complex Diversity in Upper Chambers (joint panel with RC34 Quality of Democracy)
convenor: Manon Tremblay
- Gender-Focused Parliamentary Bodies – Criteria for Success and Failure (joint panel with RC19 Gender Politics and Policy)
convenor: Manda Green

VISUAL IMPRESSIONS FROM THE RC08 PANELS AT POZNÁN 2016

Parliament's Fiscal Scrutiny Function



From left:

Sahir Kahn,
Usman Chohan,
Rick Stapenhurst,
Niall Johnston,
Helaina Gaspard and
Michal Horvath

Parliamentary Capabilities for a World of Inequality

From left:

Ken Coghill,
Julia Schwanholz,
Olivier Pierre-
Louveaux and
Flemming Juul
Christiansen



VISUAL IMPRESSIONS FROM THE RC08 PANELS AT POZNAŃ 2016 (2)

RCLS members out for dinner after Business Meeting



Professor Ilter Turan, a long-standing member of RCLS, was elected new President of IPSA

Here with RCLS
Program Chair
Hilmar Rommetvedt



As a part of the RC08-World Bank-USAID initiative to help build a closer relationship between parliamentary scholars and practitioners, RCLS organized a section at the annual meeting of the Policy Studies Association (PSO) – 9th Annual Dupont Summit on December 2, 2016, in Washington, DC. The Policy Studies Organization (PSO) is a publisher of academic journals and book series, sponsor of conferences, and producer of programs. It seeks to disseminate scholarship and information to serve those making and evaluating policy. It was founded as an outgrowth of the American Political Science Association, for those in a variety of fields who were interested in how public policy and organizational policy were being studied and discussed. This conference mirrors the interest of the PSO and its partners in promoting conversation about current policy concerns.

RC08 LS's regular panel was followed by the roundtable discussion among experts. Specifically, RC08 invited experts in legislative studies and development to discuss approaches to evaluating legislatures around the world and what roles legislatures can play in post-authoritarian societies to contribute to the process of democratic transition and consolidation. The developmental community has been assisting parliaments around the world in building their institutional capacity. The assumption has been and remains that a democracy in any country requires a strong parliament. Views differ, however, on the characteristics of a strong parliament since the historical, social and political context of each parliament is unique. It is therefore not surprising that there are no meaningful and universally applicable statistical or similar measurements of parliamentary performance.

Participants discussed how we can capture parliamentary development, and how do we know if a legislature has been making a progress in becoming stronger and more effective in performing its roles in the process of democratic transition and democratic consolidation? What factors do we need to be in place to allow a legislature to be effective in fostering democratic changes in a post-authoritarian society?

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

4TH CONFERENCE OF THE ECPR STANDING GROUP ON PARLIAMENTS (BASEL 2017)



The Standing Group on Parliaments of the European Consortia for Political Research (ECPR) will host its 4th conference in Basel June 29th – July 1st, 2017. This is an inspiring, very focused and extremely useful conference for all those interested in studying legislatures. There is no regional or methodological restriction.

4th Conference of the ECPR Standing Group on Parliaments

29 June – 1st July 2017 in Basel

On the heels of the successful conference in Munich, the ECPR Standing Group on Parliaments (SGoP) invites you to submit your proposals for the conference next year. The fourth conference of the SGoP is being hosted by Stefanie Bailer and Tamaki Ohmura at the University of Basel.

The conference will bring together senior and junior scholars in the field. Away from the hectic bustle of large-scale conferences, it will offer unique opportunities for detailed discussions and networking. The academic program will be completed by a social program including a welcome reception allowing us ample time to catch up with old friends and to meet new members as well as a reception and a conference dinner on the second evening of the conference.

We invite papers that deal with the empirical study of parliaments and legislatures. As it proved successful in Dublin, Vienna, and Munich, the exact thematic and regional range of papers is deliberately broad.

We are inviting proposals:

- either for individual papers
- or for entire panels consisting of three to four papers

Abstracts of proposed individual papers should be between 200 and 300 words. Proposals for panels should name a panel chair, discussant, the names of all proposed participants and abstracts for their individual papers.

Proposals should be sent to parliaments.2017@gmail.com.

