



Biennial Report of Research Networks – Some criteria

The ESA Executive Committee expects a written biennial Report of about two pages on the activities of each Research Network during the past two-year term. This report will be published on the ESA website, in the section of each RN. You are writing the history of your RN and the institutional memory with this report.

The report is due after each ESA Conference and includes the activities of your RN at that conference. It shall be sent no later than at the end of that year and should be sent to the ESA secretariat: [esa \(at\) europeansociology.org](mailto:esa@europeansociology.org).

There is no formal template, you are free how you want to design it. To facilitate preparing the report, please consider the following criteria:

1. Name and Number of RN

RN 32 Political Sociology

2. Names and email addresses of:

a. outgoing Coordinators and board members (past term)

Pauline Cullen pauline.cullen@mu.ie Associate Professor Sociology Maynooth University National University of Ireland

Alberta Giorgi alberta.giorgi@unibg.it Senior Lecturer, Sociology of cultural and communication processes, University of Bergamo

Board members:

Maria Cristina Marchetti <mc.marchetti@uniroma1.it>,

Szabó Gabriella <Szabo.Gabriella@tk.hu>,

Szabó Gabriella <Szabo.Gabriella@tk.mta.hu>,

Oscar Mazzoleni <Oscar.Mazzoleni@unil.ch>,

Monika de Frantz <monika.defrantz@univie.ac.at>,

Håkan Johansson <hakan.johansson@soch.lu.se>,

Katharina Sarter <katharina.sarter@southwales.ac.uk>,

Philippa Mullins P.S.Mullins@lse.ac.uk (rep. PhD students)

---b. incoming Coordinators and board members (new term after this year's conference)

Alberta Giorgi alberta.giorgi@unibg.it

Louisa Rosemary Parks <louisa.parks@unitn.it>

[See below for board members]

3. Activities:

Please describe all relevant activities of your RN in the past two-year term:

- a. Did you organise a mid-term conference? If yes, please provide the title, venue, date, organisers, number of papers and participants and overall assessment of the event. (Consult your midterm conference report which will not get published on the website.)

Yes we organised a midterm conference at Maynooth University (virtual) **October (29-31) 2020 *Back to the Future? European Progressions and Retrogressions.***

99 submitted abstracts (87 paper presentations, 25 panels, 1 junior scholar online meeting, 1 keynote presentation and 1 plenary contribution)

We held virtual board meetings and planning and review meetings through 2020-2021 to orchestrate the midterm conference and plan for the ESA general conference. We held a meeting on October 6th 2021 for the newly constituted board.



b. Please report on your activities at the ESA Conference of this year: Number of sessions; how many presentations, how many distributed papers?

We reviewed 160 abstracts, securing two semi-plenaries and 6 joint sessions and programmed 24 panels, 106 presenters.

We held a successful business meeting at the general conference and recruited new members to the board.

Current board members are (in alphabetical order): 2021-

Carlo Berti (University of Trento) carlo.berti-1@unitn.it
Cecilia Biancalana (University of Lausanne) cecilia.biancalana@unil.ch
Pauline Cullen (Maynooth University) pauline.cullen@mu.ie
Monika De Frantz (University of Vienna) monika.defrantz@univie.ac.at
Briar Dickey (Radboud University), rep. of postgraduate students briar.dickey@student.ru.nl
Michele Grigolo (Nottingham Trent University) michele.grigolo@ntu.ac.uk
Liviu-Catalin Mara (University of Barcelona) lcmara@ub.edu
Oscar Mazzoleni (University of Lausanne) oscar.mazzoleni@unil.ch
Philippa Mullins (LSE) phmullins@aia.am
Ebru Ozturk (Mid Sweden University) ebru.ozturk@miun.se
Flaminia Saccà (University of Tuscia) sacca@unitus.it
Katharina Sarter (University of South Wales) katharina.sarter@southwales.ac.uk
Roberto Scaramuzzino (Lund University) roberto.scaramuzzino@soch.lu.se
Anja Schmidt-Kleiner (University of Marburg) anja.schmidt-kleinert@uni-potsdam.de

Our Joint sessions and semi-plenaries are listed here:

- The COVID-19 pandemic and the emergency policies: a renewed role for the State? (with RN16 Sociology of health and illness). Coordinators: Guido Giarelli (RN16, Sociology of health and illness) and Louisa Parks (RN32 Political Sociology)
- Surveillance Capitalism – new challenges for social sciences (with RN20 Qualitative Methods and RN09 Economic Sociology). Coordinators: Florian Elliker (RN20 Qualitative

Methods), Andrea Maurer (RN09 Economic Sociology) and Alberta Giorgi (RN32 Political Sociology).

