

GPSG NEWSLETTER 03 – APRIL 2005

Dear Colleagues

Welcome to the third newsletter of the Greek Politics Specialist Group. Please keep sending your news, suggestions and comments to rgerodimos@bournemouth.ac.uk and zisouli@otenet.gr

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1. Membership and List of Members:

Membership to the Greek Politics Specialist Group (GPSG) is free. If you are not a member and would like to become one, please contact:

Roman Gerodimos (rgerodimos@bournemouth.ac.uk) or Maria Zisouli (zisouli@otenet.gr).

As of 20 April 2005, membership of the Group stands at 86. An alphabetical list of members is appended to the end of this newsletter.

Please keep sending your areas of academic interests so that we can add those to the list. That will further facilitate networking and knowledge transfer amongst members.

2. Latest News: Annual Report, AGM, Bank Account, 2005 Budget, Committee Meeting

On March 30th we submitted our first *Annual Report* to the PSA Executive Committee. The Report is a comprehensive summary of who we are, what we have done so far and what our future plans are. It also includes a detailed account of our income and expenditure as well as the 2005 Budget. The Report is available online at:

http://www.psa.ac.uk/spgrp/greek/Annual_Report_2005.pdf

Speaking of budgets, our *2005 Budget* (£750) has been approved by the PSA. More details on what we are planning to do with the money can be found below. I am also delighted to announce that our *Bank Account* with National Westminster Bank has finally been authorised

and is now operational. That means that we will be able to proceed with payments that so far had to be held up (e.g. scholarships for Leeds).

The Group's first *Annual General Meeting (AGM)* took place on Tuesday, 5 April 2005, at the University of Leeds, during the PSA conference. The AGM was attended by 11 members, well above the required quorum (many thanks to those who attended). The meeting opened with a review of the Annual Report and of our activities. The discussion, which included contribution by all those present, focused on the future strategy of the Group, and brainstormed on the theme and logistical requirements of the Athens event.

Those ideas will be followed up at the next meeting of the *GPSG Committee* that will take place in Athens shortly. If you are interested in joining us please let us know as soon as possible.

3. Review of the 55th Annual PSA Conference at Leeds

The Political Studies Association (PSA) held its 55th Annual Conference on April 4 – 7 at the University of Leeds. The Greek Politics Specialist Group (GPSG) [which last year existed only as a wild idea in the minds of its convenors] made a strong and very rewarding presence with four excellent panels (one in collaboration with the Political Marketing Group -PMG) and 12 papers. All presentations were followed by excellent plenary discussions. And all plenary discussions were followed by even better informal chats at the bar and dinner tables!

We would like to take this opportunity and thank everyone who attended the conference and participated in our panels. I would personally like to thank the presenters not only for their stimulating presentations (and for sticking to the time limit!) but also for submitting their papers on time – in fact, almost all of the Group's papers are already available online via the conference website: <http://www.psa.ac.uk/2005>

We are currently considering potential ways to get some of those papers published, including submitting a proposal for a special issue of a relevant academic journal.



*Standing left to right: Panos Lambridis, Roman Gerodimos, Matt Evans, Andrew Liaropoulos
Sitting left to right: Konstantinos Maragakis, Dimitris Tsarouhas, Marina Petrelli, Maria Zisouli
Photo by Anna Vallianatou*

Next year's, 56th, annual PSA conference takes place on April 3 – 6 at the University of Reading. More information and a GPSG Call for Papers will follow in the autumn.

Postcards from Leeds...

“The Annual PSA Conference in Leeds was a stimulating experience. The conference in general was well organized and the workshops were quite helpful. The opportunity to attend numerous panels and meet people with similar research interests from all over the world was unique. Regarding the Greek Politics Specialist Group, all the participants were well prepared and enthusiastic. My paper titled ‘Greek Security Policy & Crisis Mismanagement’ examined briefly the pathology of the Greek Security Policy and offered some suggestions regarding the institutions and mechanisms that are needed for a more effective security and crisis management policy. I am thankful to everybody for their feedback and the stimulating discussion that followed the presentation. What really impressed me was that despite having a full day, we all managed to get a drink (or drinks) and go on with the debates in the more relaxed environment of a pub. It was a real pleasure meeting everyone and I am looking forward to the next event”.

