

The 2024 European Elections: Crises, Contestation, and Voter-Party Linkages in EU Politics

Special Issue in European Political Science Review (EPSR)

Ioana-Elena Oana (ioana.oana@eui.eu, European University Institute)

Alessandro Pellegata (alessandro.pellegata@unimi.it, University of Milano)

Daniel Kovarek (daniel.kovarek@eui.eu, European University Institute)

Frederico Ferreira da Silva (frederico.silva@unil.ch, University of Lausanne)

Álvaro Canalejo-Molero (alvaro.canalejo@unilu.ch, University of Lucerne)

Abstract

The EU's unprecedented crises since 2008 have all foregrounded political conflicts over the scope and shape of the EU polity and its policymaking prerogatives. These crises created a "constraining dissensus" from domestic politicization and contestation of the EU (Hooghe and Marks 2009), driving elite and public opinion views on the EU apart. But we still know too little about the extent and nature of party-voter (in)congruence on European politics. Our Special Issue focuses on examining voter-party linkages in the 2024 European elections. First, the contributions speak to the general nature of such linkages addressing important themes in the political behavior literature, such as cueing and campaign effects. Second, they speak to the extent of a constraining dissensus within the EU, and touch on time-honoured debates, such as the nature of EU elections as first or second order and public perceptions of the EU's democratic deficit. Understanding such linkages is crucial for assessing how developed bonds of loyalty and voice channels in the EU are, and also more generally the EU's resilience as an evolving polity.

Online Authors' Workshop – Programme

Zoom Link: <https://eui-eu.zoom.us/j/96084352957>

Day 1: Monday, 11 November 2024

9:30 – 10:00 – Introduction

Session 1. Second-orderness of European elections

10:00-11:45

Discussant: Simon Hix

1. Hanspeter Kriesi and Alessandro Pellegata “Second-order elections: the role of issue voting in the 2024 EP elections”
2. Ioana-Elena Oana “Second-Order European Elections? Voter-party Linkages and the Role of Domestic versus EU Issue Congruence”
3. Daniel Kovarek and Alexandru D. Moise “Turnout and salience at concurrently held second-order elections: Evidence from five EU member states”

11:45-12:00 – Comfort break

Session 2. Elite-mass views on Europe

12:00-13:15

Discussant: Francesco Visconti

4. Argyrios Altiparmakis “The process of issue integration: the example of climate change”
5. Chendi Wang “The Balance of Power: Exploring EU Competence through Party and Citizen Perspectives”

13:15-14:30 – Lunch break

Session 3. Priming effects through experimental approaches

14:30-15:45

Discussant: Tina Freyburg

6. Alexandru D. Moise “Don’t know, don’t care?” Does knowledge and institutional reform impact voting for the European Parliament? Evidence from an experiment during the 2024 EP elections
7. Canalejo-Molero Álvaro, Lorenzo Cicchi, Frederico Ferreira da Silva, Diego Garzia, Andres Reiljan, Alexander H. Trechsel “Depolarizing Interventions in Europe: Lessons from a Pan-European Experiment in Sixteen Countries”

15:45-16:00 – Comfort break

Session 4. Cueing effects through experimental approaches

16:00-17:15

Discussant: Liesbet Hooghe

8. Ioana-Elena Oana “Multilevel cueing: Experimental Evidence on Cueing Effects in Support for Domestic and EU defence policies”
9. Daniel Kovarek “Do European citizens take cues from executives of other member states? An experimental test of transnational cues in a compound polity”

Day 2: Tuesday, 12 November 2024

Session 5. Public views on Europe and on democracy in Europe

10:00-12:15

Discussant: Enrique Hernández

10. Alexandru D. Moise “Campaign effects of the European Elections on Congruence between Voters and Parties”.
11. Hanspeter Kriesi, Ben Crum, and Chendi Wang “How Europeans view and evaluate democracy at the European level”
12. Zbigniew Truchlewski and Hanspeter Kresi “What kind of Europe do voters want?”

13. Milena Rapp “How is European integration embedded in the political space? Insights from the European Elections 2024”

12:15-12:45 - Concluding remarks