

Standing Group on Parliaments

CALL FOR PAPERS

Second Conference on Parliamentary Accountability

Parliamentary Questions

Sciences Po, Paris, March 12-14 2009

Following the highly successful February 2008 Madrid Conference on Parliamentary Accountability hosted by Manuel SANCHEZ DE DIOS (Universidad Complutense), this second meeting aims to bring together scholars working on the topic of parliamentary questions.

Recent trends related to written and oral parliamentary questions and comparative analysis of parliamentary questions will be considered. In that perspective, possible research areas include:

- The relationship between questions and role orientation
- The electoral connection and MP questioning patterns
- Questions as inter-party and intra-party control mechanism
- Cross-institutional variation in questioning rules and patterns
- The media coverage of parliamentary questions
- Theoretical approaches to questioning behaviours (distributive theory, principal-agent theory, information theory...)
- MP questioning patterns in relation to lobbying activities
- The role and influence of MPs' assistants regarding parliamentary questions

It is expected that the conference proceedings will form the basis of an edited volume highlighting the uses of parliamentary questions as a source of data to empirically test theoretical perspectives on legislative organisation and behaviour.

Scholars interested in participating should send an outline of the research they are interested in presenting to Shane Martin by September 15th 2008. Preliminary invitations will be issued no later than November 2008. It is a condition of participation that finished papers be distributed to other conference participants by January 30th 2009.

Please note that participants should take at their own expend costs of travel and housing.

We welcome requests for further information as we work on planning the meeting.

Shane Martin
School of Law & Government
Dublin City University
shane.martin@dcu.ie

Olivier Rozenberg
CEVIPOF
Sciences Po, Paris
olivier.rozenberg@sciences-po.fr