RC08 NEWSLETTER

No. 4 – November 2018

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

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NEWS ON PARLIAMENTARY RESEARCH
Dear RC08 Legislative Specialists (RCLS) members,

The newsletter issue you have in front of you is this time dedicated not only to the usual information, but especially to the 25th World Congress of Political Science, held 21-25 July 2018 in Brisbane, Australia, and our activities during the congress. It was a successful congress for our Research Committee and we are pleased that so many of our members could attend.

Congratulations go to Hilmar Rommetvedt, our outgoing Program Chair, who got elected to the IPSA Board during the IPSA Congress in Brisbane. We wish him good luck and full success in his new position and thank him for the excellent work he has done as the program chair of our research committee.

Unfortunately, there is also sad news. We recently learnt that Robert (Bob) Nakamura passed away. Bob was a very active member of RCLS for many, many years. Last year he proposed, and was going to chair, a panel at our session at the IPSA World Congress in Brisbane. However, in January it turned out that he would no longer be able to make it to Brisbane because of a serious illness. We will miss Bob a lot.

Zdenka Mansfeldová, Chair: zdenka.mansfeldova@soc.cas.cz
MINUTES OF THE RC08 BUSINESS MEETING

RC08 – Legislative Specialists (RCLS) business meeting, held on 23 July, 2018, 7:30 – 8:30 p.m., Brisbane


Agenda:
1.) Intro
2.) Summary of the RC08 activities 2016-2018
3.) Website
4.) Financial report
5.) Membership
6.) Board elections
7.) Future plans
8.) Misc.

1. Intro

The chair Zdenka Mansfeldová welcomed all participants and thanked Program Chair Hilmar Rommetvedt for the excellent preparation of the RC08 panels for the 25th IPSA Congress.

2. Short report on RC08 past activities (2016-2018)

IPSA 2018 World Congress. The program chair Hilmar Rommetvedt received six panel proposals and numerous individual paper proposals. After the evaluation 10 panels were set up with 56 papers. Due to dropouts at the deadline for registration, several panels had to be reorganised. At the end the RC08 had 7 panels with 33 papers.

At the business meeting in Poznan (2016) we accepted the proposal to issue a RC08 Newsletter. Three issues of the Newsletter have been circulated since then. So far very little input has been provided by RC08 members and board members alike. Thanks go to Michael Edinger, the editor, and the board members involved in the Newsletter team for their tireless work on preparing the Newsletter. The next Newsletter will contain information about our activities at the 25th IPSA World Congress and the memo from our business meeting. We will then have to decide on whether to continue issuing the Newsletter given the meagre feedback from RC08 members so far.

Publications. In our Newsletter, information is provided on all publications about which the board was informed by members. Unfortunately, this is only a fraction of the publications of RC08 members. We, therefore, ask all RC08 members once more to send us the information on their publications, ideally with a blurb and the front page. Please direct your messages to michael.edinger@uni-jena.de.

3. Financial report (delivered by Rick Stapenhurst)

Our opening balance, two years ago, was $1,142.00. Since then, eight members have paid the $25 membership dues, with the result that our current balance is $1,342.00. No expenses have been incurred.

We need to improve the fee collection so we can implement our planned activities. Payment is preferred by money order or draft, sent directly to the treasurer; alternatively, by wire transfer (in which case, an email should be send to the treasurer as the bank does not track the name of the person sending the transfer).

Zdenka Mansfeldova will clarify once more with the treasurer Rick Stapenhurst the account number and the instruction for payment in general. This information will be published in the next RC08 Newsletter, circulated to members via e-mail and published on the RC08 - Legislative Specialists website.

4. David M. Olson Prize

At our business meeting in Poznan (2016) we unanimously decided to establish the RC08 David M. Olson Prize for best IPSA World Congress paper by a junior scholar. RC08 panels chairs and discussants will be asked to nominate excellent single authored papers presented by junior researchers in Brisbane. Junior researchers are all scholars with up to 7 years since completion of their PhD provided that they are not full professors. Please, send your suggestions to the RC08 chair (zdenka.mansfeldova@soc.cas.cz) and to the new program chair (michael.edinger@uni-jena.de) until 30 August 2018 indicating why the proposed candidate’s paper qualifies for the RC08 David Olson Prize. A jury composed of the RC08 chair, the RC08 co-chair, the RC08 program chair and two further board members will choose the best paper among the proposals received from the panel chairs. The winner of the first RC08 David Olson Prize will be announced on 30 September 2018.

