

Special Sessions: Policy & Politics in Sport (POLIS)

EASS Conference 2020, Solent University, Southampton

POLIS (Policy & Politics in Sport) is a new research-network connected to EASS that is dedicated to political-science-oriented approaches to sport. Seeing the emergence of more and more studies in the field and a demand for systematic reflections and a stronger collaboration among researchers, it aims at a closer cooperation of academics who work in the growing field of sport policy and politics or who deal with political issues related to sport.

POLIS will organize two sessions at the upcoming EASS Conference in Southampton: one focusing on policy aspects of sport and/or persons with a disability, and one dealing with more general issues on sport policy and politics. We encourage all interested researchers to submit proposals for presentation.

The Special POLIS Session on **(1) Sport Policy and/or Persons with a Disability** will be chaired by Prof. Jeroen Scheerder (KU Leuven) and Caroline van Lindert (Mulier Institute). As more and more states install and/or support policy structures in order to promote sports for people with a disability, questions could be raised on how and why these systems are organized, whether governmental or non-governmental actors are taking initiative, and whether regular versus non-regular sporting bodies are involved and co-operate.

The Open POLIS Session on **(2) Regional and Local Levels of Sport Politics** will be chaired by Dr. Till Müller-Schöll (Sport University Cologne) and Prof. Jeroen Scheerder (KU Leuven). A special emphasis in this open session will be devoted to regional and local levels of sport politics. Many countries have opted for partly decentralized or federal structures in sport, and almost all attribute responsibilities and competences on sport to municipalities and local authorities. Therefore, comparative analyses and case-studies with a regional or local political focus are particularly welcome.

Please note that submission is with the organizing committee. Please indicate Special POLIS Session (disability) or Open POLIS Session (regional/local politics) in your abstract.

For questions regarding the POLIS Network, you can get in touch with t.mueller-schoell@dshs-koeln.de and jeroen.scheerder@kuleuven.be