

Political Participation and Modes of Democracy: Finland in a Comparative Perspective

Political participation and Modes of Democracy: Finland in a Comparative Perspective was a research project of sixteen Finnish political scientists. The research group has conducted Finnish National Elections Studies 2003 (FNES 2003) and 2007 (FNES 2007). The National Election Study 2003 was conducted as part of the research project Elections and Representative Democracy in Finland, a project financed by the Research Council for Culture and Society in the Academy of Finland. The project published several books and about 60 scientific papers. The National Election Study 2007 was conducted as part of the ongoing research project Political Participation and Modes of Democracy, also financed by the Research Council for Culture and Society in the Academy of Finland.

The intention of the research group was

- to make Finnish research on political participation and electoral behaviour a permanent and regular activity,
- to encourage and instruct under-graduate and post-graduate students in studies on political participation,
- to analyse trends and changes in political participation in Finland,
- to analyse the functioning of Finnish democracy especially from the point of view citizen participation and citizen engagement in democratic culture and political institutions,
- to make extensive comparisons between Finland and other developed democracies, especially other Nordic countries.

In the research group, there were members from the University of Tampere, University of Helsinki, Åbo Akademi University, and University of Jyväskylä. The group consists of senior as well as junior scholars.

The project worked in cooperation with the [Comparative Study of Electoral Systems \(CSES\)](#). Both the National Election Study 2003 and the National Election Study 2007 included question modules of the CSES, module 2 in the FNES 2003, and module 3 in FNES 2007. Cooperation with the CSES gave good possibilities for cross-national comparisons.

The project was funded by the Research Council for Culture and Society in the Academy of Finland (project no 114851), Finnish Social Science Data Archive (FSD), Finnish Ministry of Justice, and the Swedish Literature Association in Finland.

The data collected by the project has been archived in the Finnish Social Science Data Archive ([FSD2269](#) and [FSD2316](#)).

Head of the project

Professor [Heikki Paloheimo](#)

University of Tampere School of Management

33014 University of Tampere

FINLAND

heikki.paloheimo(at)uta.fi

Political Participation and Modes of Democracy – members of the Research Group

Åsa Bengtsson is a post doc scholar and docent of political science at the Åbo Akademi University.

Sami Borg is the director of the Finnish Social Science Data Archive and docent of political science at the University of Tampere.

Kimmo Grönlund is Director of Research of the Social Science Research Institute at the Åbo Akademi University.

Tapio Häyhtiö acts a coordinating secretary in the Graduate School on Political Studies.

Lauri Karvonen is professor of political science at the Åbo Akademi University and the leader of research project: Democracy: A Citizen Perspective.

Pertti Lappalainen is a lecturer of expertise in civil society at the University of Jyväskylä.

Mikko Mattila is professor of political science at the University of Helsinki.

Tom Moring is professor of journalism in the Swedish School of Social Science at the University of helsinki.

Heikki Paloheimo is professor of political science at the University of Tampere, and leader of the research project Political Participation and Modes of Democracy. Finland in a Comparative Perspective.

Achillefs Papageorgiou is post-graduate student in the Department of Political Science and International Relations at the University of Tampere.

Jarmo Rinne is post-graduate student in the Department of Political Science and International Relations at the University of Tampere.

Tiina Rättilä is post-graduate student in the Department of Political Science and International Relations at the University of Tampere.

Kim Strandberg is a senior research scholar of the research project.

Jan Sundberg is professor in the Swedish Chair of Political Science at the University of Helsinki.

Risto Sänkiaho is professor emeritus of the social science research methods at the University of Tampere.

Hanna Wass is a senior research scholar of the research project.