

Call for Contributions

European Polarisation Conference

February 15, 2023 – Virtual Conference

Edited by

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The CIVICA European Polarisation Observatory (EPO) – an initiative founded by Sciences Po, the London School of Economics, Bocconi University and the Central European University – is launching a call for contributions for the 1st European Polarisation Conference. Researchers are invited to submit a 1-page abstract proposal for presenting works related to polarisation.

The EPO is an interdisciplinary computational social sciences initiative founded to tackle the methodological challenges and to conduct research on the impact of polarisation in European settings in social media. A particularly relevant challenge of these settings is the question of dimensionality: what are the issues and ideologies along which polarisation must be studied in different countries, from political party competition to broader social and political dynamics in media consumption and online debate in social platforms. While traditional approaches in large scale social media studies have focused on left-right cleavages, several case studies in Europe might consider polarisation around different issues, such as immigration, European integration, and environmental transformation and protection.

Topics of interest include (but are not restricted to):

- Data-driven approaches for the study of polarisation.
- Simulation-driven and agent-based approaches for modeling polarisation in opinion dynamics.
- Experimental approaches for measuring polarisation.
- Emerging lines of political tensions linked to migratory flows, (dis)integration processes, ecological transitions, globalisation, and economic challenges.
- Polarisation, populism, and democratic backsliding.
- Polarisation, trust in institutions, and democratic reform.
- Polarisation, inequality, social cohesion.
- Polarisation in social media and news media dynamics.
- Affective and ideological polarisation.
- Issue alignment in social media and geometrical representations of political competition.

Who can apply?

Researchers at all levels (phds, postdocs, faculty) and from all disciplines and countries are welcome to submit proposals.

How to apply?

Proposals for contributions must be submitted in the form of a 1-page extended abstract, indicating name and affiliation. We accept contributions consisting of both published and ongoing works. If your abstract relates to published work, please include links to them.

Please submit **via email by Jan 15th 2023 to: epo.conference-scpolst@sciencespo.fr**

What are the steps of the reviewing process?

Proposals will be reviewed by the editorial committee. A selection of works will be invited to present at the European Polarisation Conference to be held online on 15 February 2023. Authors will be notified of the result by the end of January.