SUMMER SCHOOL

METHODS FOR THE STUDY
OF POLITICAL PARTICIPATION AND MOBILIZATION

HANDBOOK

financial and logistic support

ECPR Standing Group on Participation and Mobilization
Scuola Normale Superiore, Dipartimento di Scienze Politico-Sociali

Organising committee:
Donatella della Porta, Lorenzo Zamponi and Andrea Pirro (Scuola Normale Superiore)
Joost de Moor (Stockholm University)
Alice Mattoni (University of Boogna)

June 3-14 2019
SCUOLA NORMALE SUPERIORE
Dipartimento di Scienze Politico-Sociali
Palazzo Strozzi (5th Floor)
Florence

PROGRAMME

Please note that, unless otherwise specified, all lectures, paper presentations, coffee breaks and office hours will take place in the Room Simone del Pollaiolo
Monday, 3 June

10:00-10:30  **Registration**  
*Conference hall “L’Altana”*

10:30-11:00  **Welcome Address and Introduction to the Summer School**  
Organising Committee  
*Conference hall “L’Altana”*

11:00-13:00  **Keynote Speech**  
Donatella della Porta (Scuola Normale Superiore)  
*Conference hall “L’Altana”*

13:00-14:30  Lunch break  
*Odeon Bistro (Piazza degli Strozzi 8R)*

14:30-16:00  **Paper presentations and discussions**  
Room “Simone del Pollaiolo”  

Johanna Huber: “Alternative Food Organizations in Geneva: At the Interplay of Market and Democracy”  
Discussants: Joost de Moor and Emily Westwell

18:30-20:00  **Welcome Aperitivo**  
*Odeon Bistro (Piazza degli Strozzi 8R)*

Tuesday, 4 June

9:00-11:00  **Surveys in political participation and mobilization**  
Joost de Moor (Stockholm University)  
*Room “Simone del Pollaiolo”*

11:00-11:30  Break

11:30-13:30  **Ethical issues in social movement and political participation research**  
Stefania Milan (University of Amsterdam)  
*Room “Simone del Pollaiolo”*

13:30-15:00  Lunch Break and Office Hours  
*Odeon Bistro (Piazza degli Strozzi 8R)*

15:00-18:00  **Paper presentations and discussions**  
Room “Simone del Pollaiolo”  

Louise Knops: “From compassion to rebellion: the many faces of indignation: an etymological and philosophical perspective”  
Discussants: Joost de Moor and Johanna Huber

Maja Gergorić: “The movement-countermovement dynamics of feminist and anti-gender movements in Croatia and Portugal”  
Discussants: Stefania Milan and Terrell Frazier


Wednesday, 5 June

9:00-11:00  Interviewing Activists
Lorenzo Zamponi (Scuola Normale Superiore)
Room “Simone del Pollaiolo”

11:00-11:30  Break

11:30-13:30  Visuals in the study of social movements
Alice Mattoni (Università di Bologna)
Room “Simone del Pollaiolo”

13:30-15:00  Lunch Break and Office Hours
Odeon Bistro (Piazza degli Strozzi 8R)

15:00-18:00  Paper presentations and discussions
Room “Simone del Pollaiolo”

Kalle Eriksson: "How do managers and first-line professionals at the local level understand and relate to their task to take preventive measures against radical left libertarian movements?"
Discussants: Lorenzo Zamponi and Nikolaos Saridakis

Dane Spudic: “Social centres and zines in Southern Europe”
Discussants: Alice Mattoni and Louise Knops

Thursday, 6 June

9:00-11:00  Participant Observation
Philip Balsiger (University of Neuchâtel)
Room “Simone del Pollaiolo”

11:00-11:30  Break

11:30-13:30  Protest event analysis and political claim analysis
Martín Portos (Scuola Normale Superiore)
Room “Simone del Pollaiolo”

13:30-15:00  Lunch Break and Office Hours
Odeon Bistro (Piazza degli Strozzi 8R)

15:00-18:00  Paper presentations and discussions
Room “Simone del Pollaiolo”

Emily Westwell: “Repoliticising, reimagining, and reframing: exploring radical food sovereignty activism in the UK and its engagement with principles of social and environmental justice”
Discussants: Philip Balsiger and Mina Baginova

