

Dear Colleagues,

I hope that you had a productive and relaxing summer. As part of our project 'Inside the Mind of a Voter', I am very excited to announce that we will be organising a workshop and conference electoral psychology at the London School of Economics on 12-13 November 2015.

We would like to invite you to submit proposals for papers at the conference or share this invitation with colleagues who you think would have suitable papers to present. A few partial subsidies will be available to support the travel costs of presenters.

This conference has three key goals:

- We aim to collectively present the state of research in electoral psychology and electoral ergonomics, and derive an edited volume which will highlight some of the exciting progress that we have achieved in recent years across different disciplines in both substantive and methodological;
- We want this to be a forum for our subfield to meet and informally discuss opportunities for further exchange, joint research, and bringing our forces together and become more visible in our contributions to political science, social psychology, and social science research methods;
- Our ECREP team also wants to introduce you to some of the exciting findings from our large multi-country multi-method projects on electoral psychology over recent years (see below).

PROPOSALS SUBMISSION:

Paper proposals should be sent to Michael Bruter and/or Sarah Harrison (M.Bruter@lse.ac.uk and S.L.Harrison@lse.ac.uk) by **Friday 2 October 2015**.

The proposals should include:

- The name and affiliation of the authors (highlighting the proposed contact author/presenter in the case of co-authors)
- The proposed title
- An abstract of the proposed paper (1-2 paragraphs) highlighting the main research question, methods, empirical scope and key findings
- A sense of which of the four proposed panels you think your paper would best fit into: 1) substantive advances in electoral psychology, 2) substantive advances in electoral ergonomics (ie interaction between voters' psychology and electoral arrangements), 3) methodological innovations, 4) the psychology of young voters.
- An indication of whether financial assistance would be required should the paper be accepted

We will confirm acceptance decisions by Monday 12th October.

THE CONFERENCE:

The conference will comprise of four panels, and will last from lunchtime on Thursday 12 November to lunchtime on Friday 13 November. There will be a conference dinner and possibly a public event on the evening of 12 November (to be confirmed).

The conference will take place at the London School of Economics, WC2A 2AE, London. Attendance will be limited and ticket-based because of space constraints but will be free of charge. Organisational details will follow nearer the date.

EDITED VOLUME:

All accepted contributions are expected to form part of a proposed edited volume on the state of research in electoral psychology. The expectation is that the papers presented in November will exist as fully written drafts and that final versions would be ready at a date to be agreed in February-March 2016.

THE ECREP TEAM AND THE 'INSIDE THE MIND OF A VOTER PROJECT':

The ECREP initiative at the LSE is dedicated to the study of electoral psychology. It is led by Prof. Michael Bruter (department of Government, LSE) in collaboration with Dr Sarah Harrison. Our team also includes Dr Sophie Lecheler (University of Amsterdam) and Ms Eri Bertsou (University of Zurich) and we have strong collaborative links with equivalent centres and departments at the universities of McGill (Montreal), Columbia (New York), Amsterdam, and Leuven. We are very proud that our research has been acknowledged by the award for "Best international research" from the Market Research Society, a number of other scientific mentions an interview in Nature. We have also advised a number of Electoral Commissions worldwide to ensure that our research findings are also of practical relevance to improve electoral processes and citizens' experience.

Our 'Inside the Mind of a Voter' project is an ambitious research project dedicated to electoral psychology and supported by a European Research Council grant. The project covers nearly 20 countries across 5 continents from the US to South Africa, from the UK to Brazil, and from France to Israel and Japan. Our methods include some panel study surveys of up to 5 years in some countries, in-depth interviews, experiments, flash-interviews outside polling stations, etc. Some of our most innovative approaches also include the use of citizens' election diaries and a visual experiment whereby we partnered with professional film makers to capture and analyse the shadow of voters when they are in the polling booth in an experimental context.

In January 2016, we will start a new project on optimising the electoral experience of first time voters.

QUESTIONS:

If you have any question about the conference or the submission process, please feel free to contact Michael Bruter on M.Bruter@lse.ac.uk