

ISPPNews vol. 35.2
September 2025

**President's
Corner
September 2025**

Dear ISPP Community,

As ISPP President, I am writing today to signal a significant change in direction in how we approach the situation in Gaza. After our statement was released by the Executive Committee in August 2025, we received letters from various concerned ISPP constituencies (both from members at large and from current and former leadership) expressing anger about the tone and content of the statement. This led us to discuss, reflect, and conclude that this statement, although intended as a humanistic one, was indeed inadequate on a number of dimensions.

I express my sincere apology for any distress and distrust that the statement has caused. I and the rest of the ISPP Executive Committee have heard your concerns and we value your engagement with our society. Accordingly, we have unanimously voted to retract our August 2025 statement. We also voted to release a new statement that I believe more closely represents the current situation in Gaza and speaks to the concerns raised.

I understand that not everyone will agree with everything that we have written in the new statement. As a large, diverse, and international academic society with volunteer leadership bound by a constitution and bylaws and guided by our membership's interests and concerns, we may not move as quickly as members might sometimes like, and we certainly do not all agree about every proposal. This is further evidenced by the fact that 75% of the EC voted in favor of the new statement, with the main point of contention being how much emphasis it should place on the role of Hamas—whose own brutal actions, it should be noted, were neither dismissed nor defended by any member of the EC—in the horrific

	<p>suffering of the people of Gaza. Yet academic freedom requires that we need to be open to different voices and views and meet each other in dialogue, even when this is difficult. We want everyone in ISPP to feel heard and represented, especially in times of polarization and division. It is my hope that the new statement will be received positively and will be viewed as strong step in the right direction.</p> <p>This significant change in direction aligns with our goals to be more responsive to our membership and to rebuild trust and community. We want to learn from past mistakes, such as not following up with the Scholars Under Threat Committee to confirm that panelists for their roundtable at the Prague conference had been scheduled and failing to communicate that in January 2025 the Governing Council voted to align ISPP’s investments with its values. For these failures I apologize profusely. We are currently addressing these and other strong concerns voiced to us. I will provide more information about the specific results of these efforts in upcoming communications.</p> <p>I am reminded of the phrase “trust takes years to build, seconds to break, and forever to repair.” I hope that this new statement is the beginning of a dialogue, not the end of one, so that we can remain united as an academic society. I look forward to continuing these conversations in upcoming Governing Council meetings, at our annual meeting in Newcastle in July 2026, as well as in other ISPP forums.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Joanne Miller</p>
<p>Executive Director's Corner September 2025</p>	<p>The ISPP Governing Council would like to announce a major transition in the management of our Society. After many invaluable years of service to ISPP, Executive Director Severine Bennett and Executive Administrator Minnie Chappell will be moving on to the</p>

next stage of their careers. Their final day with ISPP was June 29, 2025.

We are also pleased to announce that the International Society of Political Psychology has selected Capitol Hill Management Services as the new firm for managing the association.

“Through its committed members and outstanding programs, the International Society of Political Psychology represents, promotes and connects a community of scholars in the field of political psychology through education, collaboration and communication, and mutual support,” said John A. Graziano, Jr., President of Capitol Hill Management Services. “We are pleased to work with the Society’s dedicated Officers, Governing Council and volunteers in ensuring a successful future for ISPP in its mission.”

The Society recognizes and thanks Executive Director Severine Bennett, CMP, PMP for her many years of dedicated service to ISPP and our members. We also thank Executive Administrator Minnie Chappell for her service at the Central Office. “We wish both Sev and Minnie all the best in their future endeavors,” states Past President Federico.

The new ISPP Office operation began on June 30, 2025. Below please find a complete list of new office contact information and personnel. We ask you to update your records.

