

Mentoring Program for Young Scholars in Political Communication Research
provided by ECREA's Political Communication Section
– Call for Applications –

ECREA's Political Communication Section is starting a **mentoring program for young scholars in political communication research**. The program aims to promote young scholars in the field and increase the integration of young and senior scholars in the Political Communication Section. The section management team plans to start a new round every two years. The pilot round (2018-20) will start around summer 2018.

Benefits of the program for mentees and mentors

Both young scholars (*mentees*; mainly PhD students and post docs) and senior scholars (*mentors*) will benefit from the program: Both groups are provided with new opportunities for low-threshold international networking and contacts for possible research co-operations or visits abroad. Mentees will have the opportunity to talk about career issues and research plans or interests with an independent mentor (not in competition or interference with, but rather as an added value for existing PhD supervision) and be able to expand their network. Mentors will be able to share their own experience and expertise and have the opportunity to acquire knowledge about new research areas and methods in political communication research as well as stay close and be informed about emerging research trends and developments. The relationship between mentee and mentor will base on confidentiality. Additionally, the mentees have the opportunity to get to know each other and engage in an exchange about research interests and career issues among themselves (peer-to-peer mentoring).

Organization of the program

After the deadline for applications, the section management team, together with the YECREA representative in the Political Communication Section, will screen the applications, search for suitable mentors, contact them and – if mentors agree – bring them in contact with their mentees. Additionally, the CVs of all mentees will be circulated between mentees as an additional networking opportunity. Afterwards, mentors and mentees, but also mentees among themselves are suggested to coordinate and bilaterally agree on personal meetings, for example at international conferences (e.g., ECC, ECREA Interim Conferences, ICA, IAMCR). Besides, exchange can be organized via e-mail, phone or Skype. Another possibility are individually organized mutual visits. Furthermore, it is up to the mentee and mentor to agree on how exactly the mentorship will look like and how frequently there is the opportunity to meet or talk to another. The section management team will provide a document with some non-binding suggestions on how to structure the mentorship/contact.

Application procedure

Young scholars who are members of ECREA's political communication section can apply as mentees. The application must include their CV (including contact details, information on current status and position, research interests) and a letter of motivation (1-2 pages). If available, it should additionally include a list of publications and conference presentations as well as up to two suggestions for possible mentors (not required). The section management team will recruit mentors afterwards, but cannot promise that every applicant will be included and every mentee will in fact be matched with one of the suggested mentors. Applications should be submitted via email to melanie.magin@ntnu.no.

Deadline for applications is 1 July 2018.

Senior scholars who want to become mentors are very welcome to express their interest.

In case of any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the section management team: Andreas Schuck (University of Amsterdam; A.R.T.Schuck@uva.nl), Melanie Magin (NTNT, Trondheim; melanie.magin@ntno.no) and Václav Štětka (Loughborough University/Charles University Prague; v.stetka@lboro.ac.uk).

We are looking forward to your applications!