



University of Zagreb
Faculty of Law

EGPA 2023 CONFERENCE

Zagreb, Croatia 5-8 September

Steering the European Union through poly-crises storms:
The role of Public Administration

CALL FOR PAPERS

PSG XIX: Welfare State Governance and Professionalism

www.egpa-conference2023.org

Societal changes and innovative welfare policies and services

European society is struggling through “poly-crises storms” that are challenging societal values and cohesion, but are also imposing some completely new social issues connected with more nuances of what we all consider behind the key issues of inclusion, equity, inequalities, diversity, etc....

The emergence and consolidation of societal changes (some examples: new ideas of ageing and longevity, new work-life balance approaches, new definitions of what is a private or a collective domain, new ideas of public values, ...) has implication at different levels: from policy formation to policy implementation, service management and policy/services evaluation.

In the post-pandemic era, new policies are needed not only for the renewal of their contents but also in terms of how these are designed and adopted. Societal involvement and new policy process mechanisms are emerging, imposing the concepts of participation, co-design also through the route of digitalization. Policy implementation and welfare service management, as a consequence, are witnessing new governance arrangements and funding mechanisms. This is also pushed by the prevalence of hybrid rather than the traditional dichotomy between public and private organizations. Public administrations operating within the welfare sector are seeking for a new role and new steering mechanisms. Professionals are exploring new competences to align their approach to new societal values. The issue of evaluating and measuring welfare outcomes and societal impact has become crucial. Policy makers, public managers and more broadly society, are more and more interested in obtaining and discussing outcome/impact evaluation, both in the “old” idea of evidence based policy making and in the modern definition of transparency and accountability. While welfare interventions are changing, evaluation approaches and measurement technique need to be adapted so to take into consideration new societal values and expectations.

In this year’s PSG XX annual meeting we encourage to consider how societal changes are shaping welfare policies and services with respect to new values and political views, new target groups, new social needs, new forms of collaboration between public and private actors, new services arrangements with a special interest on new competences and professions. Insights on a broad spectrum of themes are welcomed, including, but not restricted to papers that deal with the issue of:

- The transformation of welfare systems and models toward a wider idea of society and wellbeing,
- Impact of the post-pandemic era on innovation in the welfare sector,
- Innovative service arrangements as a consequence of post-pandemic societal changes,
- Innovative forms of collaboration between public and private institutions aimed at tackling new social needs,
- The role of professionals in innovating welfare services,
- New competences and professionalism for innovative welfare services,
- New evaluation and measurement models for welfare services.

In our PSG, we welcome different types of papers that explore these themes in a conceptual, theoretical, empirical, analytical, explanatory or prescriptive way. However, prior attention will be given to papers discussing real cases and presenting evidence collected in innovative contexts within the welfare sector. Both qualitative and quantitative approaches are welcomed.

Practicalities

Important dates:

- ✓ Deadline for submission of abstracts/Panel Proposals: May 17, 2023
- ✓ Deadline for notification to the authors: May 31, 2023
- ✓ Deadline for online submission of full papers: August 17, 2023
- ✓ EGPA PhD Symposium 5-6 September 2023
- ✓ EGPA 2023 Conference: 6-8 September 2023

EGPA 2023 Conference Website: <https://www.egpa-conference2023.org/>

EGPA 2023 Conference Management System:

<https://www.conftool.org/egpa-conference2023>

For any questions regarding EGPA 2023, please contact us at: f.maron@ijas-iisa.org

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