Executive Director: Michael T. Breslin (exdir@ispp.org)

Michael Breslin is a Director of Association Management at Capitol Hill Management Services in the Albany office where he provides insight, support, and advice to the Association Management team and serves several associations in various roles. Mr. Breslin is an expert at leveraging technological solutions to maximize operational efficiency. He is a highly motivated, action-oriented, and innovative association professional who has developed excellent organizational

	<p>management, communication, problem-solving, and program administration skills. Prior to joining the CHMS Team, Mike worked in Higher Education for over a decade. He earned a Master of Business Administration Degree from The Sage Colleges and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mathematics from Union College.</p> <p>Association Manager: Breanne Clark (info@ispp.org)</p> <p>Breanne Clark is an experienced professional with a background in association management, sales, and customer service. Currently serving as an Association Manager at Capitol Hill Management Services, Inc., Breanne has developed skills in organizational management and client relations. Previous experience includes working as a Phonathon Caller at SUNY Oneonta, where Breanne engaged with alumni to support fundraising initiatives, and as a Sales Associate at Zoom Tan, focusing on enhancing customer experiences and driving sales.</p> <p>New phone number: 518-313-1511</p> <p>New fax number: 518-463-8656</p> <p>New mailing address: 230 Washington Avenue Extension, Suite 101, Albany, NY 12203, USA</p>
<p>Save the dates! ISPP's upcoming meetings</p>	<p>Our 2026 Annual Meeting will be held at Newcastle University in Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom, on July 16–19.</p> <p>Our 2027 Annual Meeting will be held at the Postillion Hotel in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, on July 6–9.</p> <hr/> <p><i>If you are interested in hosting a future conference of ISPP, please contact the Central Office to obtain the necessary guidelines and</i></p>

	<i>materials.</i>
Call for Governing Council Nominations	<p>The Nominating Committee for the International Society of Political Psychology is soliciting nominations for five three-year terms on the ISPP Governing Council, as well as for President-elect and Vice President for Communications and Publications. Self-nominations are welcome.</p> <p>The President-elect serves a three-year term: the first year as President-elect; the second year as President; and the third year as Past President. The Vice President serves a three-year term. The elected Governing Council consists of 15 members serving staggered terms (plus ISPP officers) who guide the policy and direction of the society. The terms for nominations being sought will be July 2026-July 2029.</p> <p>Information on the specific duties and expected qualifications of the President, Vice President, and Governing Council members can be found in the ISPP Constitution and Bylaws, available at https://www.ispp.org/about/constitution.</p> <p>All nominations should be sent to the Chair of the Nominating Committee:</p> <p>Rosario Aguilar Newcastle University Rosario.Aguilar@newcastle.ac.uk</p> <p>Nominations must include the name and institutional affiliation of the nominee, along with gender, information about the nominee’s discipline and primary areas of research, geographic location, and any other information that might be useful to the nominating committee in its goals of nominating a diverse set of candidates representing the broad range of research and interests in political psychology and the international nature of the society. Potential</p>