Only single authored papers qualify!
5. **Website**

We need to find somebody to replace our current webmaster Erik Fritzsche and take care for our website. Erik Fritzsche will be leaving Dresden University in autumn 2018. RC08 board members who have not actively contributed to the RC since the World Congress in Poznan are strongly encouraged to consider taking over as webmaster.

6. **Membership**

Zdenka Mansfeldova commented on the existing list of RC08 members. Until now, the list of RC members that the IPSA Executive was able to deliver included only IPSA individual members interested in joining RC08. This has never been a complete list of RC08 members. As the IPSA Rules and Procedures state, RC members – unlike RC chairs – are not required to be IPSA members. Membership in the RCs is open to any political scientist who is a member of the national association affiliated with IPSA, and to individual members of IPSA (Article 4). The IPSA Executive will be asked to provide a full list of RC08 members. However, on the basis of available information, there is a substantial underrepresentation of some regions (Latin Amerika, Africa, and Asia-Pacific). The new RC08 board will consider promoting RC08 activities through the national political science associations.

7. **Board Elections**

RC08 Board as of 23 July 2018:

RC08 committee officials:

Dr. Zdenka Mansfeldova, Chair, elected until 2020

Prof. Frederick Stapenhurst, Vice-chair and Treasurer, will finish the term as vice-chair and continue as Board member/treasurer

Prof. Hilmar Rommetvedt, Program Chair, will finish the term

Board members, elected in 2016 in Poznan:

Dr. Irina Khmelko, University of Tennessee, Chattanooga, USA, research director for USA – will stand for vice-chair position

Prof. Dr. Omer Faruk Genckaya, Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey – will continue

Adjunct Prof. Ken Coghill, Department of Management and Marketing, Swinburne University, Australia - will continue

Prof. Werner Patzelt, University of Technology, Dresden, Germany – will continue

Dr. Michael Edinger, University of Jena, Germany - will stand for -program chair position
Prof. Irmina Matonyte, ISM University of Management and Economics, Vilnius/ Military Academy of Lithuania, Lithuania – will resign, email from 27.5.2018

Dr. Petra Guasti, Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany and Institute of Sociology at the Czech Academy of Sciences – will continue

New candidates for vacant positions:

Dr. Julia Schwanholz, Institut für Politikwissenschaft, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen

Dr. Sven T. Siefken, Martin Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg, Halle (Saale), Germany

Dr. Osnat Akirav, Western Galilee College, Israel

Professor Da-Chi LIAO. National Sun Yat-sen University, Kaohsiung, Taiwan

Colleen Lewis, Adjunct Professor, National Centre for Australian Studies, Faculty of Arts, Monash University, Australia

Zdenka Mansfeldova and Werner Patzelt leading the election of board members at the RCLS business meeting in Brisbane.

The candidates present at the business meeting introduced themselves, whilst the others had sent written information that was read out at the business meeting. All candidates were elected by majority of votes. With the election of the new board
members, we reached a better regional representation and increased the thematic diversity.

IPSA RC08 – Legislative Specialists, new Board after the business meeting held on 23 July 2018

RC08 committee officials:

Dr. Zdenka Mansfeldova, Chair
Institute of Sociology, Czech Academy of Sciences, zdenka.mansfeldova@soc.cas.cz

Dr. Irina Khmelko, Vice-chair
University of Tennessee, Chattanooga, USA, irina-khmelko@utc.edu

Dr. Michael Edinger, Secretary – Program chair
University of Jena, Germany, michael.edinger@uni-jena.de

Board members:

Adjunct Prof. Ken Coghill
Department of Management and Marketing, Swinburne University, Australia, k coghill@swin.edu.au

Prof. Dr. Omer Faruk Genckaya
Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey, genckaya@bilkent.edu.tr

Prof. Frederick (Rick) Stapenhurst, Treasurer
McGill University, Montréal, and Laval University, Québec, Canada, frederick.stapenhurst@mcgill.ca

Prof. Werner Patzelt,
University of Technology, Dresden, Germany, werner.patzelt@tu-dresden.de

Dr. Petra Guasti
Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany and Institute of Sociology at the Czech Academy of Sciences, petraguasti@googlemail.com

Dr. Julia Schwanholz
Institut für Politikwissenschaft, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, julia.schwanholz@sowi.uni-goettingen.de

Dr. Osnat Akirav
Western Galilee College, Israel, Osnatak@bzetqint.net

Dr. Sven T. Siefken
Martin Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg, Halle (Saale), Germany sven.siefken@politik.uni-halle.de

Professor Da-Chi LIAO
National Sun Yat-sen University, Kaohsiung, Taiwan (R.O.C.), dcliao@mail.nsysu.edu.tw
Adjunct Professor Colleen Lewis  
National Centre for Australian Studies, Faculty of Arts, Monash University, Australia, colleen.lewis@monash.edu

8. Future plan

To maintain existing partnerships with practitioners (e.g. the work done by Irina Khmelko with Rick Stapenhurst on collaboration with the World Bank) and initiate further cooperation with practitioners (e.g. USAID). Another possibility is cooperation with IPU.

