

# Sebastian Adrian Popa

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## **Current Position:**

Researcher, Mannheim Centre for European Social Research (MZES), University of Mannheim, 2012-present.

## **Education**

PhD: Doctoral School of Political Science, Public Policy, and International Relations, Central European University, 2009-present.

MA: Political Science, Central European University, Hungary, 2009

BA: Political Science, Babes–Bolyai University, Romania, 2008

## **Research interests:**

Political behavior and public opinion in a comparative perspective, the genetics of political behavior, measurement issues in political science

## **Publications:**

### Refereed journal articles

Hannagan, Rebecca J, Levente Littvay and Sebastian Adrian Popa. Forthcoming. “Theorizing Sex Differences in Political Knowledge: Insights from a Twin Study” *Politics & Gender*

Popa, Sebastian Adrian. 2013. “Political sophistication in Central and Eastern Europe: How can parties help?” *Party Politics*. Early view:

<http://ppq.sagepub.com/content/early/2013/06/02/1354068813487104>.

Littvay, Levente, Sebastian Adrian Popa and Zoltán Fazekas. 2013. “Validity of Survey Response Propensity Indicators: A Behavior Genetics Approach.” *Social Science Quarterly* 94 (2): 569–589.

### Book chapters

Tóka, Gábor and Sebastian Adrian Popa. Forthcoming. “Hungary.” In Sten Berglund, Joakim Ekman, and Franklin H. Aarebrot (eds.) *Handbook of Political Change in Eastern Europe* (3rd Edition). Cheltenham: Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd, pp 291-338.

Popa, Sebastian Adrian and Paul Weith. 2010. *Informarea politică a românilor: Unde contează și de ce? Un studiu comparativ al alegerilor parlamentare și europarlamentare* (Translation: *Political Knowledge Among Romanians: Where Does it Matter and Why? A Comparative Study of*

Parliamentary and Euro-Parliamentary Elections). In Mircea Comșa, Andrei Gheorghiuță, Claudiu D. Tufiș (eds.) Alegeri pentru parlamentul european (Translations: Elections for the European Parliament). Bucharest: POLIROM, pp. 171-201.

#### Under review

Title Removed to Ensure Review Anonymity. Electoral Studies

Title Removed to Ensure Review Anonymity (co-authored with Delia Dumitrescu). Comparative Political Studies

#### In preparation

Medzihorsky, Juraj and Sebastian Adrian Popa. "Handling misreporting in selfreported turnout using multiple overimputation". Plan to submit to Public Opinion Quarterly

Popa, Sebastian Adrian, Levente Littvay and Paul Weith. "Gene by Environment Interactions of Political Knowledge and Socioeconomic Status."

#### **Teaching:**

- Teaching Assistant, Advanced Topics in Comparative Politics and Political Economy (MA level, Instructor Herbert Kitschelt), Central European University, Winter 2011.
- Teaching Assistant for Multivariate Statistics (MA level, Instructor Tamas Rudas), Central European University, Winter 2011
- Teaching Assistant, Analyzing People (MA level, Instructor Levente Littvay), Central European University, Fall 2010.
- Teaching Assistant, Analyzing Countries (MA level, Instructor Levente Littvay), Central European University, Fall 2010.

#### **Academic activities**

##### External Grants Secured.

- International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP). To organize the "Political Psychology Networking Conference for the Post-Communist Region" to popularize ISPP and its journal Political Psychology, 2011. (\$5000 USD)

##### Competitive Internal Grants Secured

- CEU Academic Events Fund co-funding for the Political Psychology Networking Conference for the Post-Communist Region, 2011. (€5570 EUR)

#### **Research Projects**

- How the European Flag Helps Shape Perceptions about Parties' European Identity. Survey experiment to be carried in collaboration with the Laboratory of Opinion Research, Goteborg, Sweden.

### Working groups

- The True European Voter: A Strategy for Analysing the Prospects of European Electoral Democracy that includes the West, the South and the East of the Continent, COST Action IS0806 (Data Group (WG2))
- Member of Political Behavior Research Group, Central European University

### Event Organization

- International Society of Political Psychology Regional Network Conference (November 2011)

### Service

- Reviewer for European Union Politics, Journal of Elections, Public Opinion & Parties

### **Honors and awards**

Best Teaching Assistant Award, awarded by the Political Science Department at Central European University, 2011.

PhD Scholarship awarded Central European University (36 months).

MA Scholarship awarded Central European University (10 months).

### **Conference papers**

European Identity at the Party Level. Affective and Instrumental European Identity Displays on Parties' European Elections Manifestos Since 1979 (co-author Delia Dumitrescu). Paper presented at the 3rd Annual General Conference of EPSA, Barcelona, Spain, June 19-23 2013.

