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**RC36 in Poznan, Poland: IPSA World Congress 2016**

RC36 ran four panels at the World Congress. All of the sessions were very well attended, with the papers stimulating lively discussion that continued between panels. A special thanks to everyone who contributed to what was, without doubt, a rewarding and worthwhile Congress. Thanks also goes out to the city of Poznan, which was an outstanding host by giving free public transportation and a magnificent reception that features a performance of traditional music and dance from the region, and also included a wonderful assortment of traditional Polish foods and beverages.

# Power and Governance in an Uneven World

To understand political power it is crucial to examine the changing power structures and dynamics in the developing world, including problems of institutional development, the role of elites and civil society, and the place of particular countries and regions in the world.

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Chair:

Dr. Noel Parker

Discussants:

Ms. Sarina Theys

Dr. Pamela Pansardi

Abstracts:

* [Chile: Civil Society, Political Power and Democracy](https://wc2016.ipsa.org/my-ipsa/events/istanbul2016/paper/chile-civil-society-political-power-and-democracy)

Dr. Claudia Galindo

* [Lines and Flows: The Space of States Versus the Space of Diaspora](https://wc2016.ipsa.org/my-ipsa/events/istanbul2016/paper/lines-flows-space-states-versus-space-diaspora)

Dr. Noel Parker

* [Lukes’s Third Dimension of Power Revisited: The Case of Khutsong](https://wc2016.ipsa.org/my-ipsa/events/istanbul2016/paper/lukes%E2%80%99s-third-dimension-power-revisited-case-khutsong)

Prof. Johan Zaaiman, Mr. Gift Mupambwa

* [National Patrimony as a Wealth Indicator: Improving the Measurement of Capabilities in the International System](https://wc2016.ipsa.org/my-ipsa/events/istanbul2016/paper/national-patrimony-wealth-indicator-improving-measurement-capabili)

Prof. José Amarante, Dr. Alex Farias

* [State Power and Political Ideology in Post-Imperial Buffer States](https://wc2016.ipsa.org/my-ipsa/events/istanbul2016/paper/state-power-and-political-ideology-post-imperial-buffer-states)

Dr. Ryan Brasher

* [The Fluctuation of Intraregional Power Structure and Regional Stability: The Case of the Western Balkans](https://wc2016.ipsa.org/my-ipsa/events/istanbul2016/paper/fluctuation-intraregional-power-structure-and-regional-stability-c)

Mrs. Ida Orzechowska

# The Changing Faces of Power: Theory

Political power can take many forms, and those forms are evolving dramatically in the 21st century. Since 1648 we have become accustomed to associating power with the consolidation of state institutions, political processes, identities, and inter-state relations. However, complex structural trends are challenging those assumptions in the 21st century. Globalization, in particular, is characterized by rapidly evolving transboundary linkages, networks and hierarchies, involving a dialectic of fragmentation and integration that has yet to evolve into a new structure of governance to succeed the "states system" -- indeed, a new multi-level and multinodal form of international anarchy. Within states and across localities, diverse new identities and power relationships are coming to the fore -- local, ethnic, and religious, jockeying with existing power structures and processes. These transformations are crucial for understanding the changing nature of power itself, affecting the ways we perceive it, in the various types of power -- "power over," "power to," and "power with" -- and the diverse forms these are taking at multiple levels and in different nodes -- above, below, within, and cutting across the domestic/international frontier -- are leading to uneven processes, multiple equilibria, and uncertain outcomes. These changes are affecting how individuals interact and citizens participate, how different forms of power affect and are affected by social change, and how social and political theorists understand the world.

Chair:

Dr. David Baldwin

Discussants:

Prof. Giulio Gallarotti

Abstracts:

* [Globalization and the Fragmegration of Power](https://wc2016.ipsa.org/my-ipsa/events/istanbul2016/paper/globalization-and-fragmegration-power)

Prof. Philip G. Cerny

* [Inequality, Citizen Participation and the Changing Faces of Power](https://wc2016.ipsa.org/my-ipsa/events/istanbul2016/paper/inequality-citizen-participation-and-changing-faces-power)

Prof. John Gaventa

* [Power Over, Power To and Power With. ‘Faces’ or ‘forms’ of Power?](https://wc2016.ipsa.org/my-ipsa/events/istanbul2016/paper/power-over-power-and-power-%E2%80%98faces%E2%80%99-or-%E2%80%98forms%E2%80%99-power)

Dr. Pamela Pansardi

* [The Role of International Science-Policy Interfaces in the Various Types of "Power over," "Power to," and "Power with" in International Environmental Politics](https://wc2016.ipsa.org/my-ipsa/events/istanbul2016/paper/role-international-science-policy-interfaces-various-types-power-o)

Dr. Alice Vadrot

* [Theories of Power and Social Change. Power Contestations and their Implications for Social Change Research](https://wc2016.ipsa.org/my-ipsa/events/istanbul2016/paper/theories-power-and-social-change-contesting-implications-different)

Dr. Flor Avelino

* [“I Know That Face”: The Power of Individuals in a Globalized World](https://wc2016.ipsa.org/my-ipsa/events/istanbul2016/paper/%E2%80%9Ci-know-face%E2%80%9D-power-individuals-globalized-world)

Dr. Lena Partzsch

# Rising Powers and the BRICS

There is a range of foreign policy tools available for a rising power, which is struggling for a higher status in world politics. Some of these tools are effective, some not. With a launch of the New Development Bank, the BRICS countries claim that despite serious problems these states are facing now, their club serves them well. That it helps them to present an alternative to financial and political systems introduced by the West. Russia has even highlighted importance of support provided by other BRICS members during the Ukraine Crisis and impositions of sanctions. However, significant number of experts are quite skeptical about perspectives of the BRICS.  
This panel aims at exploring consequences of changes in world politics regarding to rising powers and provide room for discussions on strategies of the BRICS countries. We are particularly interested in papers that address different challenges in front of the BRICS, both internal (for example, asymmetry of the club) and external ones (for example, domestic economic and political crisis of a member). We invite contributions that conduct analysis of political power in international relations, link theory to practice and focus on issues related to the

