



University of National and World Economy Sofia, Bulgaria

Academic Programme

1st European Conference on Comparative Electoral Research

Theme:

The State of the Art in Comparative Electoral Research

**An activity of the project “The True European Voter”
(COST Action IS0806)**

<http://www.true-european-voter.eu/>

Methods Working Group

Academic convenors

Cees van der Eijk (University of Nottingham & Amsterdam School of Communication Research)

Anne Jadot (Université Nancy 2 & CEVIPOF)

Eftichia Teperoglou (Mannheim Centre for European Social Research-MZES, University of Mannheim & University of Athens)

Local Conference organizers

Mihail Mirchev and Katia Mihailova (University of National and World Economy, Sofia)

Thursday 1 December 2011

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| | Arrival of participants |
| from 13:00, in front of Ceremonial Hall (CH) | Registration / Information desk open (for whole conference duration) |
| 14:30-14:50 Ceremonial Hall | Welcome & opening of the conference by <i>Cees van der Eijk</i> , <i>Katia Mihailova</i> and an UNWE representative |
| 15:00-16:45 | Parallel Panels Session 1 |
| Small conference hall | Panel Session 1.1: The supply side and its impact on volatility Chair: <i>Anne Jadot</i> |
| | Mapping electoral volatility in Europe. An analysis of trends in electoral volatility in European democracies since 1945, <i>Ruth Dassonneville</i> and <i>Marc Hooghe</i> |
| | Retrospective voting, accountability, and party instability in European elections, <i>Dani Marinova</i> |
| | Party supply matters: an alternative explanation of vote switching and differential abstention in European Elections, <i>Alberto Sanz</i> |
| | When it's hard to change. Party system polarization, and the potential vote shifting, <i>Federico Vegetti</i> |
| Hall 2028A | Panel Session 1.2: Polarization, issue congruence and the competition structure Chair: <i>Hermann Schmitt</i> |
| | Party polarization and spatial voting, <i>Lluís Orriols</i> and <i>Laia Balcells</i> |
| | The effects of party-issue associations on the voting decision process, <i>Romain Lachat</i> |
| | Explaining Left-Right party congruence across European party systems: a test of micro, meso and macro level models, <i>Ana Maria Belchior</i> |
| | Parties, candidates, issues: electoral competition revisited, <i>Theodore Chadjipadelis</i> |
| 16:45-17:15 | Coffee break |
| 17:15-18:15 Hall 2032A | 1st Plenary Event: Methodological debate on data stacking and the Y hats analysis strategy, <i>Cees van der Eijk</i> , <i>Kenneth Benoit</i> & <i>Krassimir Kalinov</i> |
| 20:00 | Dinner at Restaurant Borimechkata (www.borimechkata.com/en/home.html) |

Friday 2 December 2011

7:00-8:30 **Hotel Vega:** TEV breakfast meeting on data harmonisation and restructuring

LOCATION CHANGE, CIP = CENTRE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY !

9:00-10:30 **Parallel Panels Session 2**

CIP, Lecture Hall **Panel Session 2.1: Cleavages across time and countries: identities and attitudinal anchorage**

Chair: *Radek Markowski*

Religiosity and party choice in secularized societies: an introductory comparative analysis, *José Ramon Montero, Paolo Segatti, Héctor Cebolla and Guillermo Cordero*

Religiosity and Left-Right self-placement in Europe. Three decades of evolution, *Jaime Balaguer, Guillermo Cordero and Rosa María Navarrete*

The Rise of Party/Leader identification in Europe, *Diego Garzia*

CIP, Conference Hall **Panel Session 2.2: Economy and social class impact on voting**

Chair: *Cees van der Eijk*

Between a rock and a hard place: dealing with the economic explanation of voting choice, *Andrea De Angelis*

Is there a 'contingent' impact of political context on voting behavior? Trends in class voting in France, *Bruno Cautrès*

Learning the economic vote at local elections: the case of Lithuania, 1995-2011, *Mažvydas Jastramskis*

10:30-11:00 Coffee break

11:00-12:30 **Plenary Methodological Panel 1: Modelling while taking into account the data structure**