Can political elites help? A Cross Country Analysis of the Individual and Contextual Determinants of Attitude Constraint. Paper presented at the 71th Annual Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Conference, Chicago, IL, April 10-14, 2013

Electoral performance in second order elections. Emphasizing the context (co-author Hermann Schmitt). Paper present at the 41st ECPR Joint Sessions of Workshops, March 2013.

What Helps Citizens to Have Consistent Attitudes? A Cross Country Analysis of the Individual and Contextual Determinants of Attitude Constraint. Paper prepared for the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, New Orleans, Lo, August 30- September 2, 2012 (Conference was cancelled).

What Helps Citizens to Have Consistent Attitudes? A Cross Country Analysis of the Individual and Contextual Determinants of Attitude Constraint. Paper presented at the ELECDEM Final Conference , Florence, June 28-30, 2012

Handling misreporting in selfreported turnout using multiple overimputation (co-author Juraj Medzihorsky). Paper presented at the 70th Annual Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Conference, Chicago, IL, April 12-15, 2012

Attitude congruent" electoral decisions. A cross-country analysis of the quality of electoral decisions. Paper presented at the 70th Annual Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Conference, Chicago, IL, April 12-15, 2011.

- Gene by Environment Interactions of Political Knowledge and Socioeconomic Status (co-author Levente Littvay). Paper presented at the 2011 APSA Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA, September 1-4, 2011.
- The Role of Political Information in Attitude Congruent Electoral Decisions. Paper presented at the First Annual Conference of the European Political Science Association at the Guinness Storehouse in Dublin, 16-18 June 2011.
- Parties and Information Cues in Central and Eastern Europe. Presented at the 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwest Political Science Association Conference. Chicago, IL, USA 31 March - 3 April, 2011.
- Do knowledge questions reflect the underlying concept of political information? An alternative method for using knowledge questions as operationalization of political information" (co-author Zoltán Fazekas). Presented at the 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwest Political Science Association Conference. Chicago, IL, USA 31 March - 3 April, 2011.
- Explaining the variance difference of political knowledge for men and women: a twin study (co-authors Rebecca Hannagan and Levente Littvay). Paper presented at the 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwest Political Science Association Conference. Chicago, IL, USA 31 March - 3 April, 2011.
- Direct and Mediated Influences of Institutions on Political Information (co-author Zoltán Fazekas). Paper presented at PIREDEU Final User Community Conference "Auditing Electoral Democracy in the European Union", Brussels, Belgium, 17-18 November, 2010.
- Direct and Mediated Influences of Institutions on Political Information (co-author Zoltán Fazekas). Paper presented at the 3rd ECPR Graduate Conference, Dublin, Ireland, 30 August- 1 September, 2010.
- Parties and Information Cues in Central and Eastern Europe. Paper presented 6th CEU Conference in Social Sciences, Budapest, Hungary, 16-18 April, 2010.
- The Role of Political information in 'Correct Voting'. Paper presented at Fifth Annual Doctoral Conference 2010 Department of Political Science Central European University, Budapest, Hungary, 6- 7 April 2010.
- The Influence of Democratic Institutions on the Impact of Political Sophistication (co-authors Popescu, Marina and Gabor Toka). Paper presented at the ECPR Joint Session of Workshops, Munster, Germany, 22- 26 March 2010.
- Does Difference in Information Really Mean Better Electoral Decisions? Paper presented at DISC Voting Behavior Mini Conference, Budapest, Hungary, April 2010.

### **Additional training**

- 4<sup>th</sup> Winter School on Methodological Issues in Comparative Electoral Analysis, an Activity of COST Action 'The True European Voter' (IS0806), University of Trento, Trento, Italy, 21-24 February 2013,
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Winter School on Methodological Issues in Comparative Electoral Analysis, an Activity of COST Action 'The True European Voter' (IS0806), LUISS University, Rome, Italy 7-10 February, 2011
- 44th Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis: 2011, Hierarchical Models Class.

2<sup>nd</sup> Winter School on Methodological Issues in Comparative Electoral Analysis, an Activity of COST Action 'The True European Voter' (IS0806), Warsaw Poland, 7-10 February, 2011

ELECDEM (Training Network in Electoral Democracy) Workshop in Electoral Survey Design, 30 April - 4 May 2010, Budapest, Hungary.

1<sup>st</sup> Winter School on Methodological Issues in Comparative Electoral Analysis, an Activity of COST Action 'The True European Voter' (IS0806), Methods and Data Institute, School of Politics and International Relations, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, UK, 8-11 March, 2010.

### **Computer Skills**

R, SPSS, Mplus, Stata

### **Languages**

Romanian (mother tongue), English (fluent), Hungarian (beginner)