

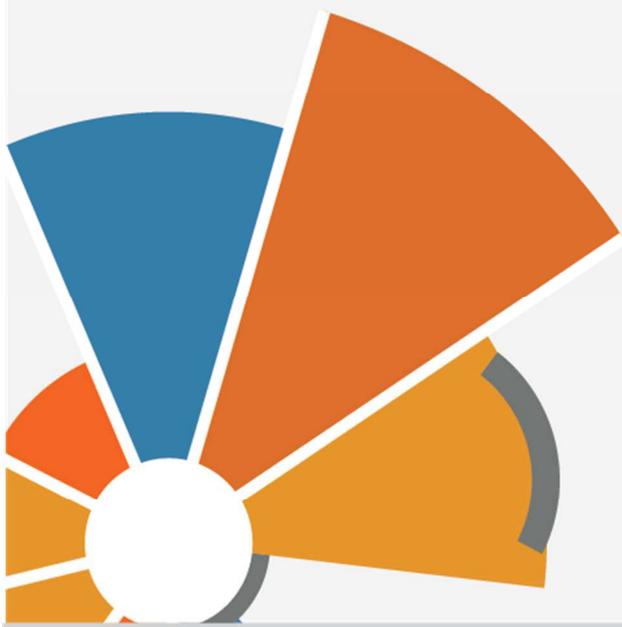


# 2018

Annual Conference of the  
EUROPEAN GROUP FOR  
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

LAUSANNE | SWITZERLAND | 5-7 SEPTEMBER 2018  
PhD SYMPOSIUM | 3-4 SEPTEMBER 2018

## CALL FOR PAPERS



## EGPA Permanent Study Group XI on: Strategic Management in Government

### CALL FOR PAPERS

The Study Group on Strategic Management in Government has produced two edited books and a research book based on work done in recent years. We are currently working on a special issue of *Public Money & Management* that we are editing and will contain papers from the study group. Future plans for special issues of journals and edited books are also in the pipeline and will provide contributors to the study group further publication opportunities. Moreover, an EGPA policy paper on strategic planning was recently published based on contributions to the study group.

We always welcome new people to the study group and welcome their contributions in our debates and dialogues within the group's scheduled sessions at the annual conference. Current contributors come from a variety of European countries (e.g. Belgium, Norway, France, UK...) and adopt a variety of research methods (quantitative, qualitative, conceptual...) – we are open to all who seek to study strategic management in government. If you wish to join us, you will be able to discuss and explore your own and others research and ideas. There are also opportunities to contribute to study group projects – such as edited books and special issues of journals – and to EGPA policy papers.

#### *Three themes for 2018*

We hope to cluster papers in our study group into four themes. The remarks below are meant to illustrate the types of concerns and topics that might be debated, they are not meant to constrain potential contributions to this research forum.

- ✓ **Theme 1: Strategic management in practice and its consequences (e.g. for effectiveness, the quality of public services, responsiveness, transparency, public accountability, public value, and open government)**
- ✓ **Theme 2: Strategic planning/management by Government and in public governance**

- ✓ Theme 3: The theory of strategic management in the public sector and/or approaches to researching strategic management in the public sector
- ✓ Theme 4: The relationship between the theory and practice of strategic management in the public sector

We are interested in proposals about any and all public sector contexts, including: local government, national development planning, public sector health organizations, networks, partnerships, etc.

The first theme addresses the “so what?” question. Reforms worldwide have encouraged the adoption of strategic planning and management in governments at all levels. Nonetheless, academic research lags behind practical developments and insufficient empirical research (surveys, comparative, action research, and evaluation research). As a consequence, in the vacuum created by the lack of empirical research, speculation and polemic reigns. Papers for this theme could focus on elements of strategic management (e.g. strategic planning, strategy content, performance management) in relation to specific outcomes (e.g. efficiency, effectiveness, societal outcomes) and assess under which conditions (e.g. political context, organizational contingencies, environmental complexity) this relation becomes stronger or weaker.

This second theme is of special interest to the study group and it is a theme that has been investigated over a number of years. Public sector organizations are supposed to be managed on the basis of taking stock of the “intérêt general.” There have been constant calls for the public sector to engage more with citizens, to consult them, and to bring them more strongly into the government decision making process on national development. In 2018 governments in EU countries are still facing challenges with the rise of populism, and are struggling to respond to what can feel like negative citizen perceptions of public governance institutions and even anger towards ‘the establishment’. What does this all mean for current ideas of the development of strategic states and governance of the public based on both democracy and strategic capabilities?

The third and fourth themes provide the study group with opportunities to advance further the intellectual tools and frameworks used to take the field of strategic management research in government and the wider sector forward.

### Format of your proposal

In your proposal (250-400 words) please include:

1. Your name and organization (university, government organization, etc.)
2. The theme (s) of your proposed paper
3. The key questions, hypotheses, propositions, etc. you are considering
4. The nature of your research (e.g. case study, interview data, comparative study)
5. Your key findings (or what you expect your key findings will be)

## Key Deadlines

- ✓ Proposals should be uploaded through the submission website by April 18,2018
- ✓ Deadline for decision and selection of the accepted papers by the co-chairs: and notification to the Authors : May 9, 2018
- ✓ Deadline for submitting the complete papers: August16, 2018

## Practicalities

Please submit your abstract online through the Conference Website [www.egpa-conference2018.org](http://www.egpa-conference2018.org) or directly through Conference Management System: <https://www.conftool.com/egpa2018>

Practical information on the EGPA 2018 conference can be found at:  
[www.egpa-conference2018.org](http://www.egpa-conference2018.org)

## Co-chairs of Permanent Study Group XI:

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**EGPA Policy Paper on European Governance** – Please note that all authors with accepted papers can submit a proposal for an EGPA Policy Paper. For more information, please contact Dr. Fabienne Maron