

Comparative Perspectives on Political Science and Gender

Helsinki, December 12–14, 2013

A joint conference organised by International Political Science Association (IPSA), IPSA research committees 19 and 33, Nordic Political Science Association (NoPSA), Finnish Political Science Association (FPSA) and University of Helsinki, Faculty of Social Sciences.

The focus of the conference is to reflect on the current state of political science and gender studies from the perspectives of globalisation and/or its effects on Nordic societies. In addition to recent economic crisis, the increasing migration and multiculturalism in Nordic societies as well as the rise of support for populist parties bring challenges and new insights for both political decision-making and political science as a discipline.

The two main perspectives of the conference emerge from IPSA research committees. The more specific issues will be outlined within workshops and roundtables including gender equality, political representation and gender, and Nordic challenges for linguistic, cultural and minorities in the ages of globalisation. Moreover, the influence of the turn towards commercial values within higher education and novel educational policies on political science will be addressed.

Conference programme

December 12, 2013 (Thursday)

	IPSA executive committee	Research committee 19 'Gender Politics and Policy'	Research committee 33 'The Study of Political Science as a Discipline'
11:00 –	<p style="text-align: center;">Arrival, accommodation Registration at the Faculty of Social Sciences (Unioninkatu 37)</p>		
13.00 – 13:45	<p style="text-align: center;">Opening of the conference Unioninkatu 37, lecture hall</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Kia Lindroos (University of Jyväskylä, member of the IPSA executive committee and the FPSA board), Oddbjørn Knutsen (University of Oslo, president of the NoPSA)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Light snack served</i></p>		
13:45 – 15:45	<p style="text-align: center;">Roundtable 1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">What can (Nordic) feminist studies contribute to political science? (organised by RC 19) Unioninkatu 37, lecture hall</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chair: Anne Maria Holli (University of Helsinki, vice-chair of RC 19)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Terrel Carver (University of Bristol) Birte Siim (University of Aalborg) Lenita Friedenvall (University of Stockholm)</p>		
17:00 – 19:00	<p style="text-align: center;">Excursion to Parliament of Finland Transportation by bus from Unioninkatu 37 at 16:30</p>		
19:00 – 20:00	<p style="text-align: center;">Sightseeing tour in Helsinki (by bus)</p>		
20:00 –	<p style="text-align: center;">Dinner Restaurant Savotta, Aleksanterinkatu 22 <i>(for IPSA EC; RC 19 & RC 33 panelists)</i></p>		

December 13, 2013 (Friday)

	IPSA executive committee	Research committee 19 'Gender Politics and Policy'	Research committee 33 'The Study of Political Science as a Discipline'
09:00 – 12:00	EC meeting (Faculty meeting room, Unioninkatu 37)	<p>Session 1 (seminar room 4)</p> <p>Gender Equality, Nationalism and Welfare: Intersectional Contestations and the Politics of Belonging</p> <p>Chair: Pauline Stoltz (University of Aalborg)</p>	<p>Session 1 (note! Starting time 10:00) (seminar room 2)</p> <p>The Current State of Political Science and Its Future Alternatives</p> <p>Chair: Erkki Berndtson (University of Helsinki)</p>
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch (self-organised)		
13:00 – 15:00	EC meeting (Faculty meeting room, Unioninkatu 37)	<p>Session 2 (seminar room 4)</p> <p>Critical Feminist Policy Analysis: Theoretical, Methodological and Empirical Analyses</p> <p>Chair: Malin Rönnblom (Umeå University)</p>	<p>Session 2 (seminar room 2)</p> <p>Studies on the History of Political Science</p> <p>Chair: John Trent (University of Ottawa)</p>
15:30 – 17:30	<p>Roundtable 2 The State of Political Science: Experiences from the World of Political Science Book Series (organised by RC 33) Unioninkatu 37, lecture hall</p> <p>Chair: Bob Reinalda (Radboud University Nijmegen) Keynote speaker: John Trent (University of Ottawa): Thinking about New Paradigms for Political Studies Discussant: Marian Sawer (Australian National University)</p>		
18:00 – 20:00	<p>University of Helsinki reception the Swedish School of Social Sciences, Yrjö Koskisen katu 3</p>		

