

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Young Scholars Workshop 2023

Centre for European Studies and Comparative Politics (CEE), CNRS
Young Scholars Initiative (YSI)

A Space for 'Place' in the Social Sciences

13 and 14 December 2023

Sciences Po, Paris

Territoriality or 'place' is a ubiquitous condition of human life. Our daily and immediate experiences of the social, political and economic world are embedded in multiple interconnected places: neighbourhoods, towns, regions, etc. Yet, studies of place are rarely labelled as such, and the field is fragmented across the silos of the social sciences. Questions remain on what constitutes 'place' theoretically, how to approach 'place' methodologically, and how to empirically capture its mechanisms and conditions.

Recent scholarship has started to put 'place' in the centre of social sciences discourse: The (re-)emergence of spatial cleavages between peripheries and centres, rural decline, geographical inequalities and voting behaviour of citizens in 'places that don't matter', local or localised spaces in which social processes occur and many more.

This two-day workshop provides young scholars the space to present and exchange their research on the role of 'place' in the social sciences. We kickstart a transdisciplinary discussion by bringing together various perspectives of place-sensitive research.

Format

The workshop will take place at Sciences Po in the heart of Paris. It will consist of two days of panel discussions (Wednesday, 13 December, in the afternoon and Thursday, 14 December, all day) and social events in the evening. Panels will comprise two to three short presentations followed by an open discussion. An opening session will include a short address from the organising team, welcome words from the CEE and a key-note speech from a distinguished scholar in the field. A closing event will allow for a shared moment of reflection on the discussions and potential future collaborations that emerged. The common language of the event and the discussions will be English.

Application

Interested PhD students should submit an abstract summarising their research in ~500 words on our application [form](#). We welcome interventions from various fields, including political science, sociology, geography, urban and regional studies, and diverse methodological approaches. We also welcome abstracts studying broader theoretical perspectives or concrete empirical cases in different parts of the world and tackling different objects (e.g. sustainability, sociopolitical attitudes, urban planning, innovation, regional development, public policy, etc.). The deadline for the submission is **30 September 2023**.

YSI funding support

Additionally, participants who want to be considered for the YSI travel scholarship should prepare a short statement (~250 words) explaining the motivation behind their application and why they require funding to attend. YSI funding support contains a travel stipend based on individual needs and two nights of accommodation (13 and 14 December 2023) in a shared twin room in a hotel close to the workshop venue. Participation in the workshop is free.

Organisers

This Young Scholars Workshop is organised by a team of PhD candidates from the Centre for European Studies and Comparative Politics (CEE) affiliated with Sciences Po and the CNRS (the French National Centre for Scientific Research) and in collaboration with the Young Scholars Initiative (YSI). We come from different research fields and represent the CEE's dedication to multidisciplinary research.

For any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at workshop.place2023.paris@gmail.com.