



Vested Interests and Democracy

Research Workshop
with a public keynote lecture by Prof. Emanuela Ceva (University of Geneva)

Thursday, December 9 and Friday, December 10, 2021, University of Zurich,
Affolternstrasse 56, 8050 Zurich, Switzerland

Co-hosted by the [Doctoral Programme Democracy Studies](#) and [DemocracyNet](#)

Organized by Olivier Ruchet (University of Zurich, Department of Political Science) and Odile Ammann
(University of Lausanne, Faculty of Law, Criminal Justice, and Public Administration)

Program of the Workshop

Thursday, December 9

Room AFL E 009

1:30–1.50pm

Introduction

Olivier Ruchet (University of Zurich): ‘Democracy and Interests: A Short Genealogy’

1.50–3.10pm

Session 1

1:50–2.30pm

Gordon Arlen (Swarthmore College): ‘Oligarchy as a Problem for Normative Theory: A Geography’

Discussant: Léa Antonicelli (Sciences Po)

2.30–3.10pm

Léa Antonicelli (Sciences Po): ‘Is Public Interest a Scientific Concept?’

Discussant: Gordon Arlen (Swarthmore College)

3.10–3.30pm

Coffee break

3.30–4.50pm

Session 2

3.30–4.10pm

Henri-Pierre Mottironi (Université de Neuchâtel): ‘Having a Share in Society: Sieyès and the Republic as a National Association of Interests’

Discussant: Matthieu Debief (Université de Genève)

4.10–4.50pm

Matthieu Debief (Université de Genève): ‘Philanthropy, Democracy and Vested Interest: A Matter of Political Corruption’

Discussant: Henri-Pierre Mottironi (Université de Neuchâtel)

5.00–6.30pm

Public Keynote Lecture Room AFL F 121

Prof. Emanuela Ceva (Université de Genève) : ‘Accountable Public Institutions’

6.30–7.15pm

Apéro

Friday, December 10 Room AFL E 009

9.00–10.20am Session 3

9.00–9.40am Hannah Biro (Vrije Universiteit Brussel): ‘Climate Misrepresented: Unbalanced Interest Representation as a Barrier to Climate Action in EU Agriculture Policy’

Discussant: Odile Ammann (Université de Lausanne)

9.40–10.20am Odile Ammann (Université de Lausanne): ‘Agriculture as a Vested Interest’

Discussant: Hannah Biro (Vrije Universiteit Brussel)

10.20–10.40am Coffee break

10.40am–12.00pm Session 4

10.40–11.20 am Khaliq Parkar (Université Paris Diderot): ‘Digitalizing Democracies: Consultant-Technocrats and Urban Governance in India’

Discussant: Rahel Freiburghaus (Universität Bern)

11.20am–12.00pm Rahel Freiburghaus (Universität Bern): ‘Patterns of Territorial Interest Representation – A Framework for Analysis’

Discussant: Khaliq Parkar (Université Paris Diderot)

12.00–1.30pm Lunch break

1.30–2.50pm Session 5 Room AFL E 009

1.30–2.10pm Simon Baekelandt (Université de Lille): ‘The Deliberative Imperative, a Reconfiguration of Negotiations between Power and Interest Groups? Study of the Citizen Climate Convention in France’

Discussant: Vishnu Tandon (École des hautes études en sciences sociales)

2.10–2.50 pm Daniel Höhmann (Universität Basel): ‘The Gendered Assessment of Public Opinion – Female MPs, Electoral Threat, and the Perception of Voters’ Preferences on Women’s Interests’

Discussant: Simon Baekelandt (Université de Lille)

2.50–3.10pm Coffee break

3.10–4.00pm Session 6

3.10–3.50pm Vishnu Tandon (École des hautes études en sciences sociales): ‘The Disproportionate Effect of COVID-19 on the Participatory Planning Process – Common Good vs. Self-Interest’

Discussant: Daniel Höhmann (Universität Basel)

3.50–4.00pm Conclusion and end of the workshop