To support stronger cooperation of US legislative specialists and scholars from outside the United States.

To support cooperation among IPSA RCs.

To support activities organised in cooperation between RC08 and national associations.

To strengthen cooperation with ECPR Standing Group on Parliaments.

To take advantage of the possibility to get financial support from IPSA for cooperative conferences/workshops of two or more RCs.

Zdenka Mansfeldova

Brisbane, 30 July 2018
MEMBERSHIP FEE PAYMENT

Please remember to pay your membership fee. It is 25 USD per two years, starting from 1 January of the calendar year. How to pay it:

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

From: ………………….(SENDER’S NAME)
To: Frederick Stapenhurst
1227 Sherbrooke Street West - 35
Montreal, QC
H3G1G1

TD Canada Trust
1130 Sherbrooke Street West
Montreal, QC
H3A2M9
CANADA
Account #/IBAN: 47581-004 -7137426
SWIFT CODE: TDOMCATTOR

AND an email should be sent to Frederick Stapenhurst (Fstapenhurst@gmail.com) by the sender advising that a payment has been sent. This is very important since without this email it is not possible to verify the sender of the payment.

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

Frederick Stapenhurst
(McGill University)
1227 Sherbrooke Street West - 35
Montreal, QC
H3G1G1
CANADA
REPORT-ON RC08-RELATED ACTIVITIES

RCLS AT THE 25 IPSA WORLD CONGRESS IN BRISBANE

RC08 Session Chairs: Zdenka Mansfeldova and Hilmar Rommetvedt.

RC08/RCLS organized a session with 7 panels including 33 papers at the 25th World Congress of Political Science in Brisbane, Australia, July 21-25, 2018.

Julia Schwanholz and Sven Siefken presenting their papers in Brisbane.

Panels:

- Internet and Representative Democracy, chair Da-Chi Liao, discussants Cheng-Shan (Frank) Liu and Alexander Tan.

- Executive-legislative Relations, chair Hilmar Rommetvedt, discussant Timothy Power.


- Legislative Agenda Setting, Policy-making and Oversight, chair Julia Schwanholz, discussants Peter Lilienfeld and Michael Edinger.

- Roundtable - Authors Meet Critics: A Roundtable Discussion on "Coalitional Presidentialism in Comparative Perspective", co-chairs Svitlana Chernykh and Timothy Power, discussant Benjamin Reilly
• The New Roles of Parliamentary Committees Revisited, chair Ken Coghill, discussant Zdenka Mansfeldova.

• Voluntary and Involuntary Exits from Parliaments: Post-parliamentary Careers of MPs, co-chairs Michael Edinger and Marija Taflaga, discussant Sven T. Siefken.

RC08 panels were attended by 15 to 30 scholars each.

*Group photo of the RC08 board members present at the IPSA World Congress in Brisbane, with outgoing Program Chair Hilmar Rommetvedt.*
EDITED VOLUME “DECLINE IN LEGISLATURES AND RISE OF POPULISM”

RC08 board members Irina Khmelko and Frederick Stapenhurst are preparing an edited volume on the decline of legislatures and the rise of populism. Please find the Call for Proposals below.

Call for proposals

Recently, political scientists observed that legislatures are ceding power to increasingly assertive executive bodies that work to supplant legislative processes with executive processes. This volume will discuss various factors that diminish the power of legislatures. We are interested in case studies from all regions of the world, and we are specifically interested in countries that have experienced significant power shifts in recent years, e.g. Italy and some countries in South America.

RCO8 will present the volume in its Newsletter upon publication.

ARCHIVE OF THE LEGISLATIVE STUDIES OF THE LATE LAWRENCE LONGLEY

Irina Khmelko is working on an RC08 archive to commemorate the work of the late Lawrence Longley. Professor Longley was Chair of the Research Committee for a number of years and published extensively on legislative issues and American political institutions over multiple decades. Part of the archive work is to obtain working papers of the late Professor Longley with Lawrence University. Dr. Khmelko is planning on placing an archive on library web site and making it available to readers around the world. This can potentially be a beginning of building a larger archive for RC08 with interesting part of its history through the works of its members around the world.

