



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 XIX:

Public Network Policy and Management

Call-for-Papers

EGPA Permanent Study Group XIX on Public Network Policy and Management

Managing Networks in Digital and Uncertain Times: Experiences and Emerging paradigms of Networks Leadership and Governance

Networks are today, even more than in the past, called to cope with a complex environment. The Covid-19 pandemic, but not only, has increased the level of uncertainty and complexity, and forced networks to reinvent their ways to operate and function. Traditional mechanisms governing network function failed, personal relationships and trust froze due to the need to maintain social distance, leaders struggled to maintain their role, and networks encountered a lot of difficulties to perform their activities. However, literature shows the critical role of networks and collaboration in emergencies (Boin et al., 2018; Moynihan, 2012; Waugh & Streib, 2006). At the same times, it calls for a new way to get the job done.

Even more in a digital government era, there is a growing need for collaborative governance across organizational boundaries (Dawes, Cresswell, and Pardo 2009). Emerging concepts such as *Government as a Platform* envisage the transformation of the relationships amongst different actors into open, flat, and often unstructured arrangements (Cordella & Paletti, 2019).

Based on these premises, during the 2021 EGPA conference we invite scholars and practitioners to share ideas, experiences and results of research projects about how to reinvent network management, leadership and governance in our increasingly digital and uncertain times.

In this perspective, the PSG encourages the **submission** of papers and research projects dealing with (but not limited to):

- Digital ecosystems as network structures;
- Government as a platform: conceptualization and experiences;
- Skills, profiles and competences of network managers and network leaders for a digitally enabled world;
- Collaborative administration and network governance for a digitally enabled world;
- The role of individuals, with their personality traits and characteristics to lead the network functioning;
- The impact of digital enablers on the performance of networked governance;
- Reinventing network-clients relationships: towards the co-production of goods and services. Ethical and accountability issues.

As in past editions, the PSG will operate in close partnership and collaboration with other relevant forums for public network management discussion and research, such as the European Academy of Management (EURAM) Strategic Interest Group on Public and Non-Profit Management and the International Journal of Public Leadership.

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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