



Public administration reform and administrative capacity today: What is at stake?

A stocktake of PA research and a research agenda

21-22 November 2024

Aula M, Palazzo Wollemborg via del Santo 26 Padova

Thursday 21st November 2024

13:30 Registration

14:00-14:30

Institutional greetings, welcome and introductions

SERGIO GEROTTO

Director of the Department of Political Science, Law and International Studies, University of Padua

LAURA POLVERARI and PAOLO GRAZIANO

#CAPIS Observatory, University of Padua

14:30-15:15

Opening speech | **LAURA POLVERARI**

Public administration and administrative capacity today: What is at stake? Purpose of the conference and a research agenda

15:15-16:45

PA reform, administrative traditions and capacity building: Concepts, definitions and measurements

Chair: **CRISTINA ZERBINATI**, University of Padua

MARLENE JUGL, Bocconi University

Rethinking administrative traditions

ANNA PERSSON, University of Gothenburg

The state as a politically constructed idea: what implications for PA-oriented reforms?

KAI WEGRICH, Hertie School of Government

The political economy of administrative capacities

16:45-17:15 Coffee and tea break

17:15-18:45

Public Administrations dealing with crisis

Chair: **MARIA STELLA RIGHETTINI**, University of Padua

SABINE KUHLMANN, University of Potsdam

Institutional Designs and Dynamics of Crisis Governance at the Local Level: European Governments Facing the Polycrisis

STELLA LADI Queen Mary University London/Panteion University

A sequence of crises: what reforms for public administration in Greece?

VALENTINA MELE, Bocconi University

How can cross-sector arrangements enable impact communities to problematize and improve government action?

18:15 Guided tour of the historical Palazzo Bo (for speakers only)

19:30-22:00 Conference Dinner (for speakers only)

Friday 22nd November 2024

09:30-11:00

The determinants of administrative capacity

Chair: **GIORGIA NESTI**, University of Padua

UGO FRATESI, Politecnico di Milano

Measuring administrative capacity: the missing link between inputs and outputs

EVA THOMANN, University of Konstanz

Drivers and implications of bureaucratic overload

MATTIA CASULA, University of Bologna

Policy growth, bureaucratic overload and policy implementation

11:00-11:30 Coffee and tea break

11.30-13:00

The politics of public administration reform: populism and politicisation of the public administration

Chair: **ARIANNA GIOVANNINI**, University of Urbino

MICHAEL BAUER, EUI, School of Transnational Governance

PA Standing up against democratic backsliding.

SEAN KIPPIN, University of Stirling

Positive public administration and territorial decentralisation

ELISKA DRAPALOVA, Berlin Social Science Centre WZB

Easier said than done. Populist parties' effect on the local public administration in large cities

13:00-13:30

Conclusions and action points

PAOLO GRAZIANO

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Paolo Graziano

Laura Polverari

Cristina Zerbinati



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