



*Department of Social and Political Sciences
January-June 2012
(20 Credits)*

WORKSHOP ON “POLITICAL PARTIES AND INSTITUTIONS IN CONTEMPORARY DEMOCRACIES”

Caterina Froio & Tomasz Siczek

Registration with *Païvi Kontinen* (paivi.kontinen@eui.eu)

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION & PROGRAMME

With special thanks to:

- Prof. Luciano Bardi
- Prof. Alexander Trechsel
- Dr. Isabelle Guineaudeau
- Païvi Kontinen & Gabriella Unger

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WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

"The political parties created democracy and modern democracy is unthinkable save in terms of the parties"
(EE Schattschneider, 1942)

According to May (1978, 1) a representative democracy is characterized by “a continuous correspondence between government’s decisions and the will of the citizens”. In this context, political parties organize ‘the will of the citizens’, and parties should induce governments to be responsive. The recent financial crisis brings the topic once again to the fore, because it shows the limits to the traditional understanding of party politics. On the one hand, parties appear to be weaker than before in established democracies. On the other hand, we have seen the emergence of party systems in new Eastern European democracies as well as in authoritarian regimes -such as Russia- and in the countries that have experienced the Arab Spring.

In this workshop we will tackle different aspects of the challenges political parties are facing. We will discuss the internal organization of parties, the effect of Europeanization on the national party systems, the role of parties in influencing institutional change, the function and behavior of parties in government and in the electoral arena, the role of far-right wing and other “outsider” parties, as well as the role of parties in authoritarian regimes. In addition, we will also investigate how parties behave in the context of the current financial crisis and how this affects representation.

The idea for this workshop results from the void caused by Professor Peter Mair’s passing away. The workshop gives his former supervisees a platform for presenting and discussing their papers in a structured context. We are very happy to announce that each session will be chaired by an outstanding scholar in the different fields covered by this workshop. We would like to thank all those scholars who have accepted our invitation. **This workshop is also open to all other EUI researchers interested in these topics.**

The **FORMAT** of each session will be the following:

Lecture: 50 minutes

Presentation: 2x10 minutes

Discussion: around 1 hour

All sessions will be held on a **Wednesday** in the **Seminar Room 3 in the Badia**, except where noted differently on the syllabus.

Requirements for the obtainment of the 20 credits

Active and informed participation in monthly session is required. It is expected that participants that do not present their work discuss one paper from the syllabus. Moreover, students who wish to attend this Workshop for credits must meet Department attendance requirements.



WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

Session 1: Wednesday, January 18th

(17.00-19.30) EUI, Badia Fiesolana, Seminar Room 3

Party Organization

Lecturers: Luciano Bardi, *Università di Pisa* and Stefanie Bailer, *Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich*

Papers presented: David Willumsen, Davide Vampa

Session 2: Wednesday, February 1st

(17.00-19.30) EUI, Badia Fiesolana, Seminar Room 3

The Europeanization of national party systems

Lecturer: Robert Ladrech, *Keele University*

Papers presented: Isabelle Guineadeau, Edoardo Bressanelli

Session 3: Wednesday, February 22th

(17.00-19.30) EUI, Badia Fiesolana, Seminar Room 3

Parties and institutional reforms

Lecturer: David Farrell, *University College Dublin*

Papers presented: Camille Bedock, Pedro Riera- Sagrera

Session 4: Wednesday, March 14th

(17.00-19.30) EUI, Badia Fiesolana, Seminar Room 3

The role of parties and institutions in authoritarian regimes

Lecturer: Philippe Schmitter

Papers presented: Kevin Köhler, Margarita Zavadskaya

Session 5: Wednesday, March 28th

(17.00-19.30) EUI, Badia Fiesolana, Sala del Capitolo

Parties in government, part 1: Performance and Coalition Behavior

Lecturer: Wolfgang Müller, *University of Mannheim*

Papers presented: Conor Little, Marco Valbruzzi

Session 6: Wednesday, April 18th

(17.00-19.30) EUI, Badia Fiesolana, Seminar Room 3

Parties in the electoral arena

Lecturer: tba

Papers presented: Tomasz Siczek, Trajche Panov

Session 7: Wednesday, May 9th

(17.00-19.30) EUI, Badia Fiesolana, Seminar Room 3

Parties in government, part 2: Exploring Representation

Lecturer: Thomas Poguntke, *Heinrich-Heine-University Düsseldorf*

Papers presented: Nina Liljeqvist, Caterina Froio



Session 8: Wednesday, May 23th

(17.00-19.30) EUI, Badia Fiesolana, Seminar Room 3

The financial crisis and the failure of party politics

Lecturers: Duncan McDonnell and Takis Pappas, *European University Institute*

Papers presented: Sanna Liisa Kaarina Salo

Session 9: Wednesday, June 6th

(17.00-19.30) EUI, Badia Fiesolana, Emeroteca

The challenge of new parties

Lecturer: Piero Ignazi, *Università di Bologna*

Papers presented: Kristian Voss, Simon Persico

List of Workshop lecturers and presenters

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