December 14, 2013 (Saturday)

	IPSA executive committee	Research committee 19 'Gender Politics and Policy'	Research committee 33 'The Study of Political Science as a Discipline'
09:00 – 12:00	EC meeting (Faculty meeting room, Unioninkatu 37)	Session 3 (seminar room 4) Open session Chair: Lenita Freidenvall (University of Stockholm)	Session 3 (note! Starting time 10:30) (seminar room 2) Political Science in Russia Chair: Thibaud Boncourt (European University Institute)
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch (self-organised)		
13:00 – 15:00	EC meeting (Faculty meeting room, Unioninkatu 37)	Session 4 (seminar room 4) The Politics of Gender Equality in Times of Globalisation and Change – Comparative Perspectives Chair: Christina Bergqvist (University of Uppsala)	RC 33 Executive committee meeting (seminar room 2)
15:15 – 18:00	<p>Nordic Political Science Association:</p> <p>Panel: Political Science in the Nordic Countries Unioninkatu 37, lecture hall</p> <p>Chair: Oddbjørn Knutsen (University of Oslo)</p> <p>Panelists: Andreas Føllesdal (University of Oslo) Raino Malnes (University of Oslo) Jørgen Grønnegård Christensen (University of Aarhus) Øivind Østerud (University of Oslo) Carsten Anckar (Åbo Akademi University) Jan Sundberg (University of Helsinki) Åsa Bengtsson (Åbo Akademi University) Ludvig Beckman (Editor of SPS, University of Stockholm)</p>		
20:00 –	<p>Dinner Restaurant Nokka, Kanavaranta 7 (for IPSA EC and NoPSA panelists)</p>		

Roundtables and workshops:

Research committee 19 ‘Gender politics and policy’

The potentials and limits of Nordic equality politics in times of globalization and change

organised by Anne Maria Holli (University of Helsinki, vice-chair of RC 19)

The Nordic Countries have for a long time been considered as model countries when it comes to gender equality, a high representation of women in politics and ‘women-friendly’ policies enabling a dual bread-winner/career model for both sexes. The aim of workshop and roundtable is to provide a forum for a critical analysis of the situation and future prospects in the Nordic contexts today, in the framework of global economies, increasing migration and multi-culturalism in Nordic societies as well as the rise of support for populist, often anti-immigration and anti-equality parties.

Roundtable 1: What can (Nordic) feminist studies contribute to political science?

December 12, 13:45–15:45, Unioninkatu 37 lecture hall

Chair: Anne Maria Holli (University of Helsinki)

Terrell Carver (University of Bristol): *‘Gender is not a synonym for women’*

Birte Siim (University of Aalborg): *‘The challenge to reframe citizenship and gender equality – a Nordic (feminist) perspective’*

Lenita Freidenvall (University of Stockholm): *‘Gender equality policy: actors, institutions and processes’*

Session 1: Gender Equality, Nationalism and Welfare: Intersectional Contestations and the Politics of Belonging

December 13, 09:00–12:00, Unioninkatu 37 seminar room 4

Support for both the welfare state and gender equality is important for the politics of belonging (Yuval-Davis 2011) in a number of Western societies. Contemporary nationalist and populist parties (in e.g. Sweden, Denmark and Norway) have at the same time formulated welfare and gender equality politics in, according to many observers, rather problematic ways. They basically state that all natives are gender equal, whereas all migrants do not know the meaning of the word. Consequently, this workshop presents papers on theoretical and analytical questions about understandings and conceptualisations of nationalism, populism, welfare and gender. Whereas an inter-categorical approach to intersectionality focuses on the way in which the intersection of social categories, such as race, gender and class, affects particular social behavior or the distribution of resources, intra-categorical studies problematise the significance and boundaries of the categories themselves.

