

Conference participants biographies (November 2020)

Alexandra Anderson

Dr Alexandra Anderson is a Q-Step Postdoctoral Researcher based in the Sheffield Methods Institute at the University of Sheffield. Her interdisciplinary research is conducted at the intersection of history and politics.

Gruia Badescu

Gruia Badescu is an Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellow at the University of Konstanz. He holds a PhD from the Department of Architecture, University of Cambridge and, before Konstanz, he was a Departmental Lecturer and a Research Associate at the University of Oxford. His research examines the relationship between architectural interventions and political transitions, mainly in post-dictatorship and post-war contexts. He has written on reconfigurations of urban space and memory processes in Southeastern Europe, also in dialogue with other regions, specifically South America and the Middle East. He is currently completing a book on post-war architectural reconstruction and dealing with the past. Since July 2020, he is a Research Fellow at ZukunftsKolleg, as the principal investigator of a project examining urban imaginaries after political ruptures in Bucharest, Beirut and Buenos Aires.

James Benedict Brown

James Benedict Brown is Associate Professor of Architecture at Umeå University in Sweden. He is the co-editor of *A Gendered Profession: the question of representation in space making* (2016 RIBA Publishing) and the author of *Mediated Space: The architecture of news, advertising and entertainment* (2018, RIBA Publishing).

Jonathan Chibois

Jonathan Chibois is an anthropologist. He holds a PhD from the School of Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences (EHESS, Paris, France) since 2019. He is currently associate researcher at the Interdisciplinary Institute of Contemporary Anthropology (IIAC). At the crossroads of political anthropology, the sociology of work and the history of technologies, his research work has as its central theme the question of the transformation of communication infrastructures within organisations since the end of the 19th century. In his thesis dedicated to the case of the French National Assembly, he was interested, among other things, in how modern communication technologies are changing the relationship that the parliamentary world has with the space where its activities take place, at the Palais Bourbon and throughout the national territory.

Sarah Childs

Sarah Childs is Professor of Politics & Gender at Royal Holloway, University of London. Previously she was Professor of Politics & Gender at Birkbeck College, University of London (2017-2020), and the University of Bristol (2009-2014; L & SL 2003-2009). Her research centres on the theory and practice of women's representation, gender and political parties, parliaments and institutional change. She has published four research books (*New Labour's Women MPs*, 2004; *Women and British Party Politics*, 2008; and *Sex Gender and the Conservative Party*, 2012, with Webb). The most recent, *Feminist Democratic Representation*, has just been published by Oxford University Press (with Celis). Childs is also the author of The Good Parliament Report, which followed a secondment to the House of Commons, and in 2019 she advised the UK Women and Equalities Committee. In 2015 she received the UK Political Studies Association 'Special Recognition Award'. In 2020, Childs has a Leverhulme Fellowship to write a book –working title, *Designing Feminist Institutions: The Making of The Good Parliament*.

Emma Crewe

Emma Crewe is a Research Professor at SOAS, University of London and a Research Supervisor at the University of Hertfordshire. An anthropologist by training, she has taught at Sussex University and SOAS. She has worked in international development since the 1980s as a social scientist, policy adviser, manager and trustee/chair of international NGOs. Her ethnographic research into organisations focuses on the UK Parliament and INGOs in the UK, Eastern Africa and South Asia. She is currently Chair of the Royal Anthropological Institute's Committee on the Anthropology of Policy and Director of the Global Research Network on Parliaments and People, giving grants and support to scholars and artists in Myanmar and Ethiopia in the cause of deepening democracy 2017-2021. This year she is embarking on a global comparative ethnographic study of parliaments in Brazil, Ethiopia, Fiji, India, the UK and the US with five other scholars (funded by a European Research Council Advanced Grant 2019-2024).

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Pol Esteve Castelló

Pol Esteve Castelló is an architect, researcher, and teacher. He is currently a Studio Master in the Architectural Association (AA) and a PhD candidate at The Bartlett (UCL). In the past, he has co-directed AA Visiting School Brussels. He is a teaching assistant in History & Theory in the AA and visiting lecturer in the Royal College of Art and Central Saint Martins (UAL). He is co-founder of the architecture office GOIG based in London and Barcelona. Esteve's research work has been published and exhibited by Abitare, Arch +, Architectural Review, ArkDes, Bedford Press, CCCBarcelona, &, MacGuffin, Matadero, Migrant Journal, Pin-Up Magazine, Villa Noailles, Vitra Design Museum, among others.

