

# Political Communication Section

## Annual Report 2020

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### 1. Development of the section

The section currently has 372 members. The Facebook group of the section further grew to 313. The group is open also for non-members of the section to allow for wider reach and interaction, however, new members have to answer several questions about their interest in political communication and the section first before being admitted to the group. Our Facebook group can be found via the following link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1394409020594291>

### 2. Mentoring programme

Our section had started a Mentoring program for junior faculty in 2018 (2018-2020). The second round of the mentorship program is planned to be launched at the next general ECREA conference (Braga 2021) and run from 2021-2023. A call for new mentees and mentors will be published ahead of the conference. The section management team thanks all current and prospective Mentees and Mentors for their participation and contribution.

### 3. YECREA representative

Erik Knudsen (U Bergen) is the PolCom YECREA representative; there is no current news from YECREA given that both the main and interim conferences had to be moved from 2020 to 2021. For both these conferences we again hope to organize thematic workshops for junior scholars as in previous years.

### 4. Next conferences

The next ECREA main conference will take place in the fall of 2021 in Braga, Portugal, entitled '*Communication and trust: building safe, sustainable and promising futures*'. If this conference will be held either on site, virtually or in a hybrid format will be communicated by ECREA in due time. At that conference the new section management team will be elected. There will not be a new call for papers as all accepted submissions following the previous call and submission evaluation process (2019/2020) remain valid.

At the Business Meeting at the 2017 section interim conference in Zurich, several members expressed support for the idea to reach out more to (young) scholars in Central or Eastern Europe. Since then the section together with Agnieszka Stępińska and her team at Adam Mickiewicz University has organized one interim conference in Poznań (Poland) in 2019. Because the general ECREA conference (Braga 2020) had been postponed and moved to 2021 the section management team decided to provide ECREA Political Communication section members with an additional opportunity to present and discuss new research before that and planned one additional interim conference together with Nicoleta Corbu and her team at SNSPA in Bucharest (Romania) for the fall of 2020. Due to the ongoing Corona crisis the conference had to be postponed to March 26-27 2021 and changed to an online format.