

## **BYLAWS**

### **COMPARATIVE FEDERALISM AND MULTILEVEL GOVERNANCE RESEARCH COMMITTEE**

#### **1. Aims of the Research Committee**

The Comparative Federalism and Multilevel Governance Research Committee of the International Political Science Association ("Committee"), pursuant to its mandate does establish as its aims the following:

**1.1** To promote comparative research and scholarship on federalism and multilevel governance within political science worldwide;

**1.2** To facilitate and support co-operation among political scientists working on federalism and multilevel governance across institutions and countries, particularly as regards early-career researchers;

**1.3** To facilitate and support knowledge-exchange between scholars and practitioners of federalism and multilevel governance, as well as their respective institutions, through consultancy services, media commentary, and other forms of public engagement.

#### **2. Membership of the Committee**

**2.1** Membership of the Committee is open to all scholars and practitioners interested in the study of federalism and multilevel governance. Membership of the Committee is distinct from membership of IPSA.

**2.2** Membership of the Committee is subject to a biennial membership fee. Fee levels for each category of membership are decided by Committee members upon proposals from the Committee's Executive Board and publicised on the Committee's website. Membership fees are intended to cover expenses that are incurred to realise the Committee's aims. Members of the Committee's Executive Board are not remunerated.

**2.3** Applications for membership must be submitted using the form available on the Committee's website. Applications are processed upon receipt of payment of membership fees.

#### **3. Executive Board**

**3.1** The Committee is governed by an Executive Board ("the Board") of at least five members, headed by a Chair.

**3.2** Members of the Board serve for a four-year term, beginning at the Committee's business meeting held at an IPSA World Congress and ending at the Committee's

business meeting held at the second subsequent IPSA World Congress. Members of the Board may not serve for more than two consecutive terms. Only Committee Members are eligible to serve on the Board.

**3.3** If any vacancy arises on the Board during its term, the Chair may co-opt other Committee members to fill the vacancy until the expiry of the term.

#### **4. Responsibilities of the Board**

The Board is responsible for the management of the Committee and for initiating and coordinating activities in pursuit of its objectives by, among others:

**4.1** Ensuring effective communication between members of the Committee including by maintaining an email distribution list;

**4.2** Organising, in consultation with Members, the Committee's section of the IPSA World Congresses;

**4.3** Organising, in consultation with Members, other conferences and activities sponsored by the Committee;

**4.4** Maintaining and developing the Committee's website;

**4.5** Representing the Committee vis-à-vis IPSA;

**4.6** Representing the Committee and its Members vis-à-vis third party organisations such as other scholarly networks, practitioner organisations, and the media;

**4.7** Seeking to expand membership of the Committee through recruitment activities and general profile-raising initiatives;

**4.8** Submitting those issues which it considers to be of central importance to the Committee to a decision of Members by appropriate electronic voting procedures. Members will normally decide by simple majority, i.e. of those taking part in the vote;

**4.9** Taking other steps as may be required for the successful pursuit of the Committee's aims.

#### **5. Election of the Board**

**5.1** Elections of the Board shall be held every four years, no later than two months prior to an IPSA World Congress. Any election of the Board must be preceded by an announcement made to Members via email. Such an announcement shall refer to and quote the rules specified in subsections 5.2 to 5.7 below.

**5.2** Only Committee Members are eligible to vote and to apply, or be nominated, for positions on the Board.

**5.3** Candidatures for election to the Board shall be made via two routes: nomination and application. Acting as a Nominating Committee, the current Board, shall identify and propose suitable candidates. Additionally, any Member of the Committee shall have the right to put her/himself forward for election. Nominations and applications shall be supported by a brief CV and personal statement of the nominee or applicant, which will be posted on the Committee's website.

**5.4** Election of the Board shall take place by electronic voting. The election period shall consist of 14 days, starting with the date of announcing the election to Members and following posting of the list of candidates on the Committee's website.

**5.5** An election committee, consisting of the Chair and one member of the Nominating Committee, will oversee the election and will be responsible for the counting of the votes.

**5.6** The results of the election shall be posted on the Committee's website within 14 days of the end of the election period.

**5.7** Members elected to the Board commit themselves to carrying out their tasks on the Board, as directed by the Chair, to the best of their abilities, and attend the IPSA World Congresses that fall within their term of appointment.

## **6. Business Meetings**

**6.1** The Committee shall hold a Business Meeting every other year, during each IPSA World Congress.

**6.2** Business Meetings shall be open to non-members but only Committee Members shall have a right to vote.

## **7. Coming into Force and Amendment of Bylaws**

**7.1** These bylaws shall come into force after having been approved by a majority of those voting in an electronic vote under the rules of subsection 4.8 above.

**7.2** They may be amended by electronic voting under the rules of subsection 4.8 above.

**7.3** Notice of intent to amend the bylaws must be in writing and must be circulated by email no less than three months in advance of a Business Meeting.

Ratified 24 February 2020.