

CALL FOR PAPERS



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Is Social Democracy exhausted? pathways, reflections, and dilemmas

Conference Details

The School of Social and Policy Studies is pleased to host a two-day conference reflecting on the future of social democratic politics and policy. Social democratic politics is in state of flux, and has failed to offer a compelling response to the dominance of neo-liberalism. Remarkably, since the 2008 global financial crisis, the fortune of many social democratic and labour parties in advanced industrial societies has declined. In 2000, 27 left-leaning governments were in power across the EU, and currently this number stands at just five. The end of the British New Labour government in 2010 marked the exhaustion of the ‘third way’ project, perhaps one of the most publicised attempts to institute a revitalised ‘new social democracy’.

This conference invites papers which examine the current state of social democratic politics and policy. While a strand of the conference will examine the health of social democratic parties, the conference is focused more broadly on the future challenges facing social democratic politics. Papers on (but not limited to) the following themes and issues are encouraged:

Conference Themes

- Comparative social democracy - examining alternative paths and strategies of social democratic and labour parties in advanced industrial settings
- Assessing the dilemmas and challenges facing social democratic political economy
- Social democracy and alliances with wider progressive politics - including Green parties, Trade Unions, and NGO’s
- The changing role of the state and civil society in social democratic politics
- Social Democracy and specific policy areas: education, health, democratic renewal.
- Australian Social Democracy at the State and Federal level



Abstracts:

Please send abstracts on proposed papers to Dr Rob Manwaring at rob.manwaring@flinders.edu.au. Abstracts should be between 250-400 words, and offer a concise outline of the proposed paper. Presenters will be given 20 minutes to deliver their paper. Abstracts should include: name of presenter(s), title of presenter and institution, title of paper, and outline the relevance to the main conference themes. Final deadline for abstracts is **28 October 2011**.

Video-Conferencing:

We are also encouraging papers from researchers and academics based overseas to participate in the conference. We appreciate that travelling to Adelaide may well not be feasible, and to this end we are offering that a *limited* number of papers may be presented using video conferencing technology. Please indicate if you are unable to deliver your paper in person.

Key dates: 17-18 February 2012

Venue: Flinders University City Campus, Old Reserve Bank building, Victoria Square, Adelaide, 5000.

Keynote Speakers:

Keynote speakers will be confirmed shortly.

Conference Organisers:

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