



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 XXI:
Policy Design and Evaluation***

Call-for-Papers

EGPA Permanent Study Group XXI on Policy Design and Evaluation

The Call in a nutshell:

- Papers dealing with issues of Policy Design and Evaluation
- Special focus: Policy Capacity and Policy Analysis in Hard Times
- Best-paper award! – Awarded in Joint Session with PSG XIII Public Policy and the [JCPA-ICPA Forum](#) (Journal of Comparative Policy Analysis- International Comparative Policy Analysis).

We welcome all papers dealing with topics that fit in the study group's core themes of policy design, policy analysis, and evaluation.

Next to the general call, each year's call chooses a special focus.

Special Focus: Policy Capacity and Policy Analysis in Hard Times

During the past decade, governments have been confronted by a series of 'policy crises'. Some of these crises have demanded urgent and immediate policy crisis responses from policy-makers, such as the financial and economic crises of 2008, and the current COVID-19 crisis. Other crises require long term, sustained and strategic policy actions, such as the climate crisis or the refugee crisis. The increasingly complex and wicked nature of policy problems, as well as the emergence of policy crises put to question the policy capacity of governments, and in particular the degree to which governments are able to anticipate and respond to urgent and/or complex policy problems (see e.g. Capano et al., 2020; Wu et al., 2015; Peters, 2005).

For this workshop, we aim to bring together papers addressing normative, theoretical and empirical questions related to the issue of policy capacity of governments. We invite contributions that approach the issue of policy capacity from the Study Group's core themes of 'policy design', 'policy analysis' and 'policy evaluation'. This could include issues such as:

- The design or effectiveness of traditional or behavioral policy instruments to induce policy change and respond to policy crises
- The supply and demand of policy analysis or policy evaluation, or matters relating to difficulties for evidence-informed policy-making in times of crisis.
- Limitations or strengths regarding the capacity for crisis management (e.g. resources, knowledge, budgets, coordination...)
- The temporal dimension of crisis management capacities and dynamics of change brought about by policy crises (e.g. changes to the make-up of policy analysis institutions or of policy advisory systems, changes to evaluation practices).

We conceive the panel as a forum to exchange comparative research experience and case studies about this issue, and welcome contributions relating to different policy domains, institutional settings and countries.

Abstracts should include a clear puzzle, research question, outline of the approach, research design,

and main contribution of the proposed paper.

Please note that also that presenters may be asked to serve as discussants on other papers.

Best paper Award!

Within EGPA, we organise a biannual award for the best comparative paper as a joint collaboration of PSG XXI Policy Design and Evaluation, PSG XIII Public Policy, and the Journal of Comparative Policy Analysis (JCPA).

The Award consists of an Award Certificate signed by a Joint Permanent Study Groups and ICPA-Forum Adjudication Committee, a grant of \$500 sponsored by the ICPA-Forum and Routledge, and priority publication slot allocation to the awarded article following JCPA standard blindfold review. Both PSG XIII and XXI will select two comparative papers submitted to them, as to be presented and discussed in a joint session during the EGPA conference.

References

Capano, G., Howlett, M., Jarvis, D.S.L., Ramesh, M. & Goyal, N. (2020). Mobilizing policy (in)capacity to fight COVID-19: Understanding variations in state responses. *Policy and Society*, 39(3): 285-308.

Peters, B. Guy (2005). Policy instruments and policy capacity. In M. Painter & J. Pierre (Eds.) *Challenges to state policy capacity. Global trends and comparative perspectives*. Palgrave Macmillan.

Wu, X., Ramesh, M., Howlett, M. (2015). Policy capacity: A conceptual framework for understanding policy competences and capabilities. *Policy and Society*, 34(3-4): 165-171.

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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