

CES Social Movements Research Network

A) Mission Statement

While active citizenship and popular protest have been a perennial theme of European societies, European civil society has come in recent decades to have an increasingly transnational character, accelerating with the development of new social movements such as environmentalism and second-wave feminism, the fall of the Berlin wall, the rise of new right-wing movements and current unrest over economic crises from Iceland to Spain to Bulgaria.

The CES Social Movements Research Network brings together scholars and graduate students located around the world and working within a multiplicity of disciplines to study the themes of social movements, popular protest and contentious politics in Europe, as well as the ways in which social movements interact with spheres such as the media, culture and memory, democratic institutions, policing, etc., and the longer-term outcomes of social movements both positive and negative.

While it welcomes scholars whose primary focus is national, regional or local, the network also supports and encourages comparative and cross-national work, studies of transnational movements and those engaging with European institutions, as well as historical work on earlier generations of European social movements. The network is open to researchers from anywhere in the world who study social movements in Europe, from a range of theoretical and disciplinary perspectives. It is multilingual as far as scholarly work goes although we expect that administrative/coordinating discussions will be conducted in English.

The network's main goals are to build a network of scholars from a range of disciplines and career stages in order to foster collaborative and comparative work; to organize themed workshops and panels at conferences on areas of common interest; to develop work for joint publishing projects; to create webspace for working papers and dissemination initiatives; to provide an arena for fruitful collaboration between scholars from different institutions and at different career stages; and to support the contribution of scholarship to processes of active citizenship at all levels in the democratic process.

The network is not exclusive and seeks further collaboration with other scholarly networks, centres, journals and mailing lists.

B) Network membership eligibility requirements

The network is open to researchers (graduate students, academic researchers and independent scholars) based anywhere in the world who are studying social movements in Europe, whether within individual European countries or cross-nationally. The chairs or other designated officers adjudicate in cases of doubt as to eligibility but with a presumption of inclusion.

Application involves a preliminary sign-up through the online process on the CES website, followed by formal acceptance by the network, verifying the relevance of the applicant's research to the network. This verification involves sending details of the prospective member's work in the area for

inclusion in the directory of members' research, which is one of the network's core tools and benefits. The directory and hence this data is available only to other network members for data protection reasons.

Membership of the network is free and may only be revoked in extraordinary circumstances such as abuse of membership privileges, by agreement of all officers. Appeal may be made to the CES Executive Committee if a member disputes expulsion. The Executive Committee will be the final arbiter of such disputes.

C) Description of leadership offices, terms, election intervals, requirements for eligibility and responsibilities

The Network has two co-chairs and one secretary who are responsible for the core activities of the network. Network co-chairs are required to attend the CES annual conference and run an annual network meeting at that conference. The secretary has the task of maintaining the network mailing list, directory of members and other associated tasks around the web portal as well as handling membership applications.

These three officers are supported by three regular committee members, who may take on specific task-oriented roles as agreed by the committee. Such roles may change without change of personnel. Examples of such roles include developing use of the directory for funding proposals and publications; stimulating online scholarly exchange, including through the production of an annual newsletter; and providing online resources for scholars in the field.

The co-chairs are responsible for all activities of the network not allocated to specific officers, including engaging with the CES Executive Committee; managing network memberships and elections; organising proposals and network events for the annual CES conference; managing the network's online activities; and the further development of the network as a site of scholarly activity.

Elections take place every two years with staggered terms, starting in 2015. Officers are elected for two-year terms to enable working continuity and may be re-elected once.

All network members in good standing and of at least six months' membership are eligible for nomination. Nomination shall take place by any member in good standing (including the nominee), using a nomination form to be created by the CES. At least one month advance notice will be given both for a call for nominations and for an electronic ballot.

Where there is one eligible candidate only, that candidate shall be deemed elected. Where there is no such candidate, the outgoing committee will seek to co-opt a candidate after the deadline for nominations has passed. Where there are two or more candidates the outgoing committee will organise an election. Elections shall usually be held online using the most appropriate technical tools currently available, unless the CES committee holds that there are good reasons for holding a formal election under its own auspices at the annual conference. A minimum period of one week shall be given for e-ballotting, but the committee may set a longer period.

Under other circumstances the election must be concluded before the annual conference and the new committee will take office on conclusion of the conference, for which the outgoing committee has prepared network contributions

D) Statement of commitment to inter-disciplinary research

The network is committed to and embodies inter-disciplinary research as a CES core value, part of the network's mission statement, a constitutive characteristic of the field of social movement studies and a feature of good scholarship.

E) Statement of commitment to diversity

The network is committed to and embodies geographic and generational diversity as a CES core value and seeks to further diversity in other ways, including gender, ethnicity, thematic and linguistic.

F) Process for amending the constitution

Proposed amendments to the constitution must be proposed at least 3 months in advance of a vote using all regular network forms of communication (e.g. mailing list, web portal etc.). Votes will be taken using e-ballotting and must receive the votes of 2/3 of those voting.