Advancing Electoral Research

ELECDEM final conference

Thursday 28 – Saturday 30 June 2012

Hosted by the European University Institute

Villa la Fonte at San Domenico di Fiesole, Florence, Italy
Day 1 – Thursday 28 June 2012

Welcome and introductions
09:00   Stefano Bartolini (Director RSCAS, European University Institute)
09:15   Susan Banducci, ELECDEM Network Coordinator, University of Exeter

09:30 – 11:00  Keynote presentation - Rationality and Political Psychology
Dennis Chong, Professor of Political Science, Northwestern University

11:00 – 11:30  Refreshment break

11:30 – 13:00  Panel 1 = Media and Political Communication
Discussant Dennis Chong, Northwestern University

11:30 – 11:50  Talking about politics: Effects of media and interpersonal communication on EU evaluations
Pieterjan Desmet, Joost van Spanje and Claes de Vreese (University of Amsterdam)

11:50 – 12:10  The Impact of Media Exposure on Vote Choice: The Case of Turkey
Gozde Yavuz (Sabanci University)

12:10 – 12:30  Wired voters: Internet Exposure and Campaign Effects on voters’ uncertainty
Maria Laura Sudulich (University of Amsterdam), Matthew Wall (Universite Libre Brussel) and Leonardo Baccini (Princeton University)

12:30 – 12:50  Questions to the presenters

13:00 – 14:00  Lunch break

14:00 – 15:00  PARALLEL SESSION, Panel 2 = Elite/Mass Congruence – Causes and Consequences
Discussant Mark Franklin, EUI

14:00 – 14:20  Conditions of Positional Policy Congruence
Kathrin Thomas (University of Exeter)

Agnieszka Walczak and Wouter van der Brug (University of Amsterdam)

14:40 – 15:00  Questions to the presenters

14:00 – 15:40  PARALLEL SESSION, Panel 3 = Political Parties and Voters
Discussant Wouter van der Brug, University of Amsterdam

14:00 – 14:20  Do voters choose the lesser evil? How much do parties lose in highly corrupted countries?
Diana Burlacu, Central European University
14:20 – 14:40  Party polarization and the balance between ideology and competence in Europe
   Federico Vegetti, University of Mannheim

14:40 – 15:00  Individual and contextual variation in spatial voting
   Romain Lachat, Universitat Pompeu Fabra

15:00 – 15:20  Short-term political attitudes and PTVs: Preliminary evidence from the Italian case
   Diego Garzia and Andrea De Angelis (Università degli Studi di Siena)

15:20 – 15:40  Questions to the presenters

15:40 – 16:00  Refreshment break

16:00 – 17:40  PARALLEL SESSION, Panel 4 = Parties and Candidate - At the extremes and in the Centre
   Discussant Joost van Spanje, University of Amsterdam

16:00 – 16:20  Woman’s Position, Preference Voting, and the Election of Women: Why Are Women Less
   Likely to Enjoy Electoral Success in List PR Systems with Preference Voting Compared to
   Closed List Voting?
   Maarja Luhiste (University of Exeter)

16:20 – 16:40  Are Incumbents Advantaged? Evidences from Brazilian Municipalities using a Quasi-
   Experimental Approach
   Manoel Gehrke Ryff Moreira (Bocconi University - European Commission (JRC))

16:40 – 17:00  On Far Right Parties, Master Frames and Diffusion: A Comprehensive Conceptual Framework
   Steven Van Hauwaert (University of Vienna)

17:00 – 17:20  Everything is important so nothing is extreme: Individual differences in extreme political
   attitude formation
   Zoltán Fazekas, University of Vienna

17:20 – 17:40  Questions to the presenters

16:00 – 17:40  PARALLEL SESSION, Panel 5 = Political Knowledge and Sophistication
   Discussant Geoffrey Evans, University of Oxford

16:00 – 16:20  What Helps Citizens to Have Consistent Attitudes? A Cross Country Analysis of the Individual
   and Contextual Determinants of Attitude Constraint
   Sebastian Popa (Central European University)

16:20 – 16:40  It Is Not What You Know, It Is What You Make Of It: Direct and Indirect Effects of Cognitive
   Ability on Various Measures of Political Knowledge and its Attitudinal and Behavioral
   Covariates
   Paul Weith (Central European University) Levente Littvay (Central European University) and
   André Krouwel (Kieskompas)
16:40 – 17:00  Explaining gender inequalities in civic knowledge: a European cross-country analysis
Monica Ferrin (European University Institute), Marta Fraile (CSIC) and Martiño Rubal (European University Institute)

17:00 – 17:20  Political Sophistication in Greece: Explaining the Paradox of a Politically Knowledgeable Electorate
Pavlos Vasilopoulos (University of Athens)