Dorte Fischer: “After the Protests is Before the Protests? The political “legacy” of violent transnational protest events”
Discussants: Martín Portos and Begum Zorlu
**Friday, 7 June**

10:00-12:30  **Keynote Speech**  
Brian Doherty (Leeds University)  
*Conference hall “L’Altana”*

12:30-14:00  **Lunch Break**  
*Odeon Bistro (Piazza degli Strozzi 8R)*

14:00-17:00  **Paper presentations and discussions**  
*Room “Simone del Pollaiolo”*

Josh Bunting: “Investigating the legacy of the 2010-11 UK student movement: Identity formation, activist lives and radical history”  
Discussants: Brian Doherty and Anne Kirstine Rønn Sørensen

Nikolaos Saridakis: “Extreme right-wing youth activism in Greece”  
Discussants: Lorenzo Zamponi and Kalle Eriksson

---

**Monday, 10 June**

9:00-11:00  **Discourse analysis and frame analysis in social movement research**  
Lasse Lindekilde (Aarhus University)  
*Room “Simone del Pollaiolo”*

11:00-11:30  **Break**

11:30-13:30  **Experimental methods in participation and mobilisation research**  
Lasse Lindekilde (Aarhus University)  
*Room “Simone del Pollaiolo”*

13:30-15:00  **Lunch Break and Office Hours**  
*Trattoria Lo Stracotto (Piazza Madonna degli Aldrobrandini 17)*

15:00-18:00  **Paper presentations and discussions**  
*Room “Simone del Pollaiolo”*

Eva Svatonova: “The Forms and Strategies of Czech opposition to “Gender Ideology”. Social Movements perspective”  
Discussants: Lasse Lindekilde and Natalia Miranda

Natalia Miranda: “Articulation experiences from two activist cultures. Lessons from the struggle against the pension model in Chile”  
Discussants: Lasse Lindekilde and Eva Svatonova

---

**Tuesday, 11 June**

9:00-11:00  **Doing fieldwork during violent conflicts**  
Stefan Malthaner (Hamburg Institute for Social Research)  
*Room “Simone del Pollaiolo”*

11:00-11:30  **Break**
11:30-13:30  **Participatory action research**  
Hara Kouki (Durham University);  
Room “Simone del Pollaiolo”

13:30-15:00  Lunch Break and Office Hours  
Trattoria Lo Stracotto (Piazza Madonna degli Aldrobrandini 17)

15:00-18:00  **Paper presentations and discussions**  
Room “Simone del Pollaiolo”

Clara-Auguste Süß: “Democratization, marginalization and radicalization in post-revolutionary Tunisia”  
Discussants: Stefan Malthaner and Fanny Lajarthe

Fanny Lajarthe: “How to be accepted in a large grassroots activist group?”  
Discussants: Hara Kouki and Clara-Auguste Süß

---

**Wednesday, 12 June**

9:00-11:00  **Historical methods**  
Lorenzo Bosi (Scuola Normale Superiore)  
Room “Simone del Pollaiolo”

11:00-11:30  Break

11:30-13:30  **Online tools and digital methods for the study of participation and mobilization**  
Diego Ceccobelli (Scuola Normale Superiore)  
Room “Simone del Pollaiolo”

13:30-15:00  Lunch Break and Office Hours  
Trattoria Lo Stracotto (Piazza Madonna degli Aldrobrandini 17)

15:00-18:00  **Paper presentations and discussions**  
Room “Simone del Pollaiolo”

Anne Kirstine Rønn Sørensen: “Taking to the Streets or Running for Office? Exploring the effects of different anti-sectarian mobilization strategies in Lebanon”  
Discussants: Lorenzo Bosi and Josh Bunting

Alessandra Schimmel: “The participation of consumers’ organisations in European governance from the 1970s onwards”  
Discussants: Diego Ceccobelli and John Yajalin

---

**Thursday, 13 June**

9:00-11:00  **Social network analysis**  
Manuela Caiani (Scuola Normale Superiore)  
Room “Simone del Pollaiolo”

11:00-11:30  Break
Big data in the study of political participation and mobilization
Elena Pavan (Università di Trento)
Room “Simone del Pollaiolo”

13:30-15:00
Lunch Break and Office Hours
Trattoria Lo Stracotto (Piazza Madonna degli Aldrobrandini 17)

