# Executive Board Annual Report 2022

## Name of the Section/Network/Temporary Working Group:

**Political Communication**

## Management team:

Chair: Agnieszka Stępińska (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, Poland; Polish Communication Association)

Vice-chair: Jakob Ohme (Freie Universität Berlin, Germany)

Vice-chair: Nicoleta Corbu (National University of Political Studies and Public Administration, Bucharest, Romania)

## Social media:

## https://nb-no.facebook.com/groups/1394409020594291/

https://ecreapoliticalcommunication.com/

## Activities in 2022:

**ECC2022:** We received 150 individual paper submissions and 2 panel submissions (with 5 presentations each). We allocated them to 19 sessions. The acceptance rate was 59%. Each submission was reviewed by two independent reviewers (blind review; no conflict of interest). The submissions were reviewed by 108 scholars from all around Europe. During the section business meeting, we awarded a scholar whose abstract received the highest average score from reviewers. This year, the winner of the Best Abstract Award was Olga Pasitselska (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem) for the abstract of the paper entitled: “We are humans, first of all”: Constructing and renegotiating audiences’ identities in conflict discourse.

**ECREA (online) preconference „Advancing Concepts and Methods in Political Communication“ (11th – 12th October 2022)**: The pre-conference aimed to contribute to the professional development of young scholars by giving them an opportunity to present and discuss their innovative research in a constructive and international atmosphere. In particular, the main goals of the preconference were: (1) to make theory and methodological development at PhD level an active discussion topic within our field, (2) to demystify research practices around these topics for early career scholars, and (3) to engage in discussion about how concept and methodological advancement are parts of doctoral research work. The program contained four sessions with mentees and mentors, and two keynote lectures: one by Ulrike Klinger - “The Power of Code - How algorithms challenge concepts and theories of political communication” and the other one by Christian Baden - “Into the rabbit hole of discourse: Why studying text necessitates challenging concepts and methods”. The keynote speeches were open to the public via zoom. The group of 12 participants shared and discussed their research projects with mentors and other mentees during the 90-minute sessions.

**MENTORING PROGRAM:** In November/December 2021, the section started the second round of its mentoring program for young scholars. 11 young scholars applied for the program. Due to the high quality of the submissions, all of them were accepted, and the section management team found a mentor for each of them. The mentees (6 female, 5 male) come from 7 different countries: Belgium, Germany (2), Netherlands, Norway (3), Poland (2), Spain, Togo. The mentors (6 female, 5 male) come from 8 different countries: Austria (2), France, Germany (3), Israel, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania. The kick-off (online) meeting took place on February 18th, 2022.

## Plans for 2023:

The section interim conference will take place on 31 August – 1 September 2023 and will be hosted by the Weizenbaum Institute for the Networked Society and the Institute for Media and Communication Studies at the Freie Universität Berlin. The section conference has the theme ‘Navigating the Noise: Effective Communication for Solving Political Problems' and provides the ECREA Political Communication Section community with a platform for discussion on the role of political communication research in tackling complex political and societal issues. In addition to the main conference, our YCREA representatives Emilija Gagrcin and Cristina Monzer will organize a workshop on 'Communicating through the Noise: Science Communication for Early-Career Scholars'. This event is a hands-on opportunity for early-career researchers to learn how to effectively communicate their research to diverse audiences. More information will be provided through the conference website, which is constantly updated throughout the planning and review phase: <https://ecreapolcomm2023.ecreapoliticalcommunication.com>