

# EGPA 2025 CONFERENCE

Glasgow, Scotland, UK 26-29 August

EGPA at 50: prospects for public  
administration across Europe

## CALL FOR PAPERS

STUDY GROUP XX

Welfare State Governance and Professionalism





For the **EGPA Annual Conference 2025** held at the Centre for Public Policy at the University of Glasgow, from 26 - 29 August 2025, the **Permanent Study Group XX on Welfare State Governance and Professionalism** presents its call for papers on the following theme:

***Prospects for Resilient Welfare Politics, Policy and Professionalism***

This era is characterized by turbulence, turmoil and a multitude of threats and crisis stemming from financial and economic developments (e.g., the collapse of the US housing market which triggered a crisis of the global financial markets), natural disasters (heatwaves, flooding) occurring with increasing frequency, pandemics such as the COVID-19 pandemic, and (geo-)political crises, represented most recently by the Russian war against the Ukraine and the vulnerable support by governments in major European countries. These crises are not sequential, as they are happening simultaneously and are thus termed as a situation of 'poly crisis' (Morin & Kern, 1999). Such interwoven and overlapping crises have a direct impact on the quality of life and health of citizens. What's more: they have also fueled inequality, vulnerabilities, polarization, and ethical dissensus, also impacting societal values that are created through welfare interventions.

This raises many questions including key issues about resilience of welfare politics and policies, (professional) public services and public delivery systems. Resilience has been conceptualized as "The ability to prepare for, manage (absorb, adapt and transform) and learn from shocks" (Thomas et al 2020). This definition is useful, but it also raises questions. Is resilience a 'societal value' in itself, or should it be conceived as a pre-requisite to maintaining and developing the capacity to uphold key societal values, even in the face of severe crises? What are some of the values that may be endangered by focusing on resilience (Jørgensen and Bozeman 2007, Klenk et al 2025)? Can the public sector be efficient and resilient at the same time? How do we best nurture the capacity to manage and learn from crises? What



are the implications for management and professional actions, and for (professionally) developing these?

Issues about resilience and value conflicts are relevant at both the macro (system), meso (sector/organization) and micro (public professionals and user) levels. Resilience can be perceived in an (eco-)system perspective (Osborne 2020) and with an appreciation of the complexity dimension of resilience responses (Morin 2008). However, it is also important to understand the resilience of individuals and professionals in welfare state governance. To which extent can macro level resilience ambitions be reflected on the ground, within public organizations and in the interaction with users?

For the upcoming EGPA conference, during which we celebrate 50 years of EGPA and explore the prospects for (the study of) public administration, we welcome papers that address prospects for welfare governance and professionalism.

We welcome papers that cover issues of governance, policy, organizational and professional resilience, at all levels. We are interested in empirical and comparative contributions as well as analytical, conceptual or theoretical elaborations of resilience perspectives.

## References

- Morin, E. (2008). *On complexity. Advances in systems theory, complexity, and the human sciences*. Hampton Press.
- Jørgensen, T. B., & Bozeman, B. (2007). Public values: An inventory. *Administration & Society*, 39(3), 319–446.
- Osborne, S. P. (2020). *Public service logic: Creating value for public service users, citizens, and society through public service delivery*. Routledge.
- Klenk, T. Noordegraaf, M. , Notarnicola, E. and Vrangbæk, K. (2025-forthcomming). *Societal Value of Welfare Politics, Policies, and Services*.



- Thomas S et al. (2013). A framework for assessing health system resilience in an economic crisis: Ireland as a test case. BMC Health Services Research, 13(1):450.

#### Co-chairs:

- **Prof. Dr. Tanja Klenk**  
Helmut-Schmidt Universität / Universität der Bundeswehr (Germany)  
[tanja.klenk@hsu-hh.de](mailto:tanja.klenk@hsu-hh.de)  
[Profile](#)
- **Prof. Dr. Mirko Noordegraaf**  
Utrecht University School of Governance, Utrecht University (The Netherlands)  
[M.Noordegraaf@uu.nl](mailto:M.Noordegraaf@uu.nl)  
[Profile](#)
- **Prof. Dr. Karsten Vrangbæk**  
Department of Public Health, University of Copenhagen (Denmark)  
[kavr@sund.ku.dk](mailto:kavr@sund.ku.dk)  
[Profile](#)
- **Prof Dr Elisabetta Notarnicola**  
CERGAS, Bocconi University (Italy)  
[elisabetta.notarnicola@unibocconi.it](mailto:elisabetta.notarnicola@unibocconi.it)  
[Profile](#)

#### Practicalities

##### *Important dates:*

- ✓ Deadline for submission of abstracts: **March 28, 2025**
- ✓ Deadline for acceptance notifications to the authors: **April 18, 2025**
- ✓ Deadline for online submission of full papers: **July 25, 2025**
- ✓ EGPA PhD Symposium: **August 26, 2025**
- ✓ EGPA 2025 Conference: **August 27-29, 2025**



# EGPA 2025 CONFERENCE

Glasgow, Scotland, UK 26-29 August



EGPA 2025 Conference Website:

<https://ias-iisa.org/egpa-2025-conference/>

EGPA 2025 Conference Management System:

<https://www.conftool.org/egpa2025conference>

For any questions regarding EGPA 2025, please get in touch with us at:

[info@egpa2025conference.org](mailto:info@egpa2025conference.org)