

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### Statistics, Politics and Policy

#### Special Issue: Emotional dynamics of politics and policymaking

Many theories of democratic representation model policymaking as governmental responses to the preferences of its citizens (Dahl 1971; Beyer and Hänni 2018) with high congruence or responsiveness being considered an indication of high quality of democracy (Esaïasson and Wlezien 2017). However, the polycrises that societies have witnessed in recent years and the success of right-wing populist parties in many Western Democracies have shown that by focusing on preferences, research may have overlooked that emotions have moved centre stage in politics (Kinnvall and Svensson 2022; Maor 2016; Wodak 2015) – and especially so in times of insecurity (Albertson and Gadarian 2015; Inglehart 2018). Indeed, fear and insecurity may be driven by actual crises, but politicians can also construct and frame them to political ends.

Since policy scholars have only begun to study the interrelationship between emotions and policymaking systematically, this special issue is interested in work from political psychology, public policy, politics, and public administration research that contributes to our understanding of how emotions matter for politics and policymaking. We invite both statistics-based and policy-based papers that investigate the role emotions play in policy making including all stages of the policy process. Hence, we are interested in how emotions affect problem definition and agenda-setting, including the media; we invite papers that analyse how politicians perceive emotions and how they matter in decision-making; and we welcome contributions that focus on the implementation of policies and how emotions may affect public administration. Finally, papers can also focus on feedback, namely on the effects certain policies have on the emotions of individuals or groups of individuals.

We accept submissions of **research notes** (5'000 words max) and **full articles** (9'000 words) for this special issue.

**Manuscripts should be submitted by February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025.**

All documents are to be handed in via our official SPP ScholarOne online center: <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/dgspp>

Pre-formatting our publication style is not necessary. Final formatting is required only after acceptance. As a hybrid journal, we offer classical and open-access publication options. For author guidelines and further information on Statistics, Politics and Policy visit the website:

<https://www.degruyter.com/journal/key/spp/html>

You may also contact the Managing Editors ([spp@politik.uni-freiburg.de](mailto:spp@politik.uni-freiburg.de)) with questions. Manuscripts will be subject to a double-blind peer-review process. Accepted papers will be published in Statistics, Politics and Policy ahead-of-print in early 2025.

*Kind regards,*

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#### Rewarding outstanding work

Each year the Board of Editors awards the Emil J. Gumbel Prize to the author of an outstanding contribution published in Statistics, Politics and Policy.

The reward includes a financial incentive of 500 USD.

- Albertson, B. and Gadarian, S.K. (2015) *Anxious politics. Democratic citizenship in a threatening world*, New York, NY: Cambridge University Press.
- Beyer, D. and Hänni, M. (2018) 'Two Sides of the Same Coin? Congruence and Responsiveness as Representative Democracy's Currencies'. *Policy Studies Journal* 46(S1):S13-S47. doi: 10.1111/psj.12251.
- Dahl, R.A. (1971) *Polyarchy. Participation and Opposition*, New Haven/London: Yale University Press.
- Esaiasson, P. and Wlezien, C. (2017) 'Advances in the Study of Democratic Responsiveness: An Introduction'. *Comparative Political Studies* 50(6):699-710. doi: 10.1177/0010414016633226.
- Inglehart, R. (2018) 'The age of insecurity: Can democracy save itself'. *Foreign Affairs* 97:20.
- Kinnvall, C. and Svensson, T. (2022) 'Exploring the populist 'mind': Anxiety, fantasy, and everyday populism'. *The British Journal of Politics and International Relations* 24(3):526-42. doi: 10.1177/13691481221075925.
- Maor, M. (2016) 'Emotion-driven negative policy bubbles'. *Policy Sciences* 49(2):191-210. available at <https://www.jstor.org/stable/48722275>.
- Wodak, R. (2015) *The politics of fear. what right-wing populist discourses mean*, Los Angeles, LA: SAGE.