Andrew Liaropoulos

PhD Candidate, University of Swansea – GPSG Secretary

Email: aliaropoulos@hotmail.com

“The 55th Political Studies Association Annual Conference was located at the beautiful campus of Leeds University. The conference kicked off with very interesting workshops to continue with various panel discussions. It was an event filled with all kinds of readings and presentations. It was a good overall organization and the environment was very friendly. I’ve met people of different backgrounds and interests. For me, this has been a good experience; I have nothing than very positive, friendly, accommodating and enthusiastic impressions to remember. Last but not least, I would like also to express my appreciation to the organisers that made it happen”.

Marina Petrelli

PhD candidate, Department of Political Science & Public Administration

University of Athens, Greece

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“Spending four days in Leeds and participating in the PSA Annual Conference was a splendid experience. Apart from presenting a paper and getting useful feedback, the PSA Annual gave me the opportunity to make acquaintance of many PhD candidates from Greece and UK and of academic scholars. We exchanged views on our work but we also had a lot of fun. It was great being at the University of Leeds, which is a traditional British University with impressive old buildings and vast areas of grass. I really enjoyed a lot the Annual Dinner as well as the night we spent in *The Terrace* listening to live music”.

Anna Vallianatou

PhD candidate, Department of Political Science & Public Administration

University of Athens, Greece

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4. 2nd LSE PhD Symposium and GPSG Funding

After the success of its 1st PhD Symposium, the Hellenic Observatory at the London School of Economics and Political Science will be holding its 2nd PhD Symposium (entitled "Current Social Science Research on Greece") in June 2005. The event (more info available here: <http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/hellenicObservatory/events/PhDSymposiumJune05.htm>) will be an opportunity for current and recent research students to present their work and network with colleagues from various universities and countries.

The Hellenic Observatory is one of the biggest academic hubs on Greek politics in the world, and is also the base of several of our members.

Thus, the *Greek Politics Specialist Group* will be devoting a part of its 2005 budget in support of doctoral students from Greece so that they attend and present at the LSE Symposium. The application process and CFP deadline is now over and we will be announcing the results of the selection process shortly.

5. GPSG Panel Proposal at the 20th World Congress of the IPSA

On March 31st, and following an open call for papers, the GPSG submitted a panel proposal for next year's 20th World Congress of the International Political Science Association (IPSA), taking place on 9 – 13 July 2006 at Fukuoka, Japan. The Congress is entitled "*Is Democracy Working?*" and will bring together leading academics from around the world in one of the most important meetings of the last few years.

The panel proposed by the GPSG is entitled

"Democracy and Communication in Greece - Back to the Roots?"

and features the following four papers:

T. Chadjipadelis (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki), "Political Competition: the Case of Candidates"

R. Gerodimos (University of Bournemouth), "The Role of Political Communication in Greek Crisis Governance: Updating Democracy"

N. Sartzetakis, I. Papadopoulou, A. Veneti (University of Athens), "Freedom of Expression in Modern Greece"

E. Apospori, M. Zisouli (Athens University of Economics and Business), "Civic Participation, Voting Criteria and Communication in Greek Democracy"

If accepted, the panel will be partly funded by the 2005/06 budget, although we are keen to secure further support in the form of sponsorship or IPSA scholarships, given the size of the expense.

6. Thematic Networks

We are pleased to announce that an indicative list of resources (bibliographies, links) is now available for four Thematic Networks (many thanks to all the co-ordinators for their hard work). Those documents are available on our website (.pdf format, requires Acrobat Reader):

Network B: Political Communication and Civil Society
http://www.psa.ac.uk/spgrp/greek/Network_B.pdf

Network C: Political Parties and the Political System in Greece
http://www.psa.ac.uk/spgrp/greek/Network_C.pdf

Network D: Political Economy
http://www.psa.ac.uk/spgrp/greek/Network_D.pdf

Network E: Greek Foreign Policy and Defence Strategy
http://www.psa.ac.uk/spgrp/greek/Network_E.pdf

Call for Co-Ordinators: We are still looking for volunteers to co-ordinate Network A (Greece and the Challenge of a 25-Member EU) and Network F (The Social State and the Greek Citizen). Both Networks are dealing with issues that are very topical at the moment: Network A deals with issues such as the EU Constitution and the negotiations for the accession of Turkey. Network F has a critical agenda, including the debates on pensions, social security and public administration reform. In the short term the role of co-ordinator involves compiling a bibliography and list of weblinks; in the longer term, that person would facilitate exchange and networking amongst experts. If you are interested in becoming a Co-Ordinator please contact us in the email addresses below.