15:00-18:00
Paper presentations and discussions
Room “Simone del Pollaiolo”
Discussants: Manuela Caiani and Maja Gergorić
Terrell Frazier: “Inflection Points: A Theoretical Framework for Understanding Processes of Advantage and Disadvantage within Heterogeneous Activist Networks”
Discussants: Elena Pavan and Dane Spudic

Friday, 14 June

10:00-12:30
Keynote Speech
Marco Giugni (University of Geneva)
Conference hall “L’Altana”

12:30-14:00
Lunch break
Trattoria Lo Stracotto (Piazza Madonna degli Aldrobrandini 17)

14:00-17:00
Paper presentations and discussions
Room “Simone del Pollaiolo”
Begum Zorlu: “Political Opportunities and Processes of Mobilization: The Comparison of Gezi and Flag Movements in Turkey”
Discussants: Marco Giugni and Dorte Fischer
John Yajalin: “Determinants of political participation in migrant slums in Ghana”
Discussants: Martín Portos and Alessandra Schimmel

17:00-17:30
Distribution of Certificates of Attendance

20:00-22:30
Farewell Dinner
Antico Ristoro di Cambi (Via Sant’Onofrio 1R)
CLASSES AND MATERIALS

Monday, June 3

KEYNOTE SPEECH:
Methodological Pluralism in Social Movements Research

DONATELLA DELLA PORTA

Social movement studies have grown enormously in the last few decades, spreading from sociology and political science to other fields of knowledge, as varied as geography, history, anthropology, psychology, economics, law and others. With the increasing interest in the field, there has been also an increasing need for methodological guidance for empirical research. This presentation will introduce to main methodological trends in social movement studies. It suggests that some of its main characteristics as a field of knowledge favoured the development of methodological pluralism, with a dialogue between different epistemological approaches and frequent triangulations of methods.

Compulsory readings


Suggested readings

LECTURE:
Surveys in the Study of Participation and Mobilization

JOOST DE MOOR

Surveys have long been the defining method of research into political participation, where people are asked whether or not they have done a certain activity in the past twelve months. In recent decades, surveys have become more prominent in research on protest events and social movements as well. In this seminar we review the benefits, downsides, challenges and developments of survey research, and their place within the methodological pluralism that characterizes our field of study. We discuss population surveys, panel studies, protest surveys and membership surveys, and we focus on topics of questionnaire design and sampling and interview methods. While we will not go into statistics, we will address fundamental questions of data analysis. At the end of the seminar, you should have an overview of the use of survey methods in research on participation and mobilization, and a basic understanding of key considerations when applying the method.

Core readings


Additional readings and examples


**Joost de Moor** is a postdoctoral researcher at Stockholm University’s Political Science Department. Based on quantitative, qualitative and mixed-methods research, he has published on social movements and political participation in various academic journals, including *Mobilization, Theory & Society, Environmental Politics, Acta Politica, Parliamentary Affairs*, and *Journal of Urban and Regional Research*. His PhD (University of Antwerp) dealt with the composition and causal mechanisms of political opportunity structures. More recently his work has focused on urban, environmental, and climate activism, transnationalization, depoliticization, political consumerism and lifestyle politics.
Spurred by questionable treatments of user data (e.g., the ‘psychographic’ data mining of Cambridge Analytica) and forced into commercial practices by legislation such as the General Data Protection Regulation, data ethics have become a topic of concern for users and scholars alike. Research ethics, on the other hand, is a growingly complex set of practices and check-lists that are typically confusing for researchers and ineffective for research subjects. What’s more, the study of social movements and political participation has been, whenever possible, deaf to ethical considerations, on the ground that being a progressive researcher is a sufficient condition to being ethical. But the study of social movements and political participation, dealing with potentially vulnerable subjects, requires a carefully crafted relation with data and data subjects, to be implemented in research questions, methodologies and practices. This talk provides an overview of the research ethics debate as it applies to this field. It explores current and upcoming questions and approaches, including the feminist ‘ethics of care’, with a focus on solutions in the realm of research practices and infrastructure.

**Compulsory readings**


**Suggested readings**


Interviewing activists is among the most common methods social movement scholars use in their scientific researches. It is used in order to gain information from activists on why for example individuals join social movements or on how these emerge, develop and decline, and in order to gain insight on the meanings, identities and emotions involved in processes of participation and mobilisation. Through an examination of different social movement studies that employ interviews with activists, we will discuss different types of interviews (structured, unstructured and semi-structured), sampling and coding methods, ethical issues, potential problems associated with this research method and how to deal with these issues.