Matthew Flinders

Matthew Flinders is Founding Director of the Sir Bernard Crick Centre and Professor of Politics at the University of Sheffield. He is also Vice President of the Political Studies Association of the United Kingdom.

Carla Hoetink

Carla Hoetink is a political historian and assistant professor at the History Department of Radboud University. Her current interest lies with the culture and language of politics. Recently she contributed to the new official history of the Dutch house of representatives (*In dit Huis*, 2015, edited by Remieg Aerts, Carla van Baalen and Henk te Velde). A commercial edition of her PhD thesis *Macht der gewoonte* [The power of habits], a reflection on the rules and rituals in the Dutch parliament in the second half of the twentieth century, is being published by Vantilt in September 2018. Future research plans are directed to the visual representation of parliamentary democracies in Europe, especially through architecture.

Emilia Kaleva

Emilia Kaleva is a heritage preservation architect, a member of ICOMOS Bulgaria. She and Aneta Vasileva are teaching in the History and Theory Department of UACEG and for the past more than 5 years have formed a team that deals with Bulgarian socialist architecture from two different angles -the historical and theoretical one and the preservation one -which they try to keep constantly intertwined and cross-checked. This mutual work started with their two linked PhDs and continues in their current academic work such as the elective course on Bulgarian postwar architecture ([facebook.com/bgsocarch](https://www.facebook.com/bgsocarch)).

Stefani Langehennig

Stefani is a researcher in the Department of Politics at Birkbeck, University of London and a Senior Data Scientist in Public Policy at ICF International. She received her PhD from the University of Colorado Boulder in American politics and political methodology in 2019. Her research focuses on legislatures, public policy, and computational social science.

Gustavo Maldonado

Gustavo Maldonado is an architect and spatial researcher. After achieving a degree in architecture from Universidad del Azuay in Ecuador, he worked in the design, consultancy and strategic planning of different multiscale architectural projects. His expertise concentrates on using advanced techniques and software of spatial analysis to drive an informed and people-centred approach to design. He was Assistant Professor in the architecture programme at Universidad del Azuay (2018-2019). In 2020, he completed the MSc Space Syntax: Architecture and Cities at The Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL. His current research interests are focused on the latest trends of spatial data algorithms to understand people's physical and digital engagement in buildings and urban environments.

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Alexandra Meakin

Dr Alexandra Meakin is a Research Associate in the Department of Politics at the University of Manchester, working on the ESRC-funded project, Rethinking the role of small parties in the UK's parliaments. Her PhD was awarded in 2019 from the University of Sheffield for an analysis of the decision by the UK Parliament to approve the Restoration and Renewal of the Palace of Westminster in 2018. She continues to research the Restoration and Renewal programme, alongside her wider research interests which include the impact of design and space on legislatures and the governance of parliaments. Dr Meakin is also the Co-Convenor of the Political Studies Association Specialist Group on Parliaments, which brings together academic and practitioners researching and working in parliaments and legislatures across the globe.

Michał Murawski

Michał Murawski is an anthropologist of architecture based at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, UCL (SSEES), where he is Lecturer in Critical Area Studies. His book, *The Palace Complex: A Stalinist Skyscraper, Capitalist Warsaw and a City Transfixed*, was published by Indiana University Press in 2019; and, in Polish, by the Museum of Warsaw in 2015. He is currently writing a book on architectural aesthetics and politics in Putin-era Moscow. With Jonathan Bach, he co-edited *Re-Centring the City: Global Mutations of Socialist Modernity* (UCL Press, 2020); and with Jane Rendell, *A Century of the Social Condenser, 1917-2017, a special issue of The Journal of Architecture* (2017). In 2018, he co-curated the exhibition Portal Zaryadye –featuring 18 new works by artists exploring the relationship between architecture, politics and ecology in contemporary Russia—at the State Shchusev Museum of Architecture in Moscow. He is convenor of PPV (Perverting the Power Vertical: Politics and Aesthetics in the Global East), an art and research platform based at UCL SSEES.