Deadline for submissions: 6 January 2017

Proposals will be evaluated by 27 January 2017

BIENNIAL MEETING OF THE FRENCH POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION (MONTPELLIER 2017)

Qualifying and Quantifying Parliamentary Activity: Data, Methods, and Practices

François Briatte and Olivier Rozenberg

Parliamentary activity is far from being a neglected topic in political science: on the contrary, enough research exists to allow for the confrontation of concurrent hypotheses on the nature, the functioning and the logics of what parliamentarians do. However, our review of that research reveals that it falls short of fully taking into account the qualification and quantification of newer legislative data sources, made available to researchers through digital technology and its implementation by parliamentary services.

In light of that review, this thematic panel offers to establish a general review of the ways in which political science research conceptualizes both the qualification and quantification of parliamentary activity, by asking the following questions:

- 1. What data on parliamentary activity are currently available?** How are these data accessible, and how can they be collected, aggregated and archived, both in terms of the tools available for researchers to perform that task and from the perspective of making empirical research replicable?
- 2. What methods are available to analyze these data?** Specifically, in what circumstances is it interesting to go beyond conventional measures of "legislative productivity," such as presence rates or quantities of submitted legislative documents, and with what consequences for modeling?
- 3. From a theoretical perspective, when we talk about the parliamentary space, what space are we talking about?** When we seek to qualify the "singular territory" of parliamentary activity, should one mention it rather as a "field", as a "strategic action field", or even as an "ecology", and with what consequences for hypothesis formulation?
- 4. From a methodological standpoint, at what level of analysis should the parliamentary activity be aggregated?** When is it more relevant, for instance, to measure this activity at the level of the individual parliamentarian, who nonetheless usually features several people working as a team, rather than at other conceivable levels, such as parliamentary committees, groups, political parties, or even parliamentary chambers?
- 5. What comparative perspectives do parliamentary activities open up?** How is it influenced, for instance, by electoral formulas, and what factors should we take into account when studying infra-national assemblies, such as state parliaments, or supranational assemblies, such as the European Parliament?
- 6. How is parliamentary activity received in society?** What uses do social agents make of this activity, with what motives, and with what consequences, especially with regards to the strengthening of social constraints expressed as performance imperatives in politics that are increasingly marked by the audit logic?

In order to discuss these questions, we would like to encourage authors to submit papers based on empirical research, with an additional preference for comparative studies and for papers discussing methodological and practical issues as precisely as possible, in order to

allow for an in-depth discussion of the research methods covered by all papers, and to allow for a collective critical review of these methods.

In addition to the papers themselves, the organizers encourage the authors to also provide them with any supplementary material allowing for a better understanding of the research protocol that they used (and especially datasets or, if relevant, replication code).

This panel accepts papers in English or in French.

Discussions will be held in the language of the paper.

For more information about the panel, see <http://f.briatte.org/st38/index.en.html>

RC08 – LEGISLATIVE SPECIALISTS AT THE 25TH IPSA WORLD CONGRESS (BRISBANE 2018)

Accountability
Legislative Specialists
Representation
Parliament

25th IPSA World Congress, July 21 – 26, 2018 in Brisbane, Australia

RC08 will coordinate a number of panels at the next World Congress, and we welcome proposals from members.

Information on rules, proposals and deadlines will be posted on the IPSA website during Spring/Summer 2017: <http://www.ipsa.org/world-congress-brisbane-2018>

The call for proposals will open on 10 May 2017.

Please contact RC08 Program Chair hilmar.rommetvedt@iris.no for further information.

***The Decline of National Parliaments
(in cooperation with IPSA RC 08 Legislative Specialists)***

as part of

Section S12: Changing Paradigms in the Study of Post-Communist Politics? The comparative Dimension of Central and Eastern Europe

Chair: Zdenka Mansfeldová (Institute of Sociology CAS)

Discussant: Hilmar Rommetvedt (IRIS, Norway)

The processes of globalization and Europeanization (limited to the EU) fundamentally influence the roles and functioning of national parliaments. A crucial set of issues relates to legitimacy, representation, and accountability. Electoral and political participation continue to wane, negatively affecting input legitimacy, the ability of the national parliaments legislate is limited by supranational rules, their input into supranational (i.e. for Europe EU) legislation procedurally constrained. In the wake of growing populism and calls for direct democracy, we ask – are we seeing the inevitable decline of representative democracy and its institutions (parliaments)? Parliaments adopt various strategies to address these issues - increasing transparency, procedural and output legitimacy. One example is the direct interaction between parliaments and organized interests during the legislative process.