Core readings


Suggested readings


Images are extremely relevant for social movements. Despite this, research on the topic has been rare and literature on social movements has been hesitant to integrate visual materials as relevant data for the understanding of unconventional political participation. In this class I will draw on the most recent literature on the topic to offer some preliminary insights on images within social movements from a methodological perspective. First, I will consider how images intersect with social movements at the level of their performances and of their (self)-mediation. Second, I will discuss how the role of images for social movements changes according to different media-historic constellations. Finally, I will offer some practical insights about how to integrate images in social movement research, discussing the methodological challenges that this implies at the level of research design, data gathering and data analysis.

Compulsory readings


Suggested readings


Thursday, June 6

LECTURE:
Participant Observation

PHILIP BALSIGER

As participant observers, researchers gain knowledge by viewing, experiencing, and understanding events through the perspective of the people they study. In this session we will take a deeper look at how to do participant observation and how to analyze and write up data gathered through this method. A particular focus will be set on the contributions participant observation can make to social movement studies. We will discuss ethnographers’ different degrees of immersion in the field and go through the methodological and ethical questions raised in the crucial steps of ethnographic fieldwork and analysis. Finally, we will discuss the question of replication and the diverse standards for writing and publishing of ethnographic research. The course will thus introduce students to this method and present the most recent methodological debates it raises within our field.

Required readings


Suggested readings


Thursday, June 6

LECTURE:
Protest event and political claim analyses

MARTÍN PORTOS

Protest Event Analysis helps us to systematically map, assess the amount, occurrence and features of protests performances cross-spatially, over time and across issues and claims put forward by challengers, as well as the responses of relevant actors to these protest activities. In this session, we will cover topics such as the conceptualization of protest events, the record and use of this well-established technique in social movement studies, as well as key aspects researchers that use protest event analysis have to take into account (e.g., data collection and analysis, sampling, biases, coding, and so on). Further, we will explore the main advantages and limitations that using this methodological endeavour entails, recent developments and its offspring, including claims analysis. In delivering the lesson, hands-on exercises will be used to improve the practical skills and see how this method can be used to investigate political participation and mobilisation.

Compulsory readings:


Optional readings:


In a very short space of time Extinction Rebellion (XR) has had a major impact on the mood of climate change politics in the UK, reinvigorating climate activism and expanding the numbers and range of people involved. It has undoubtedly been the most successful instance of mass civil disobedience in the UK for decades. But despite this, XR has also been the subject of criticism from other climate activists who are sceptical about its tactic of getting masses of people arrested, feel that it pays insufficient attention to questions of power and privilege, and argue that it needs to frame its message more clearly in relation to the impacts of climate breakdown in the global South. Can we understand this debate as a question of social movement theory? In this paper I suggest that the best way to explain the differences within UK climate direct action is through the idea of activist tradition. Tradition is often referenced in discussions of social movement culture, but has not yet been the focus of explicit analysis. I use the UK direct action tradition, including the case of Extinction Rebellion and its critics, as a way of showing how analysing activist traditions as an analytically distinct subject can complement rather than replace our analysis of social movements. I also address the question of whether and how we might apply the concept of activist tradition more generally in social movement studies.

Readings on Extinction Rebellion:

Readings on social movements:


Formulated initially as a theoretical critique of the dominant resource mobilization perspective, scholars of social movements began in the early 1980s to pay attention to the cognitive mechanisms by which grievances are interpreted, given direction and consensus around the goals of political activism is constructed and mobilized. New and more linguistic, cognitive and discourse sensitive methodological approaches to the study of social movements developed. These approaches to the in-depth study of qualitative data in the area of social movement studies will be the focus of this session. More specifically, the session will introduce two approaches – discourse and frame analysis – which are closely related techniques based on similar ontological and epistemological assumptions, but which can serve different purposes in the tool kit of social movement scholars. The session will provide consecutive comparison of and introduction to the two approaches. Further, the session will provide a road map to the development and implementation of research designs using the two techniques, including discussions of definitions and aims of the methods, conceptualization and theoretical implications, sampling and data collection, and extensive examples of data analysis and data presentation.