7. Website, Feedback & Contact Details

Visit our website: <http://www.psa.ac.uk/spgrp/greek/GreekPol.htm>

Last but not least, we welcome suggestions and comments regarding all aspects of the Group, including how to improve this newsletter. Please contact:

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Appendix: Updated List of GPSG Members (86)

Dimitrios Akrivoulis (University of Western Macedonia)
Vasilios Alevizakos (LSE)
Andreas Antoniadis (LSE)
Eleni Apospori (Athens University of Economics and Business)
George Avlonitis (Athens University of Economics and Business)
Nikolaos Biliou (University of Athens)
Theresa Capelos (University of Athens)
Theodore Chadjipadelis (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)
Sophia Chadzidi (University of York)
Tassos Chardas (University of Sussex)
Lillie Chouliaraki (University of Copenhagen)
George Christidis (University of Western Macedonia)
Dimitris Christopoulos (University of the West of England)
Nikos Chrysoloras (LSE)
Dimitris Chrysoschoou (University of Crete)
Alexandros Dagkas (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)
Nikos Demertzis (University of Athens)
Katerina Diamantaki (University of Athens)
Christos Dimas (LSE)
Sergios Dimitriadis (Athens University of Economics and Business)

Howard Elcock (Northumbria University)
Kevin Featherstone (LSE)
Eleni Gavra (University of Western Macedonia)
Nikos Georganakis (University of Athens)
Vassiliki Georgiadou (Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences)
Roman Gerodimos (University of Bournemouth)
Dora Giannaki (Queen Mary, University of London)
Leda Glyptis (LSE)
Costas Hadjiconstantinou (University of Western Macedonia)
Harilaos Harissis (University of Piraeus)
Achilleas Ioakimides (Vernicos Yachts)
Panayiotis Ioakimidis (University of Athens)
Petros Ioannidis (Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences)
Anastasios Karakatsanis (University of East Anglia)
Athina Karatzogianni (University of Nottingham)
Harissa Kastrioti (University of Athens)
Stephanos Katsikas (UCL)
Gerasimos Konidaris (University of Sheffield)
Thanasis Kotsiaros (University of Athens)
Iordanis Kotzaivazoglou (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)
Stavros Kourtalis (University of Athens)
Kalliopi Kyriakopoulou (University of Kent)
Stella Ladi (University of Sheffield)
Panos Lambridis (University of Athens)
Costantinos Laoutides (University of Wales at Aberystwyth)
Georgios Lappas (TEI of Western Macedonia, Kastoria)
Andreas Liaropoulos (University of Wales, Swansea)
Georgios Maniatis (University of Athens)
Ioannis Manos (University of Western Macedonia)
Konstantinos Maragakis (University of Athens)
Vasilis Margaras (Loughborough University)
Michalis Meimaris (University of Athens)
Alexandros Melidis (Arcadia Center for Hellenic, Balcan and Mediterranean Studies)
Adamantios Dionysios Minas (University of Athens)
Rosa Monou (Athens University of Economics and Business)
Dionysis Nassopoulos
Stamatoula Panagakou (University of York)
Dionysis Panos (University of Athens)
Dimitris Papadimitriou (University of Manchester)
Vangelis Papadimitriou
Ira Papadopoulou (University of Athens)
Stelios Papatthanassopoulos (University of Athens)
Nikos Patiniotakis (Athens University of Economics and Business)
Achilleas Penglaris
Costas Perezous (University of Athens)
Marina Petrelli (University of Athens)
Nelly Psarrou (University of Crete)
Michael Joseph Romanos (LSE)
Athanassios Samaras (Institute of Mediterranean Studies)
Miltiadis Sarigiannidis (University of Western Macedonia)
Nektarios Sartzetakis (University of Athens)
Nikos Serdedakis (University of Crete)
Yannis Stavrakakis (University of Athens)
Ioannis Tellidis (University of St Andrews)
Sotiria Theodoropoulou (LSE)
Dimitris Tsarouhas (University of Sheffield)
Panayiotis Tsiligiannis (University of Athens)
Anna Valianatou (University of Athens)
Georgios Varouxakis (Aston University)
Theodora Vasilleiou (University of York)
Anastasia Veneti (University of Athens)

Susannah Verney (University of Athens)
Vlassis Vlassidis (University of Western Macedonia)
Prodromos Yannas (TEI of Western Macedonia, Kastoria)
Nikos Zaikos (University of Western Macedonia)
Maria Zisouli (Athens University of Economics and Business)