



Call for Papers:

**Rethorizing Gender & Political Leadership from Asia and the Pacific:  
Lessons for a more diverse Australian political landscape**

Research that helps us understand and overcome the lack of gender diversity in politics is dominated by studies from Euro-America. Theories, concepts and analytical frames developed from a small number of country contexts are applied to the 'rest of the world'. This workshop aims to turn this production of knowledge on its head, centring scholarship about gender and politics from Asia and the Pacific to rethink the certainties as to what is known, the theoretical and conceptual tools we use, and the research directions we pursue. The aim is to advance the field of gender and politics internationally, while also distilling key lessons that can help address the underrepresentation of Australians from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds in politics at all levels, particularly 'Women of Colour'.

A two-day workshop will bring together scholars/researchers working on gender and politics across Asia and the Pacific (including Australia) to engage in inter-disciplinary dialogue about women's political leadership, representation and participation. Together, we will answer two questions:

1. What are the consequences of the centring of Euro-American perspectives in the study of gender in politics? What are the opportunities for theorising from Asia and the Pacific?
2. How can research on gender and politics in Asia and the Pacific inform theory and practice of Australian politics? In particular, how can we leverage our knowledge to understand and address problems of the over-representation of legislatures by men of European ancestry, and the under-representation of 'Women of Colour' at all levels of politics?

Privileging perspectives from Asia and the Pacific is not to exclude research that draws upon analytical and theoretical models with their origins in Euro-American experiences. Through dialogue we aim to find new ways of looking at familiar problems, while also appreciating how extant tools remain useful to understand the global problem of women's political under-representation.

The workshop will be held in hybrid form, planning for both face-to-face and online participation. We are particularly keen for participation by researchers located in institutions in Asia and the Pacific.

***The workshop will be held 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at ANU Campus and online***

The first day will be devoted to presentations on research and/or theoretical interventions (please see Call for Papers below). On the second day we aim to translate this scholarly discussion into an innovative research agenda through collective reflection and brainstorming. Facilitated discussion between academics, practitioners and policy makers will identify those research directions with the most potential to inform practice and policy. We will put the outcomes of these discussions to women political leaders in a public Q&A session. We aim to showcase how scholarship based on deep engagement with Asia and the Pacific is critical to understanding the political inclusion of diverse communities in Australia.

Call for papers: We invite abstracts of up to 150 words on the general workshop theme, with papers particularly invited that seek to contribute to the gender and politics literature by:

- Challenging conventional thinking and orthodoxy;
- Proposing new analytical/conceptual/theoretical approaches;
- Identifying new lines of enquiry or new ways of seeing a problem;
- Outlining the contributions of different disciplinary approaches beyond political science;
- Reversing the 'universalisation' of research from Euro-America and the 'provincialisation' of research from the rest of the world;

- Rethinking intersectionality from an Asian, Pacific and/or Australian lens
- Demonstrating how research from Asia and the Pacific can energise research and deepen understanding of Australian politics;
- Offering fresh approaches to analysing over/under-representation in Australian politics.

***Abstracts are due 15<sup>th</sup> October 2021, and can be sent to [tanya.jakimow@anu.edu.au](mailto:tanya.jakimow@anu.edu.au)***

A limited number of bursaries are available for PhD students, ECRs and casual academics based in Australia to facilitate in-person participation. Please indicate if you would like to be considered for a bursary.