



IIAS
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of Administrative Sciences

2018 Congress

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SCIENCES

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Administrative Resilience

CALL-FOR-PAPERS

IIAS STUDY GROUP IX – LAW AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Impartial Governance and Equal Treatment in Polarized Societies: Perspectives & Practices

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According to much research impartial government, equal treatment, and the rule of law are the main determinants of public legitimacy, economic prosperity, and human development. Generalized trust appears to be the key mechanism that connects government with legitimacy, prosperity, and development. Impartial government, equal treatment, and the rule of law enhance generalized trust and public trust in turn is the key mechanism to more wealth, development, and legitimacy.

In many parts of the world, these foundations for the quality of government and governance are increasingly difficult to uphold and achieve. Social and economic polarization in both developing and developed countries as well as ethnic, racial, and political polarization have created a fundamental paradox. In order to gain legitimacy and effectiveness governments need to better achieve impartiality, equal treatment and the rule of law but the circumstances are more difficult than ever.

In this study group, we will focus on the following key questions:

1. Do economic and political polarization put pressure on the impartiality, equal treatment, and the rule of law in the everyday practices of government? What

polarization do scholars and practitioners observe in different parts of the world and how does polarization affect these foundations of government and governance?

2. How do governments in different parts of the world cope with the pressures caused by polarization? What strategies have governments developed to bridge polarization and achieve impartiality, equal treatment, and the rule of law? To what extent is it possible to generalize these strategies and apply them outside the context of a particular country?
3. What organizational and administrative challenges do governments in different parts of the world face in order to achieve impartiality, equal treatment, and the rule of law? How do governments cope with a polarization between state and society?

Papers that address any of these questions are very much welcomed in this new study group. Also, any other papers on public administration, law, and the rule of law are very much appreciated in this group.

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CALENDAR – CALENDRIER

28 February 2018	Abstract submission deadline	Date limite pour l’envoi des résumés	28 février 2018
7 March 2018	Authors’ notification	Notification aux auteurs	7 mars 2018
13 May 2018	Papers deadline	Date limite pour la soumission des contributions	13 mai 2018