Chair: Pauline Stoltz (University of Aalborg)

Papers:

Birte Siim (University of Aalborg) & Pauline Stoltz (University of Aalborg): *'Nordic Nationalism, Gender Equality and the Politics of Belonging'*

Linda Hart (University of Helsinki) and Hanna-Kaisa Hoppania (University of Helsinki): *'New care and family ideologies? Recent policies and politics of care, family relations and gender in Finland'*

Arnfinn H. Midtbøen (Institute for Social Research) & Mari Teigen (Institute for Social Research): *'Social investment in gender equality? Multidimensional perspectives on Norwegian activation policies'*

Session 2: Critical Feminist Policy Analysis: Theoretical, Methodological and Empirical Analyses

December 13, 13:00–15:00, Unioninkatu 37 seminar room 4

Critical policy analysis is a growing research field within feminist political science studies. Inspired of the work of Carol Bacchi (1999, 2009) and others, Nordic scholars have scrutinized gender equality policy, but also other policy areas, both inside and outside the Nordic countries. In the core of the field lies the ambition of asking how political problems are articulated in policy and what kind of effects these problem representations lead to. Different theoretical and methodological approaches to intersectionality are also an important dimension in this scholarly work. The workshop presents papers that address future challenges in this field, dealing with theoretical and/or methodological aspects, but also papers that presents empirical results of research on policy areas. Workshop also discusses feminist aspects of critical policy analysis, for example addressing the relationship between feminist political theory and policy analysis as methodology.

Chair: Malin Rönnblom (Umeå University)

Papers:

Malin Rönnblom (Umeå University): *'Processes of de-politicisation in Swedish regional policy – the case of gender equality'*

Marta Choroszewicz (University of Eastern Finland): *'In the service of neoliberal agenda? The neoliberal framing of gender equality in law firms in Finland'*

3: Open session

December 14, 09:00–12:00, Unioninkatu 37, seminar room 4

Relations between gender, power and politics have undergone a series of transformations in the Nordic countries during the last decades. 'Women-friendly', or, 'Social democratic', Nordic welfare states have not necessarily met either of those epithets for quite some time. The Nordic 'model' has potentially been changed from within in ways that have not been taken up in international feminist studies which still tend to idolise the Nordic societies. This session offers insights which fall outside the themes targeted by the other sessions; theoretical and empirical contributions on gender, policy and politics in the Nordic societies and their changing configurations both in time and between Nordic countries.

Chair: Lenita Freidenvall (University of Stockholm)

Papers:

Jaana Kuusipalo (University of Tampere): *'Re-gendering of Political Representation'*

Anne Maria Holli (University of Helsinki) (paper co-authored with Zoe Lefkofridi; European University Institute and Nathalie Giger; University of Mannheim): *'Gender Stereotypes & Electoral Choices: Evidence from the Finnish open-list PR System'*

Session 4: The Politics of Gender Equality in Times of Globalisation and Change – Comparative Perspectives

December 14, 13:00–15:00, Unioninkatu 37, seminar room 4

Recent economic crises as well as changes in the political environment, not least in the common European context, challenge not only the prominence and contents of gender and equality policies but also profoundly affect the formulation of most other public policies, especially those linked to welfare and social services. Consequently, the direct and indirect impacts of changing contexts may accumulate to further marginalise those groups who already are in a disadvantaged or vulnerable position either as citizens, workers or clients, such as, for example, single mothers, immigrant groups or handicapped people. This workshop analyses the effects and implications of changing economic and political contexts on public policies and citizens, both from a Nordic, European and global perspective.

