



THE UNIVERSITY
of EDINBURGH



Call for Papers

Place, Politics and Policies in Scotland and Wales

Workshop 22 June 2026, University of Edinburgh

Hosted by the Centre on Constitutional Change (University of Edinburgh), in collaboration with Regional & Federal Studies and ECPR Standing Group on Federalism and Regionalism

The Centre on Constitutional Change, in collaboration with *Regional & Federal Studies*, is hosting a workshop broadly exploring territorial governance, politics, and policies in Scotland and Wales; within UK and subnational developments, and comparative international perspectives are also welcome.

There is a need to strengthen connections between research and expertise to enhance our understanding of politics, place, and public policies. The current UK government has committed to a devolution revolution, including offering greater powers and responsibilities to sub-national mayors, regions and cities. At the same, Scotland and Wales – two of the UK's established devolved administrations – have held elections in 2026 against a backdrop of rising party-political instability, place-based tensions, low levels of political trust, and increasingly visible dissatisfaction with political parties, policy agendas, and policy-making.

This workshop will be an opportunity for academics and researchers broadly interested in party politics, public policies, and territorial governance, to share their research expertise and to participate in interdisciplinary empirical, methodological and theoretical discussions, and where relevant reflect on the 2026 elections and possible future for Scotland and Wales.

We invite a wide range of methodological contributions that analyse political institutions, politics of place, multi-level party politics, public and social policies, and political identities – both in isolation and in comparative perspective – at the devolved and local level, or within the UK context.

We seek to bring together academics with experiences and knowledge from differing but aligned disciplines including public policy, politics, parliamentary politics, social policy, economic and political geography, and urban studies.

The workshop will also provide a platform for community-building among researchers around Scotland, Wales and beyond, and we especially welcome submissions from PhD students and other Early Career Researchers.

Themes:

We take a broad view of devolved and local politics (with specific encouragement for Scottish and Welsh themed papers in light of the 2026 elections) and invite papers that explore a range of themes, including but not limited to the following:

1. **Elections, Voters and Parties**
2. **Parliament, Government and Public Administration**
3. **Social Identities, Diversity and Integration**
4. **Nationalism, National Identity, and Constitutional Change**
5. **Policy, including social, fiscal and foreign policy**
6. **Political contestations and policy changes**

Submission Guidelines:

Please submit an abstract (max 250 words) outlining your paper's focus and contribution(s) to the themes outlined above by completing [this form](#) no later than **Monday 20 April 2026**.

For enquiries, please contact Davide Vampa (d.vampa@ed.ac.uk) or Hayley Bennett (Hayley.Bennett@ed.ac.uk).