CIP, Conference Hall
Chair: *Theodore Chadjipadelis*

Generic variable analysis: climbing the ladder of generality with social science data, *Lorenzo de Sio and Mark Franklin*

Strategies for transnational comparison of secondary aspects: a case study, *Frédéric Falkenhagen*

Adequacy of the supply of electoral alternatives and satisfaction with national and EU democracy: a multi-level analysis, *Eliyahu Sapir and Christine Arnold*

12:30-13:30 Lunch Break (at the University canteen)

13:30-15:00 **Parallel Panels Session 3**

CIP, Conference Hall **Panel Session 3.1: Challenges in measuring turnout and its variations**
Chair: *Cees van der Eijk*

Voter overrepresentation, vote misreporting and turnout bias in postelection surveys, *Peter Selb* and *Simon Munzert*

Voter turnout stability in comparative perspective: over-reporting as methodological challenge, *Mikolaj Czesnik* and *Michal Kotnarowski*

Comparing aggregate data and surveys ability to assess flows of participation: empirical evidence from Italy and France, *Luana Russo* and *Anne Jadot*

CIP, Lecture Hall **Panel Session 3.2: What regional and European elections teach us about the electoral process**
Chair: *Eftichia Teperoglou*

Ideal type second-order elections: regional elections in six Central and Eastern European countries, *Arjan Schakel*

Asymmetrical representation? Policy congruence gaps in the 2009 European Parliament election, *Alexia Katsanidou* and *Zoe Lefkofridi*

Group identity, attitudes towards the EU, and electoral behaviour in European elections, *Santiago Pérez-Nievas* and *Teresa Mata López*

15:00-15:30 Coffee break

15:30-17:00 **Plenary Methodological Panel 2: Assessing data quality for comparative electoral research**
CIP, Conference Hall
Chair: *Lorenzo de Sio*

Accounting for national tradition in data collection when creating an international database, *Frédéric Falkenhagen*

Surveying the elite. A critical evaluation of the 2009 European Election Candidate Study, *Laura Sudulich*

Non-responses: the curse of preelectoral and electoral surveys, *Krassimir Kalinov*

17:15-18:00 **2nd Plenary Event:** "The True European Voter: What it is, where we are, why we do it",
Conference Hall *Hermann Schmitt*

19:00 Piano concert and dinner at The National Gallery of World Art (in the city center)

Saturday 3 December 2011

- 8:45-10:15
Hall 2032A
- Plenary Methodological Panel 3: Disentangling partisan affects**
Chair: *Cristiano Vezzoni*
- Disentangling components of PTV measures, with an application to the EES 2009, *Mark Franklin and Lorenzo de Sio*
- Comparing non-ipsative measures of party support, *Michael Marsh and Cees van der Eijk*
- Partisanship, leader evaluations, and the vote: breaking the new iron triangle in electoral research, *Diego Garzia and Andrea De Angelis*
- 10:15-10:45
Coffee break
- 10:45-12:15
Hall 2032A
- Parallel Panels Session 4**
- Panel Session 4.1: Preconditions of the electoral process: trust, efficacy and knowledge**
Chair: *Paolo Segatti*
- Elections and the mobilisation of political efficacy, *Carla Xena*
- The consequences of corruption on electoral behaviour. Leader vs. party effects? Do the voters choose the lesser evil?, *Diana Elena Burlacu*
- Explaining political knowledge in a comparative context, *Mathieu Turgeon and Robert Luskin*
- Hall 2028A
- Panel Session 4.2: Impact of campaigns and media on voting behaviour**
Chair: *Anne Jadot*
- Media projection of the local elections after 1989 (Burgas municipality – Bulgaria), *Yulia Shapovalova and Lilia Raycheva*
- The evolution of new media use by political parties in European Elections: a new front in increasing voter turnout, *Carlos Cuhna*
- New media in an electoral campaign: questions and answers, *Katia Mihailova*
- 12:30-13:15
Hall 2032A
- 3rd Plenary Event:** "The State of the Art in Comparative Electoral Research",
Michael Marsh
- End of the conference