

EGPA 2023 CONFERENCE

Zagreb, Croatia 5-8 September

**Steering the European Union through poly-crises storms:
The role of Public Administration**

CALL FOR PAPERS

PSG XXI: Policy Design and Evaluation

Policy design and evaluation in an Era of Poly-crisis

EGPA Permanent Study Group XXI on Policy Design and Evaluation

The EGPA Permanent Study Group on Policy Design and Evaluation provides a platform for academic scholars and practitioners to discuss the results of their latest scientific research on policy design and evaluation as well as present current and novel policy practices in the field.

After a range of successful workshops held in the past couple of years, such as in Lisbon (2022), Brussels (2021), Belfast (2019) and Lausanne (2018) the Study Group invites participants to its new meeting that will take place at the 2023 EGPA conference in Zagreb from 5-8 September.

Focus: Policy Design and Evaluation in an Era of Poly-crisis

The 2023 workshop of PSG XXI will be focused on matters of policy design and evaluation in a situation of poly-crisis, that is, the concurrence of several phenomena that impact on society and require sustainable policy responses from governments. The era of poly-crisis the world seems to be currently facing results from the sustained effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the threat of climate change as well as the consequences of geo-economic tensions such as the Russian aggression in Ukraine, energy shocks, and economic inflation (WEF, 2023). The context of policy-crisis pushes governments to come up with sustainable solutions based on robust evidence within relatively short timeframes (Boin & 't Hart, 2022). However, in reality, this has become extremely difficult due to the multiplicity and interconnectedness of environmental, geo-political and socio-economic policy problems (Béland et al., 2022).

The interaction of present and future global risks presents governments with compounding and unpredictable national/local consequences. Governments are more than ever challenged to design robust and agile policy responses, while at the same time being innovative and creative in designing policies. This is not easy, and governments are known to rely substantially on existing solutions and mechanisms even during times of continued crisis (Howlett & Mukherjee, 2018; Cantillon, 2021). Moreover, a rapidly changing risk-environment and a permanent state of poly-crisis stresses the need for instruments and mechanisms that enable policy feedback and learning within government. Thus, to remain relevant and to effectively respond to urgent societal needs careful policy design and evaluation are required.

Our workshop for the EGPA 2023 Permanent Study Group XXI on Design and Evaluation invites prospective participants to submit contributions that provide insights into the patterns and determinants of policy design and evaluation in poly-crisis. In particular, we are interested in papers that address **research questions** related to how, why and to what effect governments react to and operate successfully within an era of poly-crisis or that explore the current developments in policy design and evaluation around the globe.

In addition, we have defined **two tracks of interest** for our thematic sessions. Firstly, we invite papers that focus on understanding the **role of evidence in this poly-crisis context**, the organisation of mechanisms for evidence-informed policy making therein or the reliance on and importance of actors that can provide robust evidence for poly-crisis policy design and evaluation. Secondly, we invite papers that investigate the **application of established methods for policy design and evaluation in a context of poly-crisis**, or that highlight the **emergence of novel and creative methods**.

Finally, paper abstracts for the upcoming EGPA Conference can also deviate from the sessions on poly-crisis. Some of our sessions will be dedicated to the core mission of the Study Group, which is to provide a platform to discuss and exchange insights on **all cutting-edge research** relating to policy design and policy evaluation.

PSG XXI invites experienced and junior researchers, as well as policy practitioners. The call for papers is open to theory-based and methodological contributions. We welcome different conceptual or analytical approaches and diverse research designs that fit with the broad subject of the Study Group, with the focus on design and evaluation in an era of poly-crisis, or with the particular thematic subjects outlined in the call. While we certainly welcome papers on individual case studies, we also encourage contributions that take a **comparative perspective** in view of the best comparative paper award that will be handed out during the conference.

Joint session and Best Paper Award

One workshop session will be organized jointly with the EGPA Permanent Study Group XIII on Public Policy and the *Journal of Comparative Policy Analysis*. An award will be handed out for the best comparative paper.

Procedure for submission of abstract

We invite participants to submit a short abstract (max. 500 words) outlining:

- the title of the paper
- the research question, argument and contents of the paper
- the research design including methods and empirical material
- name, affiliation, and contact information of the author(s)

Practicalities for the Conference

Important dates:

- ✓ Deadline for submission of abstracts: May 17, 2023
- ✓ Deadline for notification to the authors: May 31, 2023
- ✓ Deadline for online submission of full papers: August 17, 2023
- ✓ EGPA PhD Symposium 5-6 September 2023
- ✓ EGPA 2023 Conference: 6-8 September 2023

EGPA 2023 Conference Website: <https://www.egpa-conference2023.org/>

EGPA 2023 Conference Management System: <https://www.conftool.org/egpa-conference2023>

For any questions regarding EGPA 2023, please contact us at: f.maron@iias-iisa.org

or info@egpa-conference2023.org

Co-chairs of Permanent Study Group XXI

Sonja Blum

Bielefeld University (Germany)

E-mail: sonja.blum@uni-bielefeld.de

Ellen Fobé

KU Leuven Public Governance Institute (Belgium)

E-mail : ellen.fobe@kuleuven.be

Valérie Pattyn

University of Leiden (The Netherlands)

E-mail: v.e.pattyn@fgga.leidenuniv.nl

Caspar van den Berg

Groningen University (The Netherlands)

E-mail: c.f.van.den.berg@rug.nl

Invited co-chairs

Michal Sedláčko

FH Campus Wien (Austria)

E-mail: michal.sedlacko@fh-campuswien.ac.at

Bishoy Zaki

University of Ghent (Belgium)

E-mail: bishoy.zaki@ugent.be

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