

Welcome to the ECPR

The professional association of the political science community
Student guide to membership year 2015–16



A vertical banner for ECPR. At the top is the ECPR logo. Below it, the text reads: "Welcomes the Summer in Methods Techniques". Underneath, it says: "Giving students and young scholars the resources they need to succeed in their studies and their careers". At the bottom, there is a partial image of a smiling woman's face and a hashtag "#m".

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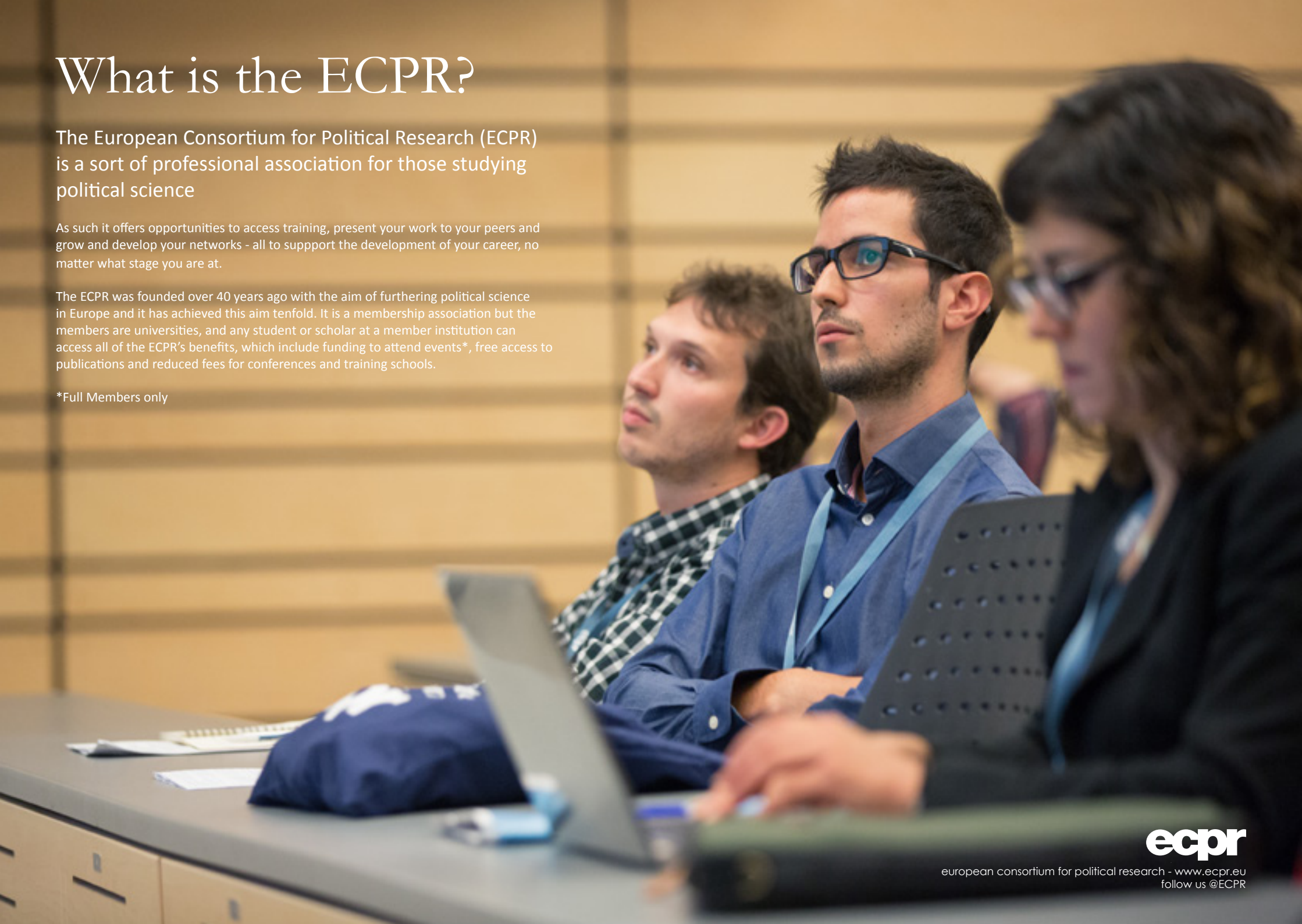
What is the ECPR?

The European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) is a sort of professional association for those studying political science

As such it offers opportunities to access training, present your work to your peers and grow and develop your networks - all to support the development of your career, no matter what stage you are at.

The ECPR was founded over 40 years ago with the aim of furthering political science in Europe and it has achieved this aim tenfold. It is a membership association but the members are universities, and any student or scholar at a member institution can access all of the ECPR's benefits, which include funding to attend events*, free access to publications and reduced fees for conferences and training schools.

*Full Members only



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Am I a member?

If your university is a member then yes, you are too

To see if your university is member just check the list on our website. We currently have around 350 members, spanning all of the major research universities in the world, so there is a good chance your university is on the list. If not? Let us know and we'll speak to them about joining - just email membership@ecpr.eu.

Because the ECPR's membership is institutional each member university appoints an Official Representative (OR) who is the key point of contact between that institution and the organisation. The OR's job is to promote the ECPR throughout their institution, ensuring that all individuals benefit from membership. They also represent their university on the ECPR's Council, its governing body. To find out who your OR is log in to your MyECPR account and see 'Institution Members'.

How do I get started?