	<p>nominees will be contacted by the committee before being placed on the ballot.</p> <p>Nominations are due no later than 5 November 2025.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Rosario Aguilar 2025-2026 ISPP Nominating Committee Chair</p>
<p>Scholars Under Threat (SUT) Committee</p>	<p>Greetings from the SUT Committee. After falling short of our expectations at the Prague conference, ISPP appointed Diana Cárdenas and Danny Osborne as co-chairs of the committee, along with Alexandra Filindra and Felipe Vilanova. In addition to these four General Council (GC) members, the SUT Committee includes Ana Figueiredo, Yasemin Acar, and Mete Uysal. We are committed to supporting those who are most vulnerable.</p> <p>Here are our plans for the next few months.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• First, we are announcing a call for applications for emergency funds for scholars under threat; these funds must be spent by 31 December. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. NEW: Both self- and peer-nominations are welcome. If you, or someone you know, is at risk, please contact us at: d.osborne@auckland.ac.nz, diana.cardenas@umontreal.ca <p>Unsure if you are a scholar under threat? If you are asking, you probably are.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Second, we are accepting applications to (partially) reimburse travel for scholars under threat who attended the Prague conference. Please contact us at: d.osborne@auckland.ac.nz, diana.cardenas@umontreal.ca by 15 October.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Third, we aim to establish remote affiliations in response to the scholasticide in Gaza, as well as for scholars who are without university affiliations globally. These remote affiliations should roll out in the coming months.• Fourth, we continue to accept applications for the Twinning Program. The Twinning Program facilitates collaborations between political psychologists who are displaced (e.g., the Palestinian diaspora) and/or facing political persecution, and program partners. To apply as either a scholar under threat or a twinning partner, click here.• Finally, we are updating the SUT website. Be on the lookout as these updates roll out. <p>We are here to listen! Reach out to us (sut@ispp.org) if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions for how we can best serve the community of scholars who are under threat.</p> <p>Thank you!</p> <p>D & D and the SUT Committee</p>
<p>Call for the Twinning Program</p>	<p>Call for the Twinning Program in English [see below for the call in Arabic, French, Spanish and Turkish]</p> <p>We are happy to announce that we are still accepting applications for our Twinning Program among Scholars under Threat (ISPP members who lost their academic positions or their income in direct connection with political persecution and/or to members who have been displaced as a result of political persecution). The Twinning Program aims to facilitate scholarly collaborations between threatened political psychologists and program partners. These collaborations can offer the opportunity for threatened scholars to continue their academic activities, maintain and advance their careers, and integrate into international political psychology. Partners can also engage in political advocacy on behalf of</p>

	<p>threatened scholars. We are grateful to the 24 scholars who have already expressed their interest to work together with a scholar under threat as partners. We would kindly like to ask our members to reach out to those scholars within their networks around the world who may benefit from participating in the Twinning Program.</p> <p><i>Click here to apply.</i></p> <p>Call for the Twinning Program in Arabic</p> <p>Call for the Twinning Program in French</p> <p>Call for the Twinning Program in Spanish</p> <p>Call for the Twinning Program in Turkish</p>
<p>See our Scholars under Threat webpage for an overview of our initiatives and information on how YOU can help.</p>	
<p>Call for submissions</p>	<p>Call for ISPP’s Small Grants Initiative</p> <p>The ISPP Governing Council is pleased to continue ISPP’s Small Grants Initiative that uses a portion of the income from ISPP investment funds to support research and network projects that further the goals of ISPP: (1) to increase the diversity of ISPP membership and internationalize the Society; (2) to strengthen our organization; and (3) to promote excellence in political psychology.</p> <p>We now invite ISPP members to submit small grant proposals for 2026. We will accept proposals related to political psychology from any current ISPP member in one of two categories: (1) small research grants to support focused research projects, or (2) small research network/workshop/mini-conference grants to help bring together a group of researchers. Specific award amounts may vary, but we have \$50,000 USD to distribute, and the maximum amount proposers may request is \$5,000 USD. We will make exceptions to this award limit in only the most extraordinary circumstances.</p>

We will evaluate both types of proposals on the same four criteria: (1) the ability to expand and diversify the reach of ISPP into underrepresented areas of the world, for example by including researchers from those areas, examining understudied populations from those areas, or featuring capacity-building; (2) promoting excellence in political psychology, including, but not limited to, integrative theoretical approaches, new methodologies, innovative topics, or important areas of research in political psychology that have been understudied; (3) the design and development of the proposal, including, but not limited to, methodological rigour, the feasibility of completing the project within a year and the description of concrete output/deliverables, and (4) the scientific and societal significance of the project, including, but not limited to, its relevance to practice and policy, or its engagement with specific communities.

Different from last year's procedure, the committee will evaluate whether proposals sufficiently fulfill these criteria --- proposals that sufficiently meet all four criteria proceed to the next stage, where they form a pool of candidates from which we will randomly draw the winners (i.e., like a lottery). For transparency purposes, this will be recorded so that there is no bias involved. The idea behind this lottery procedure is that it (a) acknowledges that the committee is able to evaluate whether a proposal sufficiently satisfies the criteria we value without claiming to know which proposal is better than the other, and that it (b) has lower risks of bias and, hence, is more fair and inclusive. We see this procedure as a pilot to be evaluated and therefore will be very much interested in hearing the experiences of participants involved in the procedure (once it has been completed).

