



Organised by the
Opposition Studies Network
www.oppositionstudies.net

CALL FOR PAPERS

Announcing the Inaugural Opposition Studies Conference

London, Wednesday 6th July 2022

The Centre for Opposition Studies is pleased to announce the first Opposition Studies Conference, which will take place next summer in London.

This inaugural research event is being organised as part of the work of our Opposition Studies Network, which aims to bring together academics with a research interest in the study of political opposition.

The conference is intended to become an annual fixture with university academics, researchers and other specially invited guests attending to address a range of academic research issues and topics.

We are now issuing our first Call for Papers, and welcome submissions from academics at all stages of their career, from postgraduate students and early-career researchers to established academics.

Topics of interest

Papers for this first conference can cover any topic that can be defined as relating to the study of political opposition, and can be drawn from disciplines including political studies, political science and history. We have a particular focus on opposition in the UK and Europe.

The list on the right is indicative only, and we welcome innovative and imaginative ideas for papers on any facet of the study of opposition and scrutiny.

Topics that might feature could include:

- The state of political opposition in the UK, and the performance of the main opposition parties
- Historical studies focused on the time spent in opposition by particular parties and leaders
- Strategies and tactics used in political opposition, and their effectiveness
- Policy-making by opposition parties
- Opinion polling and analysis of voting behaviour as it relates to opposition parties
- Scrutiny and accountability of the government to Parliament

Please send an abstract or summary of your proposed paper, consisting of up to 250 words via email to:

research@oppositionstudies.org

as soon as you are able, and by noon on the 4th April 2022.

Further details of the conference and how to attend will be released in the New Year.

“Our mission as a Centre has always been to promote and advance the study of political opposition, which has been relatively neglected in academia. That’s why I’m so excited to be able to announce this first research conference, which will shine a spotlight into the political shadows and stimulate much-needed debate and further research. I look forward to hearing from other researchers who share our interest in this area, and to welcoming many of them to next summer’s event.”

Dr Nigel Fletcher Research Director and Co-Founder of the Centre for Opposition Studies

About the Centre for Opposition Studies

The Centre for Opposition Studies was established in 2010 as an independent research centre to advance the study of political opposition in the UK and overseas. We have undertaken project work funded by the UK Foreign Office, and held regular high-profile seminars and public lectures. We launched the Opposition Studies Network and our podcast, #OppositionCast to mark our 10th anniversary in 2020, and have also signed an academic partnership with the University of Bolton to develop innovative postgraduate courses in this area of study.



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