**Compulsory readings**


**Suggested readings**


The use of experimental methods has been on the rise within political science and sociology over the last decade. However, within research on social movements and mobilization, experiments are still – leaving aside a few important exceptions – rare. In this session we will explore the usefulness and feasibility of employing experimental designs in the study of political participation and mobilization. An experiment is defined by two main characteristics – the observation of the effect of active manipulation of a variable and the randomized assignment of participants to conditions. The session will explain the logic of experimentation and discuss the advantages in terms of causal analysis and internal validity as well as the disadvantages in terms of ecological and external validity. The session will introduce to different varieties of experiments used in the social sciences, including survey experiments, field experiments and lab experiments. The session will do this walking through the design, data collection and data analysis of a number of concrete examples of experimental research in the area of research on political participation and mobilization.

Compulsory readings
Lindekilde, L. & Gøtzsche-Astrup, Oluf. 'Self-Uncertainty, Dark Mindsets, and Dark Personalities on Campus: Precursors of Support for Political Violence among College Students', under review with Journal of Experimental Political Science.

Suggested readings
Tuesday, June 11

LECTURE:
Doing fieldwork in violent conflicts

STEFAN MALTHANER

Field research in the context of violent conflicts is, at the same time, particularly valuable and particularly difficult. Going “into the field” to observe, interview actors, and collect documents sometimes is the only way to obtain valid information on oppositional movements or armed groups. Yet, conflict-ridden environments also entail particular obstacles and responsibilities for the researcher as well as particular risks for local partners and research-subjects.

This lecture discusses some of the challenges of fieldwork in the context of violent conflicts or authoritarian regimes. After analyzing how different conflict-settings can entail very different issues of security and problems with respect to access, field relationships, and ethical challenges, we take a closer look at a number of core-elements of doing field-research in violent settings:

1. Negotiating access, building networks, establishing trust;
2. “Key informants,” gate-keepers, and intermediaries
3. Challenges for research design and sampling
4. Ethical issues: Informed consent, protecting participants
5. Personal security

Participants are encouraged to prepare questions on their own research design and share personal experiences they had while doing research in the field.

Reading List:


Sluka, Jeffrey (2007). “Fieldwork Conflicts, Hazards and Dangers,” in Robben and Sluka (eds), Ethnographic Fieldwork, pp. 217-221
This seminar will engage with Participatory Action Research (PAR) which refers to a collaborative process of research, education and action explicitly oriented towards social transformation. Challenging the traditionally hierarchical relationship between research and action, this approach seeks to replace an extractive model of social research with one in which research emerges and develops in direct relation with the communities involved. It involves researchers and participants working together and producing a ‘third space’ in which they collectively ‘action’ research so as to understand a situation and change it.

As a result, the relationship between PAR and Social Movements cannot but be direct and organic, yet remains underexplored: the first part will briefly map the history of PAR, methods used, ethics engaged, as well as its relationship with militant research, feminist critique, and participatory design; during the main part of the seminar, we will present, think of and discuss specific examples of PAR in grassroot movements so as to sketch its enormous possibilities but also limitations; at the end, participants will collectively draft our own manifesto of PAR and Social Movements.

Essential readings


Suggested readings


Dimmond et al. (2013) Hollaback!: the role of storytelling online in a social movement organization. In CSCW '13 Proceedings of the 2013 conference on Computer supported cooperative work, pp. 477-490. Texas, USA
LECTURE:
Methods in Historical Enquiry: the Case of Archival Research

LORENZO BOSI

Contentious politics has been studied by historians and historical cases of collective action have been the interest of social scientists. However, methodological reflections on historical enquiry in social movement research are rare, often concentrating on providing social movement scholars with categories of historical sources useful for recovering past protest and lists of depositories where such sources might be found. In this lesson we focus instead on the practical problems social movement scholars are bound to encounter when using archival data.

Readings

Wednesday, June 12

LECTURE:
Online tools and digital methods for the study of participation and mobilization

DIEGO CECCOBELLI

The class focuses on two different topics. First, it presents some of the main online tools for mining data from social media, such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Then, it identifies the effects of the Cambridge Analytica scandal on digital data downloading tools, showing the new limitations imposed by digital platforms for accessing their data. Here, the Netvizz app is used as the main example for detecting what data can be downloaded and what not from Facebook, before and after this critical juncture.