RC08/RCLS REFURBISHED WEBSITE

Please check the refurbished RC08 website at http://rc08.ipsa.org/.

FURTHER RCO8 ACTIVITIES SINCE 2016

For further activities by RC08 – Legislative Specialists in the 2016-2018 period please see section 2 of the minutes of the RC08 business meeting in Brisbane.

DAVID OLSON PRIZE 2020

RC08 – Legislative Specialists decided to award the David Olson Prize only in 2020 after advertising it through different channels.
We are delighted to announce the Fourteenth Workshop of Parliamentary Scholars and Parliamentarians, which is to be held on Saturday 27 July and Sunday 28 July 2019. The venue is the same as for earlier Workshops: Wroxton College in Oxfordshire, UK, an ideal venue for international gatherings.

The Workshop serves to bring together scholars and parliamentarians – from legislatures around the globe – to discuss research findings likely to be of practical interest to members of parliaments. For topics covered in the previous two Workshops, and to access copies of papers presented, please visit our website: www.wroxtonworkshop.org

Paper proposals are invited for the 2019 Workshop. We welcome proposals that cover any aspect of legislatures – their development, behaviour, functions and consequences – and present findings likely to have relevance for parliamentarians. Papers that address issues of development, accountability and transparency, are especially welcome, as are those addressing more specifically trust in legislatures, post-legislative scrutiny, and the impact of committees. Papers may be country specific, though papers that present comparative research are encouraged. It is anticipated that there will be a concluding plenary round-table session, led by practitioners, addressing issues of concern to parliamentarians today.

Papers should be prepared and submitted electronically at least three weeks prior to the Workshop. Papers are normally 4,000 to 7,000 words in length (though shorter papers are also welcome) and may be considered for publication in The Journal of Legislative Studies.
Paper proposals (no more than 300 words), plus requests for further information, should be sent to:

Professor The Lord Norton of Louth,
Centre for Legislative Studies,
University of Hull,
HULL HU6 7RX,
United Kingdom.
Tel: +44 (0)1482-465863  E-mail: p.norton@hull.ac.uk

to arrive no later than Monday 4 February 2019. Up to that date, paper proposals will be considered as they are received.

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ECPR JOINT SESSIONS IN MONS (BELGIUM, 8-12 APRIL 2019)

Opposition Parties as Strategic Actors in Parliament

Elisabetta De Giorgi (NOVA University of Lisbon) and Gabriella Ilonszki (Corvinus University of Budapest)

CALL FOR PAPERS

The main purpose of this workshop is to shed light on how parliamentary opposition behaves and what affects its behaviour. The workshop aims to examine opposition behaviour from the perspective of the parties' strategic goals and thus tackles the academic challenge to bring parties back in to parliamentary studies (Green-Pedersen, 2010). Parliaments have generally improved as a working place for opposition. Parliamentary reforms have given more visibility and opportunities to the opposition, parliaments have become more open by involving the public through different deliberative instruments and new media (Griffith and Leston-Bandera, 2012) and the opposition does not seem to be on the losing side in this process. On the other hand, the parliaments' functions and relevance have been challenged in face of stronger executives and international – mostly European – constraints (Laffan, 2014; Goetz, 2014), although the way national parliaments can maintain their position varies (Winzen, 2017). The opposition must clearly respond to these new challenges by adapting its behaviour to these new dynamics, but its opportunities will depend also on the strength of the entire parliament (Auel et al., 2015).
The workshop welcomes new and established scholars focusing on the study of parliaments, legislative politics and political parties. Interested participants are invited to submit theoretical and empirical papers adopting either a case study approach or a comparative perspective, as we assume that a rich variety of cases will broaden our knowledge in this largely neglected field. We expect papers with innovative questions, supported by a strong theoretical basis – and strong empirical evidence at the same time – and contributions that connect the analysis of parties’ strategic goals with their parliamentary behaviour, in an understanding that party attributes will also have a decisive explanatory force in the parliamentary context.

Deadline for paper proposals: 3 December 2018 via MyECPR (Kindly note: Paper proposals sent directly to Workshop Directors will not be considered)

For a detailed description of our joint session, please see here. For practical information about the ECPR joint sessions please check the ECPR website.

