

Background:

The *Greek Politics Specialist Group* (GPSG) was established by the approval of the Political Studies Association (PSA) Executive Committee at its July 2004 meeting. The original application form was submitted by Roman Gerodimos (Bournemouth) and Maria Zisouli (AUEB), Convenors-Designate; it was backed by 64 prominent academics and researchers of Greek politics in the United Kingdom and Greece.

GPSG's aims are:

- To promote the understanding of Greek government and politics via the encouragement of systematic research and teaching.
- To strengthen the ties between the UK and Greek academic communities and facilitate the exchange of research and expertise between the two countries.
- To support comparative and interdisciplinary political analysis, by collaborating with other PSA Specialist Groups and academic research centres, and by highlighting an expanding body of work on public administration, international affairs, psephology, political communication, political marketing, political theory etc.
- To provide UK-based scholars of (and from) Greece with a much-needed forum for the free exchange of ideas and to facilitate networking within the academic community.

Current Membership: 130 (as of March 2007) [the list of members is available upon request]

visit our website:

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

Overview of Activities 2004 – 2007:

1. PSA Annual Conference panels

- 4 panels at Leeds (2005)
- 4 panels at Reading (2006)
- 4 panels (provisional) at Bath (2007)

Main topics covered: political communication and marketing; elections, civic participation and voter turnout; political parties and competition; foreign policy, international relations and Europeanization; public administration and public policy making; art and politics

2. IPSA World Congress panel

- panel on Greek democracy at the 20th IPSA Congress in Fukuoka (2006) sponsored by the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs

3. LSE PhD Symposium

- sponsored doctoral students from Greece presenting at the 2nd LSE PhD Symposium (2005)

4. Financial support for doctoral students and Greek scholars

- almost 90% of GPSG funds (c. £2,300 + €9,500) have gone into supporting doctoral students and scholars from Greece travelling to international conferences and research events (PSA, IPSA, LSE)
- the terms and conditions of the grants have ensured that funding is distributed to as many scholars as possible, with particular emphasis given to self-funded doctoral students and scholars from regional Greek universities

5. Thematic Networks, Newsletter, Website

- quarterly Newsletter and regular Newsflashes with news, events, features, articles and profiling of key research institutes and organisations
- six Thematic Networks providing specialist bibliographies and Newsletter articles
- PSA specialist group webpage

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Convenors:

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Andrew Liaropoulos	andrewliaropoulos@gmail.com	+30 6945 048016
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Membership Officer:

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Newsletter:

Antonios Aggelakis (UK)	aa504@york.ac.uk	+44 (0)7789 420814
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The Six Thematic Networks

A: Greece and the Challenge of a 25-Member EU	<i>A. Vallianatou, T. Chardas, M. J. Romanos</i>
B: Political Communication and Civil Society	<i>Dr. P. Yannas</i>
C: Political Parties and the Political System	<i>N. Bilios</i>
D: Political Economy	<i>Dr. D. Tsarouhas</i>
E: Greek Foreign and Defence Policy	<i>A. Liaropoulos, M. Petrelli</i>
F: The Social State and the Greek Citizen	<i>A. Liarigovinou, Dr. S. Ladi</i>

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