Compulsory readings


Suggested readings


Thursday, June 13

LECTURE:
Social Network Analysis: How and When in Social Movement Research?

MANUELA CAIANI

The session gives an introduction to the SNA method and the applications of it most commonly used in the social and political sciences. The objective is to provide an encompassing illustration of the technique (and approach), at the macro, meso and micro analytical level. Addressing issues like the consistency between the research puzzle and the SNA methods, the combination of qualitative and quantitative version of it; the choice of the indicators, etc. The practical details of the method will be demonstrated with the help of examples and exercises drawn from empirical research.

Compulsory readings


Suggested readings
Thursday, June 13

LECTURE:
Big data in the study of political participation and mobilization

ELENA PAVAN

Big Data are an increasingly relevant resource for studying citizens’ political participation. The extensive amount of information, the rapidity with which it is produced, and the variety of aspects that can be grasped through its analysis allow to gain new understandings in the areas of political campaigning, electoral support, and grassroots mobilization. However, like any other source of data, big data are not neutral: ontological, epistemological, and methodological aspects need to be taken into consideration throughout the research process. In this introductory class, main aspects of big data employment for the study of political participation will be addressed, paying attention to both potentials and risks of analytical techniques based on big data; but also to big data as an object of political studies in their own right.

 Mandatory Readings:


Recommended readings:


Ceron, A. & d'Adda, G. (2016). "E-campaigning on Twitter: The effectiveness of distributive promises and negative campaign in the 2013 Italian election". New Media and Society, 18(9)

What are protest politics and social movement activism today? What are their main features? To what extent can street citizens be seen as a force driving social and political change? Through analyses of original survey data on activists themselves, Marco Giugni and Maria T. Grasso explain the character of contemporary protest politics that we see today - the diverse motivations, social characteristics, values and networks that draw activists to engage politically to tackle the pressing social problems of our time. The study analyzes left-wing protest culture as well as the characteristics of protest politics, from the motivations of street citizens to how they become engaged in demonstrations to the causes they defend and the issues they promote, from their mobilizing structures to their political attitudes and values, as well as other key aspects such as their sense of identity within social movements, their perceived effectiveness, and the role of emotions for protest participation.

Readings:


**KEYNOTES’ AND INSTRUCTORS’ BIOS**

**Philip Balsiger** is an assistant professor of sociology at the University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland. In his research, he is interested in the role of social movements in market transformations and in the relation between morality and the economy. He has published on the moral dimensions of markets, political consumerism, as well as on the interactions between social movements and corporations, in journals such as the Journal of Consumer Culture, European Journal of Sociology, and Business & Society. He is the author of *The Fight for Ethical Fashion* (Routledge 2016) and a forthcoming edited volume (with Simone Schiller-Merkens): *The Contested Morality of Markets* (Emerald).

**Lorenzo Bosi** is Assistant Professor in Political Sociology at the Scuola Normale Superiore. He received his Ph.D. in politics from Queen’s University, Belfast, and is the past recipient of the ECRC (University of Kent), Jean Monnet and Marie Curie (EUI) postdoctorate fellowships. He is a political sociologist pursuing comparative analysis into the cross-disciplinary fields of social movements and political violence.

**Manuela Caiani** is Associate Professor at the Scuola Normale Superiore in Florence. In April 2017 she got the 'Italian Abilitazione' for Full professor in Political Science and Political Sociology. Her research interests focus on: Europeanization and social movements, right wing extremism and populism in Europe and the USA, political mobilization and the Internet, qualitative methods of social research, political violence and terrorism. She has been involved in several international comparative research projects (FP4, FP5, FP7) and coordinated research units for individual projects and grants (PRIN Project 2016-2019; Marie Curie 2011-13, FP7-PEOPLE-2009-IEF, n° 252957; Research Grant Jubilaumsfonds, ONB, Oesterreichische National Bank, 2010-2012, project n. 14035; Post-Doctoral TRA Fellowship, START Center, 2009, University of Maryland; Funding Award, CNR-Italian Research Council, 2005). She published in, among others, the following journals: *Mobilization, Acta Politica, European Union Politics, South European Society and Politics*, RISP and for the following publishers: Oxford University press, Ashgate, Palgrave.