Ben Noble

Ben Noble is Lecturer in Russian Politics at UCL's School of Slavonic and East European Studies, and Senior Research Fellow at the Higher School of Economics, Moscow. He was previously the Herbert Nicholas Junior Research Fellow at New College, Oxford. His research focuses on the role of intra-executive conflict and the place of legislatures in the law-making processes of authoritarian regimes, with a geographical focus on Russia and other post-Soviet states. His doctoral dissertation on the subject was awarded the Walter Bagehot Prize by the Political Studies Association in 2017. He currently holds a British Academy Rising Star Engagement Award for a project –'Parliaments Under Fire' –studying the closure of legislatures in non-democracies.

Philip Norton (Lord Norton of Louth)

Philip Norton (Lord Norton of Louth) is Professor of Government at the University of Hull. When he was appointed to his chair in 1986, he was the youngest professor of politics in the UK. His publications include 34 books (46 with new editions), among them *The Commons in Perspective, The Constitution in Flux, The British Polity, Parliament in British Politics, and Governing Britain*; 121 scholarly articles, 171 chapters in books, and 44 short scholarly articles. He was elevated to the peerage, as Lord Norton of Louth, in 1998 and was the first chair of the House of Lords Constitution Committee. He is President of the Study of Parliament Group, Chair of the History of Parliament Trust, and editor of *The Journal of Legislative Studies*. He has been described in *The House Magazine* as 'our greatest living expert on Parliament'.

Dennis Pohl

Dennis Pohl is a research assistant at the Department for Architecture Theory at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology. His PhD research addresses the political impact of architecture on the institutions of the European Union in Brussels, Luxembourg and Strasbourg. He was research fellow at the DFG research group "Knowledge in the Arts" at the UdK Berlin, and in 2018 DAAD fellow at the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation at Columbia University, New York. Since 2017 he co-directed the AA Visiting School Brussels "The House of Politics", and contributed to the project "Eurotopie" in the Belgian pavilion at the 16th Architecture Biennale in Venice. He guest-edited the ARCH+ issue No. 239, "Europe: Infrastructures of Externalization," and is co-editor of the book *How to Relate: Appropriation, Mediation, Figuration* (with A. Haas, M. Haas, H. Magauer, forthcoming 2020). His articles were published in the journals ARCH+, Migrant Journal, MAP, Environmental & Architectural Phenomenology, Lo Sguardo, as well as in various edited volumes.

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Alex Prior

Dr Alex Prior completed his PhD thesis at the University of Leeds, presenting a narrative framework for the study of parliamentary engagement. Alex's research is focused on the symbolism of parliaments within public space, and the value of storytelling and narrative in strengthening (and more comprehensively understanding) engagement. He has worked as a Lecturer in Politics at the University of East Anglia, and is currently based at the Inter-Parliamentary Union, researching and producing a report on public engagement with parliaments.

Sophia Psarra

Sophia Psarra is Professor of Architecture and Spatial Design at The Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL. Previously she was Associate Professor at the Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan (2005-2011). Her research focuses on spatial and urban morphology in relation to the histories of building and cities that have influenced their development alongside the social patterns of human activity. She is the author of *The Venice Variations* (UCL Press, 2018) exploring cities and buildings as multi-authored processes of formation alongside authored projects of individual design intention. Her book *Architecture and Narrative* (Routledge, 2009) explores the relationship between design conceptualization, narrative and human cognition. Her edited book *The Production Sites of Architecture* (Routledge, 2019) addresses the production of knowledge in architecture. Sophia is the Director of History and Theory PhD programme at The Bartlett School of Architecture and has taught undergraduate/graduate studios and seminars at The Bartlett, University of Michigan (2005-2011), Cardiff University (1997-2004) and the University of Greenwich (1992-1997).

Christian Rosen

Christian Rosen works in an interdisciplinary way in the fields of elite research, spatial research, urban development research and interpretative research methods. He studied sociology, political science and social psychology at the Goethe-University Frankfurt and the Universidad Complutense de Madrid. He received his doctorate in 2017 on capital cities as places of political practice. Dr. Rosen worked as a lecturer at the Institute for Political Science at the Goethe University and later at the Institute for Architecture at the Technical University of Darmstadt. During this time, he was also a visiting scholar at the Universidad Pontificia Catolica de Peru in Lima. Today he teaches and researches at the Institute for Sociology at the Technical University of Darmstadt.