To submit a proposal, members should click [here](#) to download the template form (or alternatively, e-mail the committee chair Martijn van Zomeren at m.van.zomeren@rug.nl). Proposals (max. 1500 words) must be submitted **before December 1, 2025**, for consideration to info@ispp.org. Barring any unforeseen circumstances, we anticipate completing the review process and

drawing the winners by January 15, 2026. We will notify applicants about the outcome as soon as possible thereafter.

Applicants must be current members of ISPP. We will encourage any other participants in the grant-funded project to join the Society if they have not already done so. We will also ask all grant recipients to provide a report on the project to ISPP.

Please direct any questions you may have about this Call for Proposals to the committee chair, Martijn van Zomeren [m.van.zomeren@rug.nl].

—The ISPP Initiatives Committee

Call for Papers – Special Issue in *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*

Many of today’s global challenges—such as climate change and public health crises—take the form of social dilemmas, where individual interests conflict with collective goals. Decades of research in social psychology, behavioral economics, and decision-making have explored how people navigate such dilemmas, but the field is evolving in exciting new directions.

This special issue of the **Journal of Experimental Social Psychology** invites contributions that explore **innovative approaches to social dilemma research**, including:

- **Cross-cultural and international studies** examining cooperation, competition, and other social dilemma behaviors across diverse societies, especially those underrepresented in psychological research.
- **Applied studies addressing real-world dilemmas**, such as climate change, health crises, or other societal challenges.
- **Methodological innovations**, including the use of new technologies (e.g., VR, AI agents) to study motives and

behaviors in social dilemmas.

- **Replication or experimental studies** that strengthen understanding of social dilemma behaviors in varied contexts.

There are welcome **quasi-experimental, experimental, and review articles** that advance understanding of how people respond to social dilemmas and the conditions that foster collective action.

Guest Editors:

- Prof. Angela Dorrough, FernUniversität in Hagen, Chair of Behavioral Economics and Intercultural Psychology
- Assist. Prof. Angelo Romano, Leiden University, Unit Social, Economic, and Organisational Psychology
- Assist. Prof. Giuliana Spadaro, VU Amsterdam, Faculty of Behavioural and Movement Sciences, Social Psychology
- Dr. Shuxian Jin, University of Sussex, School of Psychology

Submission Information:

Manuscripts should be submitted via the journal's platform [here](#).

Submission deadline: 30 November 2025 | [More information](#)

Call for Papers – Special Issue in the Journal *Statistics, Politics and Policy*

Special Issue: Elections – Electoral Systems, Campaigns and Debates – Innovations in Electoral Analysis

Elections are the cornerstone of democracy, shaping political landscapes and reflecting shifting voter preferences. This special

issue of **Statistics, Politics and Policy** invites contributions that advance understanding of **elections, electoral debates, and electoral systems**, with particular emphasis on innovations in electoral analysis.

Topics of interest include:

- Electoral outcomes and voting behavior – methodological approaches to studying voter behavior, polarization, turnout trends, and forecasting.
- Campaigns and debates – evolving rhetoric, digital campaigns, micro-targeting, AI-driven strategies, and the role of (mis)information.
- Electoral systems and institutions – impacts of system design and reforms on representation, trust, and polarization.
- Comparative perspectives – elections in Europe and beyond, including integration, cooperation, and democratic trends.
- Innovations in analysis – applications of big data, machine learning, and computational social science to election studies; measuring fairness, suppression, and backsliding.

There are welcome **theoretical and empirical contributions, as well as case studies and comparative analyses**.

Guest Editors

- Prof. Dr. Uwe Wagschal, Editor-in-Chief
- Judith Reinbold, M.Sc., Managing Editor
- Ronald Schleeauf, M.A., Managing Editor

Submission Information

Manuscripts should be submitted via the journal's platform [here](#).

