Fifth edition of the conference
BELGIUM: THE STATE OF THE FEDERATION

Ghent, 20 December 2016

A joint organisation of the two Belgian political science associations
Vereniging voor Politieke Wetenschappen
Association belge francophone de science politique

Ghent University
Department of Political Sciences
"Het Pand"
Onderbergen 1, 9000 Ghent
INFORMATION

Registration

All participants are requested to register online by 12 December 2016 at the latest. Registration can be done via this link:
https://webapps.ugent.be/eventManager/events/StateOfTheFederation

Please transfer the applicable conference fee to account BE59-3900-9658-0026 with reference "Your name + 1/147149" by 15 December 2016.

Registration fees (including coffee breaks, lunch and reception) are:
- 5 EUR for Master students;
- 10 EUR for PhD-candidate members of the VPW-ABSP;
- 20 EUR for other members of the VPW-ABSP;
- 50 EUR for non-members of the VPW-ABSP.

Route

By public transport

➡ From Gent-St-Pieters train station: tram 1 (every 6 minutes) or tram 24 (every 20 minutes). Stop: Korenmarkt.

➡ From Korenmarkt it is a 5 minute walk: head west via Sint-Michielshelling, take sharp left to Sint-Michielshelling, continue straight and you will see Het Pand on your left.

By car

➡ Follow the parking route to parking P7 Sint-Michiels. Take the parking exit "Onderbergen", Het Pand is right across the street.

➡ Alternatively, you can use parking P8 Ramen. It is a 5 minute walk to Het Pand: go south and turn left into Hoogstraat, continue into Sint-Michielsstraat, turn right into Sint-Michielshelling, continue straight and you will see Het Pand on your left.

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CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

9:00-9:30: Registration and coffee

9:30-11:00: Panels Session I

Current Challenges to the European Union (Auditorium Rector Gillis)
- De Ville, Bollen & Geyle, *The Paradox of National and Subnational Involvement in EU Trade Policy after the Lisbon Treaty: the Case of Belgium.*
- Matthieu, *European Trade Policy and its democratic legitimacy: The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP).*
- Randour & Burssens, *Slow Adapters or Active Players? Belgian Regional Parliamentarians and European Affairs after Lisbon.*
- Defacqz, *The Legitimacy of European Networks: Perspectives from Belgian Civil Society Organisations.*
Chair: Robin Devroe (UGent); discussant: Joren Verschaeve (UGent)

Elections (Auditorium Oude Infirmerie)
- De Coninck, *Rewarding parliamentary work. The effect of MEPs work on reselection. The Belgian case.*
Chair: Marc van de Wardt (UGent); discussant: Peter Thijssen (UA)

11:00-11:15: Coffee Break

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11:15-12:45: Panels Session II

National Democracy and the European Union (Auditorium Rector Gillis)
- Dong Tu, EU’s Role in the Migration/Refugee Crisis: Sub-State Nationalist or Center-Right Arguments from N-VA.
Chair: Tom Verhelst (UGent); discussant: Peter Burssens (UA)

Local Politics (Auditorium Oude Infirmerie)
- Vandevoorde, Cumul des Mandats, Belgian Style. Explaining Dual Mandate-Holding in Regional and National Parliaments.
- Nikolic, Understanding the Process Leading to Foreigners’ Registration in Local Elections in Belgium.
Chair: Kristof Steyvers (UGent), discussant: Min Reuchamps (UCL)

12:45-13:45: Lunch Break (Room Utenhove)

13:45-15:15: Panels Session III

Attitudes of Federalism (Auditorium Rector Gillis)
- Verlet, Carton & Pickery, The State of the Political attitudes in the Walloon Region, Brussels Capital Region and the Flemish Region: Differences and Similarities.
Chair: An Heyerick (UGent); discussant: Nicolas Bouteca (UGent)

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Participation (Auditorium Oude Infirmerie)
- Paulis, Gagliolo & van Haute, Social Networks and Political Participation in Belgium.
- Smulders & Moens, The Human Capital of Political Parties: An Exploratory Analysis of Belgian Party Staff.
- Heylen & Willems, Explaining Advocacy Patterns in Belgium: the Role of Government Patronage.
Chair: Thibaut Renson (UGent), discussant: Sofie Marien (KU Leuven)

15:15-15:30: Coffee Break

15:30-17:00: Panels Session IV

Processes of Federalism (Auditorium Rector Gillis)
- Brenton, The Dangers of Federalism: Why the Belgian Federation is a Problem rather than a Solution.
- Cchim, Medeiros & Gauvin, Unified Parties in a Divided Society: Party System Integration in Belgium.
Chair: Kasper Ossenblok (UGent); discussant: Kris Deschouwer (VUB)

Public Policy (Auditorium Oude Infirmerie)
- Muller, Framing the obvious? The debate on road pricing in the Flemish Parliament (2004-2014).
- Steurs, Belgium’s Policy on Global Health: Institutions, Priorities and Challenges.
- Vandeleene, Legein, Dodeigne, Heyvaert, Perez & Reuchamps, Implementing a Basic Income in Belgium? An Experimental Study of the Impact of Metaphors on Political Preferences.
Chair: Tom Schamp (UGent); discussant: Dries Verlet (Vlaamse Overheid)

17:00: Closing Reception

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