The first step is to create a MyECPR account on our website

It only takes a few minutes but you can then sign up for email alerts about all aspects of the ECPR and its activities. You can also read the latest issue of *ECPR News*, available in digital format on the website, the quarterly newsletter gives a flavour of all ECPR events as well as containing news and information to help you make the most of your membership.

You can also...
follow us on Twitter @ecpr
like us on Facebook
join us on LinkedIn





Grow networks with the Graduate Student Network

Developing an extensive international network
is vital at all stages of your career

The Graduate Student Network (GSN) is the student arm of the ECPR. Reflecting the international scope and professional objectives of the ECPR, the GSN's key objective is to provide a platform to support and encourage students at the very first stages of their career.

The GSN is a relatively new activity of the ECPR and as such, members have the opportunity to shape its development and reach within the community.

Membership of the GSN is free of charge and open to any graduate student, PhD candidate or post-doctoral researcher enrolled at an ECPR member institution. Membership opens up a framework for networking and joint initiatives and a forum for the exchange of ideas and experiences through the website, social media (Facebook page, LinkedIn Group, and Twitter page @ecpr_gsn) and both academic and social events organised for GSN members at ECPR events such as the General Conference.

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Expert training at the ECPR Methods School

A solid grounding in research methods is essential for all young scholars

The ECPR's Methods School provides high-quality, cutting-edge training in methods and techniques over two separate events currently held in Bamberg in the winter (the Winter School) and Budapest in the summer (the Summer School).

Taught by experts in the field and supported by skilled Teaching Assistants, courses cover the full range of both qualitative and quantitative methods required for successful research and analysis.

Courses run alongside a plenary programme of lectures and social events designed to enhance the participants' overall experience and help prepare them for the challenges of professional life.

Participants can attend either one single event or follow training tracks designed to take them from introductory to advanced level study, or through complementary courses to further enhance their learning and practical application. ECTS credits are awarded for successful completion of the Methods Schools.

ECPR members receive a reduced fee and can apply for funding.



Real experience at the Graduate Student Conference

Delivering a paper to a room full of your peers can be one of the most daunting experiences of your professional life, especially if it's your first time

That is why the ECPR established its Graduate Student Conference; to give students valuable, professional, real-life experience of attending a large, international event.

The conference follows the traditional format of Sections and Panels and students take on every role, from Section Chair through to discussant. The academic content is set against a plenary programme of lectures from high-profile speakers, roundtables on subjects pertinent to the young scholar (such as 'how to get published') and a social programme designed to facilitate networking.

ECPR members pay a reduced fee and can apply for funding to attend.

The ECPR logo consists of the lowercase letters 'ecpr' in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

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Become a published author

Getting your first book published is one of the biggest challenges for any young scholar

Launched in 2005, the ECPR's in-house imprint, ECPR Press, has established itself as an influential publisher, with a catalogue of more than 100 titles. The Press has published seminal texts by some of the founding fathers of political science, and is also a thriving forum for the work of emerging authors.

ECPR Press considers book proposals in all areas of political studies. We can help you reach the key audience for your book through a targeted marketing plan, and strong presence at all the most important political science conferences and events. Find out more, and read detailed submission guidelines, on our website at <http://press.ecpr.eu/>.

The Jean Blondel PhD Prize

This €1000 Prize is awarded annually by the ECPR, for an outstanding political science PhD thesis by a student from a Full Member institution.

One awarding criterion is whether the thesis could be adapted for publication as a book, and the prizewinner is always offered the chance to publish under ECPR Press's Monographs series. Find out more about the nomination procedure on the website.

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A young woman with long brown hair and glasses, wearing a white sweater and a grey backpack, is looking at a book in a library or bookstore. She is holding the book with both hands. In the background, there are other people and bookshelves. The lighting is warm and focused on the woman.

Stay one step ahead with world leading publications

Keeping up to date with the latest published research is essential for your career

The ECPR publishes three leading journals, including the *European Journal of Political Research (EJPR)* which is ranked 8 in the 2014 Social Sciences Citation Index - one print copy of each issue is delivered to each ECPR member institution upon publication, while free access to the *Political Data Yearbook Interactive* (the annual Yearbook of the *EJPR*) is available to all. While the *EJPR* is considered one of the leading political science journals in the world, the *PDYi* is a unique and rich archive of elections and parties data, fully searchable and downloadable.

If you want a picture of where the political science profession is, then *European Political Science (EPS)* is a must-read - perfect for young scholars setting out on their career. *EPS* is available online, free of charge to all ECPR members via their library.

European Political Science Review (EPSR) is the general journal of the ECPR and the go to publication for cutting edge new research across the discipline. In 2016 the ECPR is offering free online access to individuals from member universities via the publisher's website. Look out for emails with the special code, or ask your OR for details.

Finally, the ECPR also co-publishes one of the key book series in political science - Comparative Politics, with Oxford University Press. Many of the seminal texts in the discipline have been published in this series and ECPR members receive a 30% discount on all books.

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Support your studies
and kick-start your
career...

2016 events

Winter School in Methods and Techniques
University of Bamberg, 26 February – 4 March

Joint Sessions of Workshops
Scuola Normale Superiore, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna and
University of Pisa, 24 – 28 April

Research Sessions
Radboud University Nijmegen, 28 June – 1 July

Graduate Student Conference
University of Tartu, 10 – 13 July

Summer School in Methods and Techniques
Central European University, Budapest, 28 July – 13 August

General Conference
Charles University in Prague, 7 – 10 September

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