This Panel focuses on the interaction between the parliament and organized interest groups, posing the question whether strengthening these forms of interactions has the potential to strengthen the legitimacy of national parliaments by bridging the gap between citizens and institutions of representative democracy. This Panel welcomes comparative Papers that contribute to the broader comparative research on the interaction between national parliaments and organized interests (civil society, trade unions, and lobby groups). We particularly welcome comparisons between CEE and other transition countries around the world, but theoretically driven Papers with single case studies are also welcome.

MEMBERS' PUBLICATIONS

2013-2015

Ken Coghill

(2015). *Parliamentarians Professional Development. The Need for Reform*: Springer. [edited with C. Lewis].

(2015). Introduction—Parliaments: More Professional than Ever. In Lewis, C., & Coghill, K. (Eds.). (2015). *Parliamentarians Professional Development. The Need for Reform*: Springer.

(2015). Learning to be Learned. In Lewis, C., & Coghill, K. (Eds.). *Parliamentarians Professional Development. The Need for Reform*: Springer.

(2015). Ethical Decisions and the Great Moral Challenge of our Time. In A. Lawton, Z. V. D. Wal, & L. Huberts (Eds.), *Ethics in Public Policy and Management. A Global Research Companion*. Routledge. 279-298.

(2013) "Integrated governance and adaptation to climate change" in Ha Huong and Tek Nath Dhakal (eds) *Governance Approaches for Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change in Asia*. Palgrave Macmillan. 163-181 [with R. Samaratunge].

Michael Edinger

(2015). *Political Careers in Europe. Career Patterns in Multi-Level Systems*. Nomos (with Bloomsbury) [edited with Stefan Jahr].

(2015). Springboard or Elephants' Graveyard: The Position of the European Parliament in the Careers of German MPs. In M. Edinger, St. Jahr (Eds.): *Political Careers in Europe. Career Patterns in Multi-Level Systems*. Nomos (with Bloomsbury). 77-108.

(2015). Wege nach dem Mandat: Beruf und Politik bei ehemaligen Landtagsabgeordneten [Careers After Parliamentary Service: Occupation and Politics of Former Members of State Parliaments]. In Thüringer Landtag (Ed.). *Ein Vierteljahrhundert parlamentarische Demokratie. Der Thüringer Landtag 1990-2014*. Wartburg Verlag 2015. 214-247.

(2014). *Parliamentary Elites in Central and Eastern Europe: Recruitment and Representation*. Routledge [edited with E. Semenova and H. Best].

Csaba Nikolényi

(2015). Government Investiture in India: Formal Rule and Informal Practices. In Shane Martin, Bjorn Erik Rasch and Jose Cheibub, eds., *Parliaments and Government Formation: Unpacking Investiture Rules*. 275-91.

(2015). "The Constitutionalization of Party Unity: The Origins of the Anti-Defection Laws in India and Israel". *Journal of Legislative Studies* 21 (3): 390-407 [with Shaul Shenhav].

(2014). *Institutional Design and Party Government in Post-Communist Europe*. Oxford University Press.

Hilmar Rommetvedt

(2014), Lobbyvirksomhet. In Hanne Marthe Narud, Knut Heidar and Tore Grønlie (eds.): Stortingets historie 1964-2014 [The History of the Norwegian Parliament 1964-2014]. Bergen: Fagbokforlaget.

(2013). Coping with Corporatism in Decline and the Revival of Parliament: Interest Group Lobbyism in Denmark and Norway, 1980-2005. *Comparative Political Studies*, 46 (4), 457-485. [with G. Thesen, P. M. Christiansen and A. S. Nørgaard].