Chair: Christina Bergqvist (University of Uppsala)

Papers:

Christina Bergqvist, Elin Bjarnegård & Pär Zetterberg (University of Uppsala): *'The invisible opponent – or why did male Swedish Social-Democratic top-politicians stop a gender equality reform they claimed to like?'*

Oksana Mejere (Vytautas Magnus University Lithuania): *'Institutional gender equality mechanisms in Lithuania: (Trans)formation and role in developing state feminism'*

Research committee 33 ‘The Study of Political Science as a Discipline’

The State of Political Science: Diversity or Unity in a Globalising World?

organised by Erkki Berndtson (University of Helsinki, chair of RC 33)

Political science is one of the three core social science disciplines with economics and sociology. Although the discipline has developed rapidly during the last decades, it is still, however, unevenly developed. This is due to different political contexts and intellectual traditions. Today political science faces also new challenges, as higher education landscape is changing all over the world. There are new organisational arrangements which break down existing disciplinary structures. In this situation, it is important to look at the current state of political science as a discipline. The workshop on ‘the state of political science: diversity or unity in a globalising world?’ builds on the book series ‘*The World of Political Science*’ (ed. by John Trent and Michael Stein), which analyses the development of political science through the work of twelve IPSA research committees. The Helsinki workshop opens with a roundtable discussion on the series. The other RC sessions will discuss papers on the state of the discipline from different perspectives.

Roundtable 2: The State of Political Science: Experiences from the World of Political Science Book Series

December 13, 15:30–17:30, Unioninkatu 37 lecture hall

Chair: Bob Reinalda (Radboud University, Nijmegen)

Keynote Address: John Trent (University of Ottawa): *Thinking about New Paradigms for Political Studies*

Discussant: Marian Sawer (Australian National University)

Session 1: The Current State of Political Science and Its Future Alternatives

December 13, 10:00–12:00, Unioninkatu 37, seminar room 2

Chair: Erkki Berndtson (University of Helsinki)

Papers:

Bob Reinalda (Radboud University, Nijmegen): *Political Science: Current Performance and Future Strength – Ideas to Be Discussed*

Petri Koikkalainen (University of Lapland): *The Disciplinary Pluralism of Political Studies*

Session 2: Studies on the History of Political Science

December 13, 13:00–15:00, Unioninkatu 37, seminar room 2

Chair: John Trent (University of Ottawa)

Papers:

Erkki Berndtson (University of Helsinki): *Mary Parker Follett as a Theorist of Power*

Liisi Keedus (University of Tartu): *From Lore to Science – or Sci-Fi? Ambition and Fantasy in American Political Science after World War II*

Thibaud Boncourt (European University Institute): *Political Science and the Cold War. On the Politicization of Sciences*

Session 3: Political Science in Russia

December 14, 10:30–12:00, Unioninkatu 37, seminar room 2

Chair: Thibaud Boncourt (European University Institute)

Papers:

Mikhail Ilyin (National Research University Higher School of Economics, Moscow): *Political Science in Russia: Flat Landscape? Shrinking Terrain?*

Sirke Mäkinen (University of Tampere): *Role of Geopolitics in Russia – Discourses of IR and PS Teachers and Students*

Nordic Political Science Association's panel

Political science in the Nordic Countries

December 14, 15:15–18:00, Unioninkatu 37 lecture hall

The papers in this panel will present the major lines of development within the subfields of political science in the Nordic countries. Central questions to be included in the papers are: Which topics have been focused upon, how has the subfield developed over time regarding focus and methodology, and what are the main challenges today? The reviews should mainly focus on the topics by including research from all the Nordic countries within a common framework, but they can in addition include a discussion of special traits or research profiles for each of the Nordic countries.

Chair: Oddbjørn Knutsen (University of Oslo)

Panelists:

Andreas Føllesdal (University of Oslo)

Raino Malnes (University of Oslo)

Jørgen Grønnegård Christensen (University of Aarhus)

Øivind Østerud (University of Oslo)

Carsten Anckar (Åbo Akademi University)

Jan Sundberg (University of Helsinki)

Åsa Bengtsson (Åbo Akademi University)

Ludvig Beckman (Editor of SPS, University of Stockholm)