**Diego Ceccobelli** is a postdoctoral research fellow at the Scuola Normale Superiore, where he also earned his Ph.D. in Political Science with a dissertation entitled *Political Leaders on Facebook: a Comparative Analysis on Popularization in Contemporary Liberal Democracies*. His research interests lie in the field of media sociology, journalism studies, political communication and comparative politics. He has furthermore extensive expertise conducting social media analysis, expert interviews, as well as quantitative and qualitative approaches. His research has been published in different international journals, such as *The International Journal of Press/Politics, European Journal of Communication, Journal of Information Technology & Politics* and *Politics and Journalism Practice*.

**Joost de Moor** is a postdoctoral researcher at Stockholm University’s Political Science Department. Based on quantitative, qualitative and mixed-methods research, he has published on social movements and political participation in various academic journals, including *Mobilization, Theory & Society, Environmental Politics, Acta Politica, Parliamentary Affairs*, and *Journal of Urban and Regional Research*. His PhD (University of Antwerp) dealt with the composition and causal mechanisms of political opportunity structures. More recently his work has focused on urban, environmental, and climate activism, transnationalization, depoliticization, political consumerism and lifestyle politics.

**Donatella della Porta** is professor of political science and head of the Department of Social and Political Sciences at the Scuola Normale Superiore and professor of sociology at the European University Institute. She directs the Center On Social Movement Studies (COSMOS). She has directed a major ERC project, Mobilizing for Democracy, on civil society participation in democratization processes in Europe, the Middle East, Asia and Latin America. She was the recipient of the Mattei Dogan Prize for distinguished achievements in the field of political sociology. Her main fields of research are social movements, the policing of public order, participatory democracy and political corruption. Among her publications are: *Social movements in times of austerity* (Polity, 2015), *Methodological practices in social movement research* (Oxford University Press 2014), *Mobilizing for democracy* (Oxford University Press, 2014), *Clandestine political violence* (Cambridge University Press, 2013), *Can democracy be saved?* (Polity, 2013), *Mobilizing on the Extreme Right* (with M. Caiani and C. Wagemann), Oxford University Press, 2012; *Meeting Democracy* (ed. With D. Rucht), Cambridge University Press, 2012; *The Hidden Order of Corruption* (with A. Vannucci), Ashgate 2012; *Los movimientos sociales* (with M. Diani), Madrid, CIS, 2011; *Democrazie*, Il Mulino, 2011; *L’intervista qualitativa*, Laterza 2011; (with M. Caiani), *Social Movements and
Brian Doherty is a Professor of Political Sociology at Keele University (UK). He is currently a consulting editor for Social Movement Studies and was previously Managing Editor. His primary research is on environmental movements and environmentalism. His most recently book is Environmentalism, Resistance and Solidarity: the Politics of Friends of the Earth International and he has published on subjects including nonviolence and green political thought, environmental direct action in the UK and France, and protest against fuel prices. He is currently working on two projects: one on the courts and criminal trials of activists in the UK (with Graeme Hayes) and a second on post-politics and local environmental movement projects (with Phil Catney and Joost de Moor).

Marco Giugni is Professor in the Department of Political Science and International Relations and Director of the Institute of Citizenship Studies (InCite) at the University of Geneva. His research focuses on social movements and political participation. He is European Editor of Mobilization: An International Quarterly.

Hara Kouki is a Junior Research Fellow at the Dpt. of Geography, University of Durham, an adjunct lecturer at the Hellenic Open University (MA Social Solidarity economy) and a core member of Open Lab: Athens. Trained as a historian at the University of Athens (BA History), she completed her PhD at Birkbeck College (University of London) and has worked as a research fellow at the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, European University Institute (Florence) and as an adjunct lecturer at University of Crete (Dpt. of Sociology). Departing from her interest in social inequalities in the cities, her research revolves around the ways people come together, form (more or less visible) communities and seek for equality and justice. In her research she combines ethnography and history to study the present and participatory action research to relate with communities and contribute to the design of technologies in a broad sense.

Lasse Lindekilde is professor at the Department of Political Science, Aarhus University. Lasse received his PhD from the European University Institute, Florence (2009), for a dissertation on the mobilization and claims-making of Danish Muslims in reaction to the publication of the Muhammad cartoons. His recent research has focused on violent radicalization and the design, implementation and effects of counter-radicalization policies. He has conducted field-based research on mechanisms of radicalization and the impact of counter-radicalization policies. Lasse has worked with a variety of research methods, including fieldwork, interviewing, discourse analysis, quantitative content analysis, surveys and lab experiments.