(2013). The Institutionalization of a Parliamentary Dimension of the WTO. In Ben Crum and John E. Fossum (eds.): *Practices of Inter-Parliamentary Coordination in International Politics – The European Union and Beyond*. Colchester: ECPR Press.

JOURNALS ON PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (1)

LEGISLATIVE STUDIES QUARTERLY



The Legislative Studies Quarterly is an international journal devoted to the publication of research on representative assemblies. Its purpose is to disseminate scholarly work on parliaments and legislatures, their relations to other political institutions, their functions in the political system, and the activities of their members both within the institution and outside. The Quarterly invites contributions from scholars in all countries. Its pages are open to all research approaches consistent with the normal canons of scholarship, and to work on representative assemblies in all settings and all time periods. The aim of the Quarterly is to contribute to the formulation and verification of general theories about legislative systems, processes, and behavior. The editors encourage contributors to emphasize the cross-national implications of their findings, even if these findings are based on research within a single country. The Legislative Studies Quarterly is the official journal of the Legislative Studies Section of the American Political Science Association.

Legislative Studies Quarterly (LSQ) seeks manuscripts that make outstanding contributions to scholarly knowledge about representative assemblies. LSQ will not review manuscripts that are under consideration for publication elsewhere, manuscripts with contents that have been substantially published elsewhere, or new versions of manuscripts that have been rejected previously by LSQ. Articles are selected for publication in LSQ on the basis of a double-blind review process. Authors and co-authors of submissions are expected to review manuscripts for LSQ.

The journal recently adopted new submission guidelines in an effort to make manuscripts easier for authors to prepare and for reviewers to review. Via its webpage, the journal makes available a LaTeX style file to aid authors in formatting their manuscripts appropriately. The guidelines are now as follows:

- The manuscript (including notes, references, title/figure titles, and appendices but excluding the title page and any supplementary materials not for publication) should not exceed 10,000 words, and the actual word count should be provided on the title page. Submit the manuscript as a single .pdf document.
- Include a 150-word abstract.
- Double-space the body of the manuscript. The abstract, appendices, notes, and references may be single-spaced.
- Use a typeface of at least 12 pt. The manuscript should be left justified with margins of at least 1 inch.
- Notes should appear as footnotes.
- References should appear at the end of the manuscript and should conform to APSA style. All works cited in the text must be fully referenced at the end of the manuscript.
- Tables/Figures should be placed at the relevant point in the body of the manuscript.

Legislative Studies Quarterly requires that authors submit electronically via the online submission site. To submit a manuscript, please go to the journal's ScholarOne site at <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/lsg>. Papers that do not meet the formatting and submission guidelines detailed on the journal's ScholarOne site under "Manuscript Preparation" will not be sent out for review. If a paper is accepted for publication, the author(s) will receive further instructions for preparing the final version of the manuscript. Additional questions regarding manuscript submission should be directed to the Editorial Office at Legislative Studies Quarterly.

The journal has three co-editors who handle the referee process. One for manuscripts about assemblies in countries other than the United States, one for manuscripts about the United States Congress, and one for manuscripts about subnational assemblies in the United States.

The editor for non-U.S. manuscripts is Christopher J. Kam, an Associate Professor at the University of British Columbia. He is expert on electoral rules, party systems, legislative discipline, and parliamentary affairs.

Manuscripts for the U.S. congress are handled by Frances W. Lee, a Professor at the University of Maryland. She is an expert on the public policy process, legislative politics, and political institutions as they relate American governing institutions, especially the U.S. Congress.

Manuscripts relating to subnational assemblies in the U.S. are handled by Thaddeus Kousser, a Professor at the University of California – San Diego. He studies American state and national politics, government reform, direct democracy, interest group influence, and how politicians use social media, joined the department in 2013.

Brian F. Crisp, a Professor at Washington University in St. Louis, is the Executive Editor. He recruits the co-editors and editorial board members, oversees the journal's agreements with Wiley-Blackwell and JSTOR, and manages the journal's relationship with the Legislative Studies Section of the American Political Science Association.

The series "Journals on Parliamentary Affairs" will be continued in the forthcoming newsletters.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS

The Editorial Board wishes all RC-08 – Legislative Specialists members and friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

