



EGPA/IIAS

European Group
for Public Administration

2021

Annual Conference of the

***European Group for Public
Administration***

7-10 September 2021

PhD Symposium

7 September 2021

Permanent Study Group VI:

Governance of Public Sector Organizations

Call-for-Papers

EGPA Permanent Study Group VI on Governance of Public Sector Organizations

Public sector governance, collaboration and reputation in turbulent times

The EGPA Study Group on the Governance of Public Sector Organizations explores all aspects of public sector organizations, their origin, nature, and change. The Study Group is interested in the balance of organizational specialization and coordination, the role of public organizations in policy-making and implementation, as well as the performance, accountability and legitimacy of such organizations. Formal organizational arrangements and how they work in practice, the role of context, internal and external collaboration, and public perceptions of government bodies are among the central issues discussed. More recently, with digital transformation and crises in public confidence in representative politics, issues of technology, reputation and trust have come to the fore in how public sector organizations perform their tasks and are governed.

For the 2021 gathering, PSG VI invites research that seeks to understand the legacies of COVID-19 for the reputation, governance and work of public sector organisations. Papers that examine the traditional themes of governance are also welcome.

We are particularly interested in new forms of governing public sector organizations that have emerged. These might include innovative forms of coordination and collaboration through technology or network arrangements, as well as new partnerships between government organizations and private/civil society actors. New and experimental ways to include users and citizen interests in the design or implementation of policies are increasingly evident, but what challenges do they pose for public sector organisations? Adding to this, issues of reputation, ambiguity, and uncertainty have arisen like never before and deserve scholarly attention. To what extent are new initiatives being implemented and what impact will they have on governance capacity and efficiency, as well as on governance legitimacy and trust?

Recently, different digital tools increasingly influence how public sector organizations perform their work, and how they collaborate with other organizations and groups within and outside the public sectors. We wish to examine how such technological innovations and digitalization affect organizational capacity, public sector coordination, collaboration, accountability, and legitimacy, and how the introduction of new digital working procedures shapes public sector organizations and their governance.

Papers can be theoretical or empirical, descriptive or explanatory, but they should have a clear conceptual and theoretical basis and meet appropriate methodological standards. Comparative papers (across time, countries, government levels or policy sectors) are particularly appreciated. The study group welcomes researchers from different disciplines, from public administration to management research, organization studies, public policy and beyond.

The co-chairs will also convene a panel on the title themes of governance, collaboration and reputation in turbulent times, including assessment of what has changed for how public sector organisations operate as a result of the pandemic.

Practicalities

Important dates:

- ✓ Deadline for submission of Abstracts: April 30, 2021
- ✓ Deadline for notification to the authors: no later than May 25, 2021
- ✓ Deadline for online submission of full papers: August 10, 2021
- ✓ EGPA 2021 Conference: September 7-10, 2021

EGPA 2021 Conference Website: <https://www.egpa-conference2021.org/>

EGPA 2021 Conference Management System: <https://www.conftool.org/egpa-conference2021>

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