Stefan Malthaner is research fellow at the Hamburg Institute for Social Research (HIS). Previously, he was Assistant Professor at the Department of Political Sciences and Government at Aarhus University, Denmark; Marie Curie Fellow and Max Weber Fellow at the European University Institute (EUI) in Florence, Italy; researcher at the Institute for Interdisciplinary Research on Conflict and Violence (IKG) in Bielefeld, Germany; and a member of the Research Group “Micropolitics of Armed Group” at Humboldt University Berlin. He has done extensive field research on militant movements and armed groups in Egypt, Lebanon, Germany, Great Britain, and Peru, with a particular focus on the relationship between militant movements and their social environment as well as on processes of conflict escalation and transformation. Among his publications are “Mobilizing the Faithful: Militant Islamist Groups and their Constituencies” (Campus, 2011); “Dynamics of Political Violence” (Ed., with Lorenzo Bosi and Chares Demetriou, Ashgate 2014), “Radical Milieus” (Ed., with Peter Waldmann, Campus, 2011), and “Control of Violence” (Ed., with Wilhelm Heitmeyer et al., Springer 2011). He holds a PhD in Sociology from Augsburg University, Germany, and a M.A. in Political Science, Sociology, and International Law from the University of Bonn.

Alice Mattoni is Associate Professor in the Department of Political and Social Sciences of the University of Bologna. Her research investigates to what extent and how different types of media intersect with what politicians, activists and concerned citizens do to participate in and mobilize on politics. She published extensively on these topics, also from a visual perspective. She is the author of Media Practices and Protest Politics. How Precarious
Workers Mobilize (Ashgate 2012) and her work has been published in several international journals, including Communication Theory, European Journal of Communication, Information Communication & Society, Journal of Information Technology & Politics, and Social Movement Studies.

Stefania Milan is Associate Professor of New Media at the University of Amsterdam. Her work explores the intersection of digital technology, governance and political participation, with a focus on radical internet and data practices. Stefania is the Principal Investigator of two projects funded by the European Research Council: DATACTIVE, studying the evolution of political participation vis-à-vis datafication and surveillance (data-activism.net), and ALEX, investigating the role of personalization algorithms in political polarization (algorithms.exposed). She is the author of Media/Society (Sage, 2011) and Social Movements and Their Technologies: Wiring Social Change (Palgrave, 2013/2016).

Elena Pavan is Senior Assistant Professor at the Department of Sociology and Social Research of the University of Trento. She holds a degree in Communication Sciences (University of Padova, Italy, 2004) and a PhD in Sociology (University of Trento, 2009). Her most recent research interests pertain to the relationships between collective action/political participation and digital media use. Within this area, she is working inter-disciplinary combining technical and social knowledge as well as traditional qualitative and quantitative research methods with digital methods and big data approaches.

Martin Portos is Research Fellow at COSMOS and the Department of Political and Social Sciences, Scuola Normale Superiore (Florence, Italy). He holds a MSc from the University of Oxford, and a MRes and PhD from the European University Institute. Winner of the Juan Linz Best Dissertation Award in Political Science and the International Sociological Association's Seventh Worldwide Competition for Junior Sociologists, Martin has published on political participation, social movements, inequalities and nationalism.

Lorenzo Zamponi is an assistant professor of sociology at the Scuola Normale Superiore in Florence (Italy), where he is part of the COSMOS (Centre on Social Movement Studies) research team. He holds a Ph.D. in Political and Social Sciences from the European University Institute, obtained in 2015 with a thesis on the relationship between memory and social movements. He has worked on research projects on student movements, youth political participation, the economic crisis and solidarity with refugees. His research interests include memory, contentious politics and media analysis. He is author of two monographs (Social Movements, Memory and Media: Narrative in Action in the Italian and Spanish Student Movements, 2018, Palgrave, and Resistere alla crisi. I percorsi dell’azione sociale diretta, with Lorenzo Bosi, 2019, Il Mulino) and of several peer-reviewed articles in international journals and book chapters, focusing mainly on the recent wave of anti-austerity protest in Europe, on the cultural elements of social mobilisation and on the emergence of non-protest based forms of collective action.