Submission deadline: 31 October 2025 | [More information](#)

	<p>Call for Papers – Special Issue in <i>Scientific Reports Nature</i></p> <p>Special Issue: Prosociality and Altruism</p> <p>Prosociality encompasses behaviours intended to benefit others—such as helping, sharing, donating, and volunteering—while altruism refers to prosocial acts performed without expectation of personal gain. These behaviours are critical for the wellbeing of societies across cultures, yet much remains unknown about the cognitive, neural, and biological processes that underlie them.</p> <p>This collection invites original research articles advancing our understanding of prosociality and altruism.</p> <p>Guest Editors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Daniel Farrelly• Dr. Manpal Singh Bhogal <p>Submission Information:</p> <p>Manuscripts should be submitted via the journal’s platform here.</p> <p>Submission deadline: 27 May 2026 More information</p>
<p>Call for jobs & fellowships</p>	<p>Lecturer/Assistant Professor in Social Psychology at the University of Auckland</p> <p>The School of Psychology at the University of Auckland invites applications for a Lecturer/Assistant Professor in Social Psychology (equivalent to a tenure-track Assistant Professor). The School welcomes candidates whose research aligns with and extends existing strengths in Social Psychology, including—but not limited to—interpersonal relationships, intergroup relations, and political</p>

psychology.

Responsibilities

- Contribute to undergraduate and postgraduate teaching in Social Psychology.
- Supervise graduate research students.
- Engage in research that advances the field of Social Psychology and complements the School's existing strengths.

Candidate Profile

- A PhD in Psychology or a closely related discipline.
- Demonstrated track record of research excellence, including publications and the potential to secure external research funding.
- Ability to teach students from diverse cultural backgrounds.
- Strong organisational, analytical, and problem-solving skills.
- Research interests that complement the School's existing strengths in Social Psychology are highly desirable.
- Knowledge or experience related to New Zealand or the wider Asia-Pacific context is an advantage.

Application Process

Applicants should submit a single document containing their CV, cover letter, and any research and/or teaching statements [here](#).

For further information or to request a confidential discussion, prospective applicants may contact:

- Prof. Nickola Overall: n.overall@auckland.ac.nz
- Prof. Danny Osborne: d.osborne@auckland.ac.nz
- Head of School, Prof. Niki Harré: n.harre@auckland.ac.nz

Application deadline: 20 October 2025 | [More information](#)

Postdoctoral and Doctoral Positions in Polarization and Mental Health - Aalto University, Finland

The Department of Computer Science at Aalto University invites applications for Postdoctoral and Doctoral positions on two new projects exploring **the interplay between political polarization and mental health: POLEMIC** and **PolWell**. These four-year projects combine computational social science and computational mental health, drawing on large-scale social media analysis, digital phenotyping, experimental methods, and network science to uncover mechanisms linking polarization, stress, and well-being.

Responsibilities

- Conduct interdisciplinary research on polarization, digital health, and well-being.
- Contribute to data collection, analysis, and dissemination. Collaborate with an international team across computational and behavioral sciences.
- Support project activities, including publications and conference participation.

Candidate Profile

Doctoral candidates:

- Background in computational social science, ubiquitous computing, data science, or HCI.
- Strong programming and data analysis skills (Python preferred).
- Interest in interdisciplinary and applied research on polarization or mental health.

Postdoctoral candidates:

- PhD in computational social science, digital health, or related

fields.

- Proven research track record and expertise in one or more of the following: statistical methods, network science, content analysis, AI/ML, or HCI.
- Strong writing and analytical skills.
- Experience with social media data, NLP, experiment design, or qualitative methods is considered an asset.

What Aalto Offers

- Competitive salary: €2,800–3,500/month (doctoral) and €4,100–4,300/month (postdoctoral).
- Additional funding for conferences and research mobility. Comprehensive occupational health benefits and inclusion in Finland's social security system.
- A collaborative, international research environment in one of Europe's most livable countries.