Chair:

Prof. John Gaventa

Discussants:

Prof. Peter Rutland

Abstracts:

* ["Emergent Power": Evidences on the Brazilian Case](https://wc2016.ipsa.org/my-ipsa/events/istanbul2016/paper/emergent-power-evidences-brazilian-case)

Ms. Débora Terra

* [A New Approach to Measuring Soft Power: Russian Popularity in Serbia Explained](https://wc2016.ipsa.org/my-ipsa/events/istanbul2016/paper/measuring-soft-power-%E2%80%93-new-approach)

Mr. Nikola Kosovic

* [An Enemy in the Backyard? Chinese Economic Statecraft and U.S. Hegemony in Latin America: An Empirical Analysis, 2003–2014](https://wc2016.ipsa.org/my-ipsa/events/istanbul2016/paper/enemy-backyard-chinese-economic-statecraft-and-us-hegemony-latin-a)

Mr. Francisco Urdinez, Mr. Fernando Mouron

* [Foreign Policy Tools for Rising Powers: Brand BRICS](https://wc2016.ipsa.org/my-ipsa/events/istanbul2016/paper/foreign-policy-tools-rising-powers-brand-brics)

Ms. Alina Vladimirova

* [South Africa and the BRICS: A Critical Appraisal](https://wc2016.ipsa.org/my-ipsa/events/wc2016/paper/south-africa-and-brics-critical-appraisal)

Prof. Johannes Dragsbaek Schmidt, Mr. Michael Owiso

# Empirical Power Analysis

Power is a central concept for social and political sciences yet one of the most troublesome in terms of empirical research. On the one hand, we can see an established power analysis domain with standards set by numerous noted scientists. On the other hand, leading authors of the field express doubts whether power is a suitable concept for purposes of analysis. When we face severe criticism even on the first stages of research design, do we agree with Lukes that the concept is ‘essentially contested’ or we accept Haugaard’s argument about ‘family resemblance’? And if the multiplicity of usage gives us freedom to create our own tools best suited to the task at hand, how we actually do it in practice?

This panel aims at exploring problems of empirical power analysis and its solutions. We invite contributions that share a commitment to rigorous conceptual analysis of power, but focus on methodological and empirical issues. We encourage papers that link theory to practice, deal with particular cases and present original approaches to power analysis. We are also interested in attracting papers that show how to deal with different pitfalls, like infamous problem of inconsistent measures associated with relative and relational nature of power. This panel will provide room for discussions on best practices in conducting empirical research on power.

Chair:

Ms. Alina Vladimirova

Discussants:

Prof. John Gaventa

Abstracts:

* [Empirical Research on Power in the Energy Sector: Disputes over Wind Turbines in Germany and Canada](https://wc2016.ipsa.org/my-ipsa/events/istanbul2016/paper/empirical-research-power-energy-sector-disputes-over-wind-turbines)

Ms. Andrea Bues

* [International Treaty Secretariats as policy broker and coalitionists? The case of the UNFCCC secretariat](https://wc2016.ipsa.org/my-ipsa/events/istanbul2016/paper/understanding-power-international-public-administrations-internati)

Dr. Barbara Saerbeck

* [Political Power and System Identification Models](https://wc2016.ipsa.org/my-ipsa/events/istanbul2016/paper/political-power-and-system-identification-models)

Dr. Krzysztof Kasianiuk

* [Political Regimes and Soft Power Strategies: Is There a Link?](https://wc2016.ipsa.org/my-ipsa/events/istanbul2016/paper/political-regimes-and-soft-power-strategies-there-link)

Mr. Artem Patalakh

* [The Impact of the Conceptions of Power on the Theory of the State](https://wc2016.ipsa.org/my-ipsa/events/istanbul2016/paper/impact-conceptions-power-theory-state)

Dr. Sidney Floss

* [The Self-Referential Reproduction of Ruling Élite in Transformational Political System](https://wc2016.ipsa.org/my-ipsa/events/istanbul2016/paper/self-referential-reproduction-ruling-%C3%A9lite-transformational-poli-4)

Dr. Nadezhda Ponomarenko

**Business Meeting**

At the RC’s Business Meeting, Giulio Gallarotti was elected as the new Chair, Alina Vladimirova was re-elected as Vice-Chair, and Mathilde Chatin as Secretary. The Board was re-constituted as follows: David Baldwin, Phil Cerny, Mark Haugaard, Stewart Clegg, John Gaventa, Flor Avelino, Lena Partzsch, Rui He, Noel Parker, Valeri Ledyaev, Marco Martins, Pamela Pansardi, , Louwrens Pretorius, Kevin Ryan, Danny Rye, David Strecker, Johan Zaaiman, Francisco Urdinez, Alexandre Bohas, and Fernando Mouron.

Two other matters of importance to RC members were also discussed during the business meeting:

**A.Website:** it was decided to develop the RC’s web-presence through the use of more dynamic and possibly interactive web-based technology, with Giulio Gallarotti, Alina Vladimirova and Mathilde Chatin offering to take the lead on this important and exciting initiative.

**B.Interim meeting:** provisional arrangements have been made to convene the interim meeting in Pavia Italy during June 2017. A theme was agreed to at the business meeting. The theme is sufficiently broad to include all branches of political science, as well as other social sciences. We are looking forward to vigorous participation. You can see the theme under the Conferences/Interim Meetings/Pavia 2017