And our semi-plenaries:

- Alternative Futures beyond neoliberalism: inside and outside of the European Union. Speakers: Dr Toni Haastrup, University of Stirling, Dr Angela Wigger, Radboud University. Organizers: RN32 Political Sociology and RN06 Critical Political Economy.
- Civic Action: Creating and Living Alternative Futures. Speakers: Paul Lichterman; Ann Mische. Organizers: RN 20 "Qualitative Methods", RN 32 "Political Sociology", RN 29 "Social Theory" and RN 25 "Social Movements".

- c. Did you establish a Newsletter of your RN? If so, how often is the Newsletter published; is it sent through the ESA RN website?

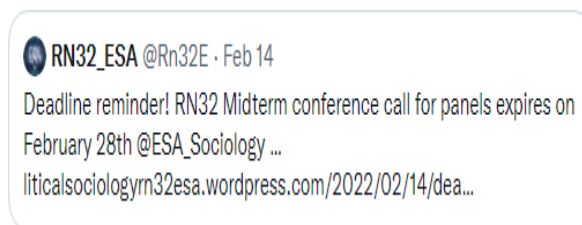
We circulated monthly email newsletters including information from publishers, other RN activities, job announcements and deadlines for our own midterm and other midterm conferences.

- d. Does your RN have a website of its own, other than the space on the official ESA website?

We established a website space for the midterm in 2020 and a new website for the 2022 midterm (<https://unil.ch/ovpr/en/home/menuinst/convegner/colloques-internationaux/international-workshop-1.html>).

Additionally, we established a website for the RN: <https://politicalsociologyrn32esa.wordpress.com/>

We maintain a social media presence with the creation of our Twitter account. @RN32E



The RN also has a Facebook page "European Political Sociology" (<https://www.facebook.com/europeanpoliticalsociology>).

- e. Publications related to RN sessions and/or midterm meetings?

We are planning an edited book proposal for Palgrave Political Sociology Series (planned for 2023-4) titled *Political Sociology Responds to Intersecting Crises* this will include papers from the RN 32 panels at the midterm and general conference

- f. Any action to be taken to improve participation of PhD students and early career researchers?

We initiated a junior scholars peer mentoring session at the midterm in 2020. We recruited additional postgraduate members to the committee.

- g. Any action to be taken to expand membership, especially from countries with overall weaker ESA membership? Also, are there members from outside Europe?

We made efforts to recruit members from Ireland and the United Kingdom and US based scholars.

- h. Any collaboration within ESA with other RNs? If so, please give details. Do you plan to improve collaboration across RNs?

See above for collaboration on joint sessions and two semi-plenaries at the general conference. We intent to maintain this collaboration and extend collaboration with the RN

33 Women and Gender. We publicize the activities of cognate RN's through our social media presence. We intend to organize joint webinars with other RNs.

- i. Any action to be taken to improve opportunities for publication of papers presented at the RN meetings and sessions?

We intend to create a virtual 'brown bag' series where RN members can present work in progress periodically to other members of the network.

- j. Any other important activities undertaken by your RN?

We maintain good relations with the ECPR RN on European Union, the ECPR RN Political Sociology and the ECPR RN Religion and Politics through our board membership. We will continue to cultivate these relationships

- k. Any plans for further activities of your RN?

We are supporting the planning of the next midterm conference in November 2022 at Lausanne

Call for Panels and Papers

Across and Beyond Covid-19. The future of European political sociology

7th Interim Conference, Political Sociology Research Network 32

10th-12th November 2022

Convener: Institute of Political Science, University of Lausanne, Switzerland

Keynote speakers: [Stefania Milan](#), professor of New Media and Digital Culture at the University of Amsterdam; [Olivier Fillieule](#), professor of Political Sociology at the University of Lausanne.

During the conference, we will also host a roundtable on the politics of knowledge production and academic freedom.

By the end of February we seek panel proposals - they can be either pre-organized (typically with 4 paper presentations each) or open for the call for papers. The deadline for paper abstract submissions is April 15th, so, once your panel is approved

The call for paper is here: <https://politicalsociologyrn32esa.wordpress.com/2022/01/21/rn32-midterm-conference-call-for-panels-and-papers/>

Confidential to the RN Council Chair and ESA's RN Committee – not placed on the website:

Any comments and suggestions for future work, e.g. improving the collaboration of RN and ESA, policy recommendations or easier ways of organising the RN sessions at the next ESA Conference?