Layers and Connections of the Political

Call for panels, APH 2020 Conference

11-13 June 2020 - Luiss-Guido Carli University, Rome

Politics has changed a lot, in the last half-century – and so has political history. The boundaries of the political have been redrawn. The large social and political bodies of the mid-twentieth century have grown weaker or have dissolved. Public institutions have become both less insulated from society and less effective in controlling and guiding it. Therefore, defining what is political has become more difficult. Political historians have confronted this challenge, and in the process have gained a deeper understanding of their object of study, have enlarged their scope and refined their methodologies, and have entered into closer dialogue with the “other” histories and the social sciences.

The fragmentation of the political and the increasing uncertainty of its boundaries have made political historians more acutely aware that politics does not exist only “high up” and on the macro level, but reaches deep into private lives, shapes people’s identities and perceptions, interferes with their thoughts and emotions, regulates and modifies their behaviour. Actions and reactions performed on the micro level can in turn not only determine how initiatives from the top are received, reinterpreted and remoulded, but also condition, constrain and change the institutions and subjects that act on the macro level.

For its 2020 conference (11-13 June 2020 - Luiss-Guido Carli University, Rome), the Association for Political History (www.associationforpoliticalhistory.org) invites proposals for panels that consider, in a historical perspective, examples of how the multiple layers of the political have connected and interacted with each other during the last three centuries. We welcome senior researchers, but also encourage PhD candidates to submit proposals and participate in the conference.

Proposals must be sent by the 31st of January 2020 to the email address of the APH 2020 Organization Committee (aph2020@luiss.it) and must include:

- the description of the panel (1000 words maximum)
- the abstracts of the individual papers (200 words each)
- the short biographic notes of the participants (100 words each)

Panels will be composed of maximum of four participants and one discussant

Panels will be selected by the end of February 2020 and participation must be confirmed by March 15. The deadline for registration and fees is March 31. The individual participation fee is 100 euros for senior scholars and 50 euros for PhD students and scholars belonging to departments attached to the Association for Political History. The fee is to be paid via credit card to the Luiss School of Government. Beside participation in the conference, the fee covers the social dinner on the evening of June 11 and the lunch on June 12. It does not include the accommodation, for which participants must provide autonomously.