

# The Performance of Prime Ministers in Comparative Perspective

## Panel Organizers:

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## Summary:

Prime ministers have always been a major issue in the comparative study of parliamentary democracy. More recently, the analytical focus has shifted from measuring the institutional power of prime ministers as head of the executive to the question how office-holders perform as leaders of their countries. In this emerging field of research there are still several key issues unsolved. These include the definition and assessment of leadership success as well as the explanation of individual prime ministers' behaviour in different political environments and time periods. Moreover, empirical studies have been almost exclusively case-oriented and restricted to long-established Westminster democracies.

Therefore, this panel aims to explore more systematically the performance of prime ministers in parliamentary democracies and explain relevant patterns of variation across space and time. The contributions focus on the conceptualization, operationalization and measurement of prime-ministerial performance; theoretical approaches for explaining the political success of prime ministers; and the comparative analysis of prime-ministerial leadership in established and new democracies alike.

## Contributions:

*Prime-Ministerial Performance: A Conceptual Approach*

Ben Worthy (University of London)

*The Performance of Chancellors in Germany and Austria*

Manuela Glaab (University of Koblenz-Landau); co-authors: Ludger Helms (University of Innsbruck), Reimut Zohlnhöfer (University of Heidelberg)

*Bailout Conditionality and External Leverage in Core Executive Governance: Prime-Ministerial Performance in Greece since 2010*

Dimitris Papadimitriou (University of Manchester)

*The Performance of Prime Ministers in Central and Eastern Europe*

Ferdinand-Müller-Rommel (Leuphana University Lüneburg); co-author: Florian Grotz (Helmut-Schmidt-University Hamburg)