

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

May 24-26, 2019 / Prague, Czech Republic

**Main Conference Theme:
From Policy Design to Policy Practice**

CHAIRS

Martin Potucek, Czech Republic
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For the past several decades, considerable scientific interest and research activity have focused on studying and developing evidence-based public policies and programs intended to produce better outcomes for individuals and societies. In the meantime, the spectrum of policy issues has become more complex - with the fusing levels of governance, with the interdependence of actors from public, commercial, civic and media spheres, and with the growing role of networking enhanced by digital technologies. As a result, societal problems and policy trials to solve them are proving to be of an increasingly complex and despicable nature. This has brought about a higher demand for evidence on policy inputs, outputs and outcomes in the wider environment in which problems arise and answers to these problems have to be found. A trend towards evidence-based policy-making has also increased the role of public administration in various phases of the policy cycle. Whilst the CEE academics have gradually advanced their knowledge and skills on public administration, policy design and implementation processes have received less attention. This is why the goal of the main theme is to advance the analysis of policy processes in the CEE countries.

We are expecting papers from a wide range of topics which may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- **What are the crucial factors which enhance or hinder policy-making capacity?**
- **What are the specific roles of the diverse actors in the policy-making process, both on political and administrative levels?**
- **What are the key barriers and opportunities of policy design and implementation in specific policy agendas and arenas?**
- **What are the roles of the three I's in policy design? How do "lay" knowledge and expert knowledge fit into the policy-making process?**
- **What are the conditions under which public policy is based on evidence? What are the opportunities and limitations of information and data analysis in the improvement of policy-making?**
- **What constellations of institutions and actors contribute to policy success or failure?**
- **How do constitution, legislation and regulatory processes affect the policy-making process?**
- **What are the patterns, causes and consequences of smart technologies and digital governance innovations influencing policy design and implementation?**
- **What are the opportunities and barriers of policy transfer and policy learning from other countries? What role does public administration play in policy transfer?**
- **To what extent do different forms of governance influence political and administrative practices in CEE?**
- **What are the impact, outputs, and outcomes of Europeanization on the policy-making process and implementation in CEE?**

This call welcomes papers which will provide theoretical reflections of policy processes, and which will be based on empirical evidence, or call attention to examples of best practices, grounded on the state-of-the-art major theories of public policy and administration. Papers may deal with any issue or topic of interest addressing local, national or international events in the region and elsewhere, or focus on theoretical, conceptual or methodological subjects related to policy studies. The main theme is principally aimed at the examination of policy processes rather than the analysis of substantive policy outputs in particular policy sectors. Both comparative papers, as well as single country case studies, are welcome.

Application link: <http://www.nispa.org/conference2019/application>

Deadline for applications: October 31, 2018