17:20 – 17:40  Questions to the presenters

18:00  BBQ for all participants at the EUI in the gardens of Villa La Fonte

Day 2 – Friday 29 June 2012

09:30 – 11:00  Keynote presentation - Follow the Leader? How Voters Respond to Politicians’ Policies and Performance
Gabriel Lenz, University of California, Berkeley

11:00 – 11:30  Refreshment break

11:30 – 13:10  PARALLEL SESSION, Panel 6 = Electoral Systems and Representation
Discussant Hermann Schmitt, University of Mannheim / University of Manchester

11:30 – 11:50  Ukrainian electoral relations system: study through the conflict approach
Iuliia Serbina, Odessa Regional Branch of the National Institute for Strategic Studies

11:50 – 12:10  Multiculturalism across Western European Party Systems
Constanza Sanhueza (University of Mannheim)

Siim Trumm (University of Exeter)

12:30 – 12:50  Are Elections Mechanisms of Authoritarian Stability or Democratization? Evidence from Postcommunist Eurasia
Rüçhan Kaya and Michael Bernhard (University of Florida)

12:50 – 13:10  Questions to the presenters

11:30 – 13:10  PARALLEL SESSION, Panel 7 = Panel Campaigns and Vote Advice Websites
Discussant Gabor Toka, Central European University

11:30 – 11:50  Voter Advise Applications in Practice: Answers to Some Key Questions from Turkey
Thomas Vitiello (Sabanci University), Ali Çarkoğlu and Mert Moral (Köç University)
11:50 – 12:10 Designing a Voting Advice Application about a presidential election: issues or candidates?
Insights from the French 2012 “Vote Compass”
Anne Jadot, Bruno Cautrès (CEVIPOF), André Krouwel (Kieskompas) and Thomas Vitiello (Sabanci University)

12:10 – 12:30 The Activation of “Fundamentals” Over the Course of U.S. Presidential Campaigns:
Strengthening, Contextual Activation, or Mean Reversion?
Emily Thorson (University of Pennsylvania) and Richard Johnston (University of British Columbia)

12:30 – 12:50 Political Matchmakers – How do the decision rules employed by Vote Advice Application
Sites influence their advice?
Matthew Wall (Université Libre de Bruxelles), André Krouwel (Free University Amsterdam)
and Jan Kleinnijenhuis (Free University Amsterdam)

12:50 – 13:10 Questions to the presenters

13:15 – 14:15 Lunch break

14:15 – 15:15 PARALLEL SESSION, Panel 8 = Attitudes about and Voting in Europe
Discussant Sylvia Kritzinger, University of Vienna

14:15 – 14:35 Cross-Pressed Voters: Reconciling Ideologies in European Parliament Elections
Traci Wilson (University of Oxford)

Reassessment of Why ‘Europe Matters’
Magda Giurcanu (University of Florida)

14:55 – 15:15 Questions to the presenters

14:15 – 15:35 PARALLEL SESSION, Panel 9 = Sex, Emotion and Corruption in Electoral Studies
Discussant, Gabriel Lenz, University of California, Berkeley

14:15 – 14:35 Electoral Fraud and Strategic Electoral Reform
Parashar Kulkarni, New York University

14:35 – 14:55 Negative campaigning, emotions and political participation
Zsolt Kiss (University of Oxford) and Sara Hobolt (European Institute, LSE)

14:55 – 15:15 Does the Public Perform in the Ballot Box as they do in the Bedroom? The Importance of a
Good Sex Life, Foreplay, and Oral and Anal Sex in Vote Choice
Pete Hatemi (Pennsylvania State University), Levente Littvay (Central European University)
and Rose McDermott (Brown University)

15:15 – 15:35 Questions to the presenters
16:00 – 17:00  ELECDEM Management meeting (Representatives from each project partner (full and associate) plus ESR representative

20:00  Evening meal for all participants at Targa Bistro

Day 3 – Saturday 30 June 2012

09:30 – 11:00  ELECDEM Visiting Scientist presentation
Professor Richard Johnston, University of British Columbia

11:00 – 11:15  Refreshment break

11:15 – 12:35  Panel 10 = Turnout
Discussant Gabriel Katz, IMT Institute for Advanced Studies Lucca

11:15 – 11:25  Turnout in developed and developing countries: Are the two turnout functions different or the same?
Daniel Stockemer (University of Ottawa)

11:25 – 11:45  Voter Turnout in the 2009 European Elections: Media Coverage and Media Exposure as Explanatory Factors
Marketa Bilska (Sabanci University)

Carolien van Ham (European University Institute and University of Twente) and Kaat Smets, Centre for the Study of Political Change (CIRCaP), University of Siena, Italy

11:55 – 12:15  Reducing overreporting of voter turnout in seven European countries - results from a survey experiment
Sylvia Kritzinger (University of Vienna), Steve Schwarzer (TNS Opinion, Brussels) and Eva Zeglovits (University of Vienna)

12:15 – 12:35  Questions to the presenters
Close of conference and participant departures