CHARTER of the EUROPEAN GRADUATE NETWORK

Description and Objectives

The European Graduate Network brings together graduate students of sociology and political science from eight leading universities in Europe: Central European University (CEU), Budapest, Hungary; European University Institute (EUI), Florence, Italy; Humboldt Universität – the Berlin Graduate School of Social Sciences (BGSS), Berlin, Germany; Scuola Normale Superiore (SNS), Florence, Italy; Sciences Po, Paris, France; Institute for advanced Studies (IHV), Vienna, Austria; London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), London, United Kingdom; and Universitat Pompeu Fabra (UPF), Barcelona, Spain

The network encourages and facilitates collaborative research– by PhD students of the participating universities, emphasizing multi and interdisciplinary approaches to political and social sciences, such as political and social theory, political economy, comparative sociology, international relations, and public policy. By organizing annual graduate conferences, the network aims to provide opportunities for PhD students to improve their research projects, to discuss advanced methodological tools, and to practice presenting and discussing academic work.

Past Conferences

Florence (2007), Budapest (2008), Barcelona (2010), Berlin (2012), London (2013), Paris (2014) and Florence (2015).

Organization Rules

1. Network Representatives

Each university is represented by at least 1 senior representative (senior researcher) and 1 junior representative (a PhD candidate). There is a permanent mailing list including all network representatives. If a representative resigns, they should send an email to the whole network with the name and contact details of their replacement.

2. Graduate Network Conferences

a. Frequency

Graduate Network Conferences (GNCs) are organized on annual basis.

b. Call for papers & Conference dates

Graduate Network Conferences take place in spring. Calls for papers and conference dates

are the responsibility of the organizing university. They are to be announced to the rest of the network at the beginning of the preceding fall semester at the latest. Time clashes with other major conferences (APSA, ECPR etc.) should be avoided.

Calls for papers are general and open to all political science and sociology proposals.

The network representatives are responsible for the diffusion of the call for papers in their respective universities.

c. Paper selection & Panels

Paper selection is made by the organizing university. However, the selection should reflect the size of the participating universities expressed by the following quotas:

BGSS, CEU, IUE, LSE, Sciences Po, UPF – **7** places
SUM – 4 places
IHS – 3 places
2-3 extra places can be given to the institutions with the highest number of applications
2-3 extra places can be given to the organizing university

If there are insufficient funds, the number of participants can be reduced in proportion to the said quotas.

The organizing committee will do its best to accept at least one junior representative from each university.

Panels are constituted by the organizing university on the basis of the selected papers.

d. Discussants

For each conference, all participating institutions should provide one senior researcher to serve as a discussant/chair. Extra discussants may be provided by the organizing university.

e. Budget

The organizing university covers the following costs: accommodation, meals, and social programme. The visiting universities cover the travel expenses of their respective participants.

f. Organization during the Conference

All panels last throughout the duration of a conference. This ensures that a sufficient amount of time is spent on each paper (typically at least 45 minutes). This is one of the main distinctive

features of the conference when compared to the existing alternatives.