

Political Violence and Electoral Politics

2nd Annual Online Research Workshop

October 24–26, 2022

CALL FOR PAPERS – PLEASE SHARE

Workshop Organizers:

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Hosted by the Elections, Violence, and Parties (EVaP) project, University of Amsterdam

Paper proposal: We invite you to submit a paper proposal and abstract (max. 150 words) on elections and violence, broadly defined. We are especially interested in submissions that contribute to our understanding of the instrumental purposes of electoral violence, the politicization of violence, and citizen attitudes towards violence. Participants will be required to circulate a draft paper in advance of the workshop in October.

Submission deadline: July 1, 2022 (notifications expected in mid-August)

Submit paper proposals to: [Link to sign-up](#)

Direct queries to: Maureen Fubara m.a.fubara@uva.nl

Synopsis:

In this online research workshop, we aim to examine the micro-foundations of intra-systemic political violence, “quotidian” or “routine” violence that is part of mainstream politics. We are interested in work on violence centered around elections, violence that is perpetrated by parties and politicians, and hostile rhetoric and violence that is (purportedly) committed on behalf of “the people.” The workshop will prioritize work on various instrumental motives for electoral violence, the cleavages around which violence forms, and citizen attitudes towards violence.

Regarding instrumental motives, most prior work focuses on violence as a tool of intimidation and suppression. But violence may also be used as a tool for mobilization. How and when do parties and politicians use violence as a tool for mobilizing new supporters? Second, when elites politicize violence, how does this process unfold, and around which cleavages does violence revolve? Third, for citizen responses, contributions may explore the conditions under which voters sanction partisan actors for inciting violence; and when they fail to do so, potentially even supporting violence. Who are the primary targets of partisan violence (rival partisans, swing voters, or ethnic or religious outgroups), which types of cleavages are salient (e.g., ethnic, religious, class, or partisan), and what kinds of violence (e.g., criminal, vigilante, partisan, or communal) yield increased support from the public? We encourage contributions engaging these questions and themes in contexts where democracy is reasonably consolidated, including in the Global North (both historical and current).