For any questions, please contact us: Elisabetta De Giorgi (elisabettedegiorgi@gmail.com) or Gabriella Ilonszki (gabriella.ilonszki@uni-corvinus.hu)

ECPR JOINT SESSIONS IN MONS (BELGIUM, 8-12 APRIL 2019)

Parliaments and Government Termination
Björn Erik Rasch (Universitetet i Oslo)

CALL FOR PAPERS

In an attempt to begin to fill the academic lacuna on no-confidence votes, the ECPR workshop on Parliaments and Government Termination seeks papers that will trace the historical origins of the vote of no-confidence; delineate its development and expansion; elaborate an academic framework for analysis of votes of no-confidence; study its impact on, and consequences for, the way parliaments and governments operate; and assess their political consequences both theoretically and empirically.

As Damgaard (2010:301) correctly argued, “If government formation is crucial in parliamentary democracies… then the termination of the very same cabinets must be equally important… On the whole, therefore, formation and termination of cabinets delineate political processes that we cannot and should not study in mutual isolation.”
Until now, these two have been assessed quite separately, and a change in the latter has not been theorized to have an influence on the former. This proposed workshop argues the contrary. Focusing on the vote of no-confidence we seek to connect the type of no-confidence vote and the formation, management and duration of government coalitions in parliamentary democracies (Hazan 2014; Sieberer 2015); we posit that different types of no-confidence mechanisms will produce different kinds of governments and different dynamics in executive-legislative relations. In conclusion, while the literature on parliamentary coalitions is vast, the lack of analyses of the confidence relationship itself is a striking weakness, as is the attempt to connect between these two.

Paper proposals should be submitted by 3 December 2018 via the ECPR website (https://ecpr.eu).

Details of the workshop can be found at the following link:
https://ecpr.eu/Events/PanelDetails.aspx?PanellID=7658&EventID=121

5TH CONFERENCE OF THE ECPR STANDING GROUP ON PARLIAMENTS IN LEIDEN, 27-29 JUNE 2019

CALL FOR PAPERS AND PANELS

The Standing Group on Parliaments of the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) will host its 5th conference in Leiden Thursday, June 27th – Saturday, June 29th 2019. This is an inspiring, focused and extremely useful conference for all those interested in studying legislatures. There is no regional or methodological restriction.

The conference will bring together senior and junior scholars of the field. Away from the hectic bustle of large-scale conferences, it will offer unique opportunities for detailed discussions and networking. The academic programme will be complemented by a social programme including a visit to the Dutch parliament on the first day, as well as a conference dinner on the second evening of the conference, allowing participants ample opportunity to catch up with old friends and to meet new standing group members.

The ECPR Standing Group on Parliaments (SGoP) invites you to submit your proposals for the conference in 2019. The fifth conference of the SGoP is being hosted by the Department of Political Science at Leiden University. The local organizing committee consists of Rudy Andeweg, Tom Louwerse, Tim Mickler and Cynthia van Vonno.
We invite papers that deal with the empirical study of parliaments and legislatures. As it proved successful in Dublin, Vienna, Munich and Basel 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 preferably four (or five) papers

Abstracts of proposed individual papers should be a maximum of 200 words. Proposals for panels should name a panel chair, discussant, include a panel abstract, the names and e-mail addresses of all proposed paper givers and include abstracts for the individual papers.

If you have a question, please e-mail us at parliaments2019@fsw.leidenuniv.nl

Deadline for submissions: January 7th 2019

Proposals will be evaluated by February 1st 2019

Further information about the conference programme and registration will follow soon at: http://standinggroups.ecpr.eu/parliaments/

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Many RCLS members contributed to an edited volume dedicated to long-standing member and previous RCLS Co-Chair Werner J. Patzelt on the occasion of his 65th birthday. The volume “Politikwissenschaft als Beruf” (“Political Science as a Profession”) comprises almost 30 chapters on issues of political science, political communication and civic education. The first section of the book is devoted to institutional analysis with a focus on parliaments. Among the authors are Gerhard Loewenberg, Peverill Squire, Petra Guasti, Irina Khmelko, Zdenka Mansfeldová and Michael Edinger. Here are the titles of their chapters:


**Philip Norton**


**Björn von Sydow**

LISBON IS CALLING

After the 25th IPSA conference in Brisbane …

...before the 26th conference in Lisbon

The 26th World Congress of Political Science
26ème Congrès mondial de science politique
26º Congresso Mundial de Ciência Política
25-29 I 07 I 2020 Lisbon, Portugal

Save the Date
Call for Proposals
May 2019

The 2020 IPSA World Congress of Political Science will provide an opportunity for you to network with global scholars. It will have a particularly strong local representation since it will integrate the annual conference of the Portuguese Political Studies Association. Hope you will join us!

We hope to see most of you there!

The RCO8 Newsletter Team
Zdenka Mansfeldová (RC08 Chair)
Michael Edinger (ed.)
Irina Khmelko