International Political Science Association

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THE MAIN THEME

Centers and peripheries in contemporary politics: interdependence and power asymmetries

I. Political theory

- Centers and boundaries as cultural constructions
- Influences of the peripheries on the centers in political ideas and doctrines
- Gender and reproduction in political theory
- Social equality and inequality in political thought
- Colonialism and dependency revisited
- Nationalism and religious ideological movements
- Formal political theory: core assumptions and recent developments
- Democratic theory: core assumption and recent developments
- Dynamics and interactions of socialist and liberal theories

II. Macro and micro politics. Political processes and institutions

- Asymmetries revisited (1): class relations; (2): gender relations; (3): ethnic and race relations; (4): patron-client relations
- Parliaments as centers-builders and the representation of the periphery
- Courts as center-builders?
- Changing relations between organized business and labor
- The representation of new identities and interests
- The policies and politics of the informal economic sector
- The politics of language
- Nation-state building and crumbling
- Changes in party systems and party organizations
- Mass communications in de center-periphery perspective
- Federalism and the restructuring of center-periphery relations

III. Policies studies

- The center-periphery dimension in the policy process
- Intergovernmental relations in the policy process
- Attempts at reforms of the public sector

- Trends toward privatizations and decentralization
- Political correlates of economic adjustment policies
- Cultural and educational policies in center-periphery relations
- Social policy and poverty
- The politics of land tenure and agrarian reforms
- Global change and mass communication policies

IV. International relations

- Disarmement and detente in the Northern hemisphere
- The management of crises and the prevention of war
- Regional conflicts in the Third World
- International arms transfers and networks of violence
- Emergence and transformation of regional blocs
- International political economy (1): competing in global markets; (2): changes in the international financial system; (3): the politics of external debt
- The politics of environment international and global issues
- Changes in religious and ideological centers
- The reform of the United Nations system
- New ideas about the global order
- The international dimension of democratization and human rights

RESEARCH COMMITTEES

- Conceptual and terminological analysis (COCTA)
- Political elites
- European unification
- Comparative studies on local government and politics
- Political sociology
- Quantitative and mathematical approaches to politics
- Legislative specialists
- Comparative judical studies
- Science and politics
- Biology and politics
- Politics and ethnicity
- Political geography
- Socio-political pluralism
- The emerging international economic order
- Asian political studies
- Sex roles and politics
- Political finance and political corruption
- Political education
- Global communication
- Political support and alienation
- Armed forces and society
- Marxist political thought

- Human rights
- Structure and organization of government
- Comparative federation and federalism
- Psycho-politics
- Comparative public opinion
- Political philosophy
- Public policy analysis
- The study of the discipline of political science
- Comparative representation and electoral system

STUDY GROUPS

- Technology and development
- Rethinking in political development
- Political power
- Theories of the state
- Comparative health policy
- Politics and business
- Constitution making as a political process
- Religion and politics
- Policies, institutions, performance and evaluation
- Public bureaucracies in developing societies
- Executive structures and roles in contemporary government
- Military rule and democratization in the Third World
- Women, politics and development
- Global policy studies
- Democratization in comparative perspective
- Quantitative international politics

SPECIAL SESSIONS

- The rule of law: state of the art and current issues
- Structure, space and the management of political crises
- The role of party organizations in national and local elections
- Political reforms in East European countries
- Crises in Africa: socio-economic and cultural aspects
- Multilateral and bilateral trends in Latin American foreign policies in the 1970s and 1980s
- Systems integration of divided nations
- The new world context and the nation-state
- Urban dynamics and political orientations: cultural perspectives
- The meaning of geopolitics in the modern international system
- Ethnic violence
- Central cities and peripheral cities in national and international politics
- Transitions to democracy in Southern Europe, Latin America and Eastern Europe
- Tax policies and politics

- Regional cooperation
- The reform of economic systems East and West: economic and political dimensions
- Managing Prime Ministers offices: an international comparison
- Social scientists, policy communities and the state
- Norms and values of the New International Order: implications for the South
- Comparative policy implementation: the center-periphery dichotomy in different countries
- Civilization and geopolitics
- Democracy and socialism in Latin America in the 1990's
- Was there fascism outside Europe? Non-European and European perspectives compared
- What is political identity?
- The political role of public enterprises in developing countries
- Small states, present changes in the international system and new regions
- Lobbying in comparative perspective
- Gender and power in the national security state: a feminist analysis
- Welfare states and developing societies
- The experience of Taiwan and the process of democratization in developing countries
- Islam and secularization in comparative perspective
- Women and politics worldwide
- Postimperialism and developmental democracy
- Political effects of rapid economic development