Henrik Schoenefeldt

Henrik Schoenefeldt is Professor of Sustainability in Architectural Heritage at the University of Kent, National Teaching Fellow and AHRC Leadership Fellow. He trained as an architect and specialised in environmental design with an MPhil and PhD from the University of Cambridge. His main research interest is in historic principles of environmental design, both as a field of scholarly research and architectural practice. Since 2016 he has been seconded to the Palace of Westminster to lead a large research project investigating the original 19th-century principles of ventilation and climate control in the Houses of Parliament. This project 'Between Sustainability and Heritage' has provided new insights into the design, performance and history of these technologies and has informed the restoration. His research has been published, amongst others, in *Architectural History*, *Building Research & Information*, *Antiquaries Journal* and *Building & Cities*.

Julia Schwanholz

Dr Julia Schwanholz is a political scientist and senior lecturer at the University of Duisburg-Essen (Germany). Previously, she represented interim professorships for democracy research as well as comparative politics and ethics in politics at different German Universities. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Goettingen. Her expertise lies in parliaments, democracy, and public policy research with an emphasis on digital transformation. She has held research assignments in Australia (University of Melbourne; Monash University, Melbourne; Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane), France (Sciences Po, Paris), the Netherlands (University of Groningen), Sweden (Lund University), and Germany at the Alexander von Humboldt Institute for Internet and Society (HIIG, Berlin).

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Iulia Statica

Iulia Statica is Marie Curie Research Fellow at The Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL. Prior to this she was a Visiting Scholar at the Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies, Latin American Studies Program, at Cornell University. Her research interests focus on cities in Eastern Europe and Latin America, specifically examining the role of ideologies and their critique in the development and transformation of housing infrastructures and urban landscapes in (post)socialist contexts. She completed her PhD at the Department of Architecture at the University of Rome "La Sapienza", and was a Visiting Fellow at the University of Toronto. She is an external collaborator within The Critical Landscapes Design Lab at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. Her book titled *Urban Phantasmagorias: Domesticity, Production and the Politics of Modernity in Communist Bucharest* will be published in the Routledge Architext series (forthcoming 2021).

Mari Takayanagi

Dr Mari Takayanagi is Senior Archivist at the Parliamentary Archives, where she has worked in various roles including public services, outreach, preservation and access. She has a first-class Honours degree in Modern History from the University of Oxford, an MA in Archives and Records Management from UCL, and in 2012 she was awarded a PhD in History by King's College London under the supervision of Professor Pat Thane. Her doctoral thesis was on *'Parliament and Women c.1900-1945'*. Her research interests include legislation affecting women's lives and gender equality after the First World War, the early women MPs, women staff in Parliament, and women and the House of Lords. She was co-curator and joint project manager for Parliament's Vote 100 Exhibition Project, celebrating the centenary of the vote for some women and all men in Parliament in 2018.

Patrick Theiner

Dr Patrick Theiner is Senior Teaching Fellow in Politics and International Relations at the University of Edinburgh. He holds an MA in Political Science and Sociology from the University of Tübingen, and a PhD in Political Science from Trinity College Dublin, where he was a Government of Ireland Postgraduate Research Scholar. From 2013 to 2018, he held the position of Lecturer in International Relations at the University of Göttingen, where he was responsible for the Comparative Regional Organizations Project. His research is mainly concerned with international and regional organizations, especially processes of institutional design and development, and with comparative parliamentarism.

Aneta Vasileva

Aneta Vasileva is an architectural historian and theorist, member of the Bulgarian chapter of DOCOMOMO International. She and Emilia Kaleva are teaching in the History and Theory Department of UACEG and for the past more than 5 years have formed a team that deals with Bulgarian socialist architecture from two different angles -the historical and theoretical one and the preservation one -which they try to keep constantly intertwined and cross checked. This mutual work started with their two linked PhDs and continues in their current academic work such as the elective course on Bulgarian postwar architecture ([facebook.com/bgsocarch](https://www.facebook.com/bgsocarch)).

Ben Worthy

Ben Worthy is a senior lecturer in Politics at Birkbeck College, University of London. He has written extensively on issues around Transparency and Freedom of Information including co-authoring the book *Does FOI Work? The Impact of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 on British Central Government* and studying the impact of FOI on local government and Parliament. His most recent work is *'The Politics of Freedom of Information: How and Why Governments Pass Laws That Threaten Their Power'* (Manchester: MUP). He is currently PI on Leverhulme Trust funded study on Monitor democracy and the UK Parliament.

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