Application Process

Applications should include:

- Motivation letter (max. 1 page).
- CV with publication list and Google Scholar profile (not required for PhD applicants).
- Transcript of records (for PhD applicants).

Submit applications via Aalto's recruitment system [here](#).

For research-related questions, contact the PIs:

- Talayeh Aledavood (talayeh.aledavood@aalto.fi)
- Juhi Kulshrestha (juhi.kulshrestha@aalto.fi)
- Mikko Kivelä (mikko.kivela@aalto.fi)

For HR inquiries: Susanna Holma (hr-cs@aalto.fi)

Application deadline: 15 October 2025 | [More information](#)

Postdoctoral Position in Social Cognition - Université de Bordeaux, France

The psychology laboratory at the Université de Bordeaux invites applications for a Postdoctoral Researcher in Social Cognition, funded by the French National Research Agency (ANR), starting 1 January 2026. The position is for 32 months and focuses on the role of affective stimuli in performance and judgment.

Responsibilities

- Coordinate and conduct empirical studies related to social cognition and affective processing.
- Contribute to data analysis, interpretation, and dissemination of research findings.
- Collaborate with the research team on ongoing project objectives and publications.

Candidate Profile

- PhD in Social or Cognitive Psychology.
- Solid theoretical background in social cognition.
- Experience with physiological measurements is desirable.
- Strong data analysis and research skills.
- Fluency in French is an asset but not required.

Application Process

Applicants should submit a single document containing:

- CV.
- Cover letter outlining motivation for the position.
- Names and emails of two referees.

For questions about the position, contact: François Ric
(francois.ric@u-bordeaux.fr)

Application deadline: 1 November 2025 | [More information](#)

Postdoctoral Position in Emotions and Terrorism - Tilburg University, Netherlands

Tilburg University is seeking a full-time Postdoctoral Researcher in law, history, or the social and behavioural sciences to join the project **ECHO: Emotions and Terrorism in the Eastern Question (1870–1930)**, led by Dr. Zülâl Muslu. The project investigates how fear shaped international law in the late Ottoman Empire, challenging rationalist and Eurocentric biases and exploring the role of emotions in protection, trust, and international security.

Responsibilities

- Conduct archival and textual research on law and emotions.
- Map and critically assess methodological approaches to studying law and emotions.
- Prepare academic publications and contribute to organising an international scholarly event.
- Collaborate within a multidisciplinary research team and participate in dissemination activities.

Candidate Profile

- PhD in law, history, psychology, or a related field, with a dissertation engaging with emotions and/or historical, legal, or socio-legal contexts.
- Experience in archival research with late 19th–early 20th century sources or equivalent expertise in complex datasets.
- Strong publication record and excellent communication skills in English; knowledge of Ottoman languages is preferred.
- Demonstrated interest in the political and legal history of the late 19th and early 20th centuries.
- Team-oriented, with strong analytical and organisational

skills.

Application Process

Applicants should submit their materials via Tilburg University's recruitment system [here](#).

Application deadline: 23 November 2025 | [More information](#)

Visit the ISPP website:
www.ispp.org

Looking for literature? Job openings? [E-mail us](#)

The next *ISPPNews* will be published in November 2025.

To submit your contributions for *ISPPNews* please **send an email** to the ISPP Central Office.

Benefits of your ISPP Membership

Online access to the journal of *Political Psychology* and *Advances in Political Psychology*; issues of *ISPPNews*; ISPP's Teacher's Corner; reduced registration fees at ISPP's Annual Scientific Meetings; discount on selected publications; access to ISPP's Members-only Portal; access to the online member directory; voting rights for ISPP leadership.

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[Joining is easy!](#)



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About *ISPPNews*

ISPPNews is ISPP's almost-monthly newsletter. We also publish call for papers, member kudos and other professional news.

Please [send us](#) your contributions for *ISPPNews*!

Your ideas for further improvements or additions to *ISPPNews* are welcome!
Please let us know what you would like to see here in the future by sending us an [email](#).

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