

**Laudation for Beate Kohler  
Co-winner: 2022 Lifetime Achievement Award**

The ECPR Lifetime Achievement Award in 2022 is being given to Professor Beate Kohler in recognition of her exceptional achievements in academic leadership, research, publishing and mentorship in a career spanning over 50 years. Up to 2022 a Project Director at the Mannheim Centre for European Social Research (MZES, a position she has held since 1992), Professor Kohler’s academic career has included the position of Director of the Institute for European Politics in Bonn 1969-73, followed by long-standing professorships at Darmstadt University (1972-1990), and Mannheim University (1990-2007), and – post-retirement – a Distinguished Professorship at the University of Bremen (2008-2012). During her long career she has had a marked impact as teacher and mentor of and co-author with a large number of doctoral students, many of whom are now established professors in Germany and abroad.

Professor Kohler is seen as a pioneer in leading the establishment of the study of the European Union as a distinct field of inquiry, not least in her work spearheading the ‘governance turn’ in EU studies as well as her work on multi-level governance. She has also made major contributions to the study of business associations and lobbying. Over the course of her career she has published some 370 different works, including 34 books, and a host of scientific papers published in leading political science journals. Her work has been translated into Chinese, Greek, French, Italian, Portuguese, Russian, Swedish, Spanish, and Ukrainian.

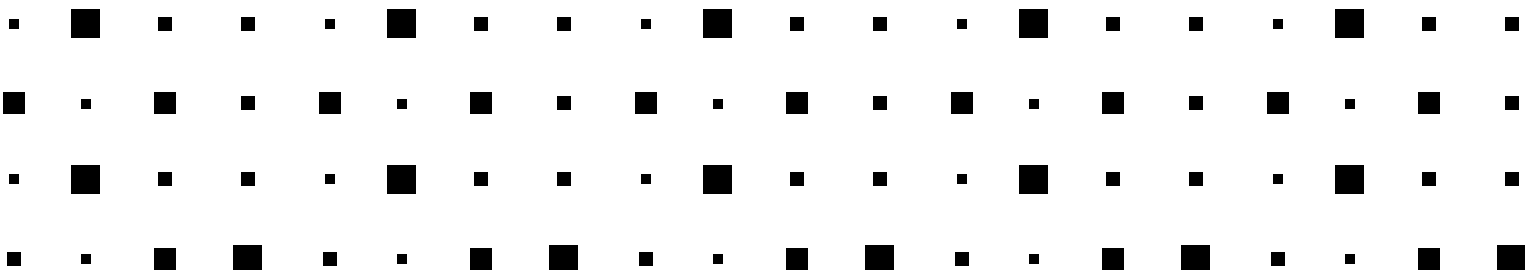
Her academic leadership is demonstrated most of all in the major research networks she has led that have attracted very large-scale funding. The incomplete list includes the following: as Coordinator of the DFG Priority Programme ‘Regieren in der Europäischen Union’ (1996-2004), Coordinator of the Network of Excellence CONNEX ‘Efficient and Democratic Governance in a Multi-Level Europe’ (2004-08; funded by the EU 6th Framework Programme). In addition, until the end of 2021 she was Principal Investigator of a large research project on ‘The future associations’, funded by the Fritz Thyssen foundation.

Professor Kohler’s other leadership roles have included as Chair of the German Political Science Association (DVPW, 1988-91) and membership of the executive board of the IPSA research committee on European Unification (1994-2003). She has held visiting positions at Johns Hopkins, Bologna University, the Institute for Advanced Studies in Vienna, and Nankai University (China). In 2009 she received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the University Association of Contemporary European Studies (UACES), and in 2011 the THESUS Award for Outstanding Research on European Integration. She also holds honorary doctorates from the universities of Maastricht and Oslo.

**David Farrell (Chair)**

**On behalf of the Jury for the Lifetime Achievement Award**

European Consortium for Political Research



**Laudation for Jean Blondel  
Co-winner: 2022 Lifetime Achievement Award**

The ECPR Lifetime Achievement Award in 2022 is being given to Professor Jean Blondel in recognition of a long and prestigious record of academic leadership and intellectual engagement. Currently based at the University of Siena (since 1996), his academic career has included positions at the universities of Keele (1958-63), Essex (1964-84), and the European University Institute (1985-94; where he still holds a professorial fellowship at its Schuman Centre).

Professor Blondel's long-held passion for the study of comparative politics is peppered throughout his many publications: indeed, he was one of the pioneers in insisting that comparative research should move beyond regional boundaries. His research has been centred mostly on the comparative study of leaders, leadership and democratic institutions. This included an early interest in legislatures, before a shift in focus to cabinets in parliamentary systems and most recently to the study of presidents and presidentialism on the continent of Africa. His publication profile stretches back so far that a complete list is unavailable, but it numbers at least 29 books: if we select one per decade, these include *Voters, Parties and Leaders* (1963), *Comparative Legislatures* (1973), *Cabinets in Western Europe* (1988), *People and Parliament in the European Union* (1998), *Political Culture in Asia and Europe* (2006), and *The Presidential Republic* (2015).

Professor Blondel's career has included key, foundational roles, most notably as one of the founders of the European Consortium for Political Research over 50 years ago (he

was the ECPR's first director), and in the 1960s of the Department of Government at the University of Essex (as its first head of department), which remains one of the world's leading centres of political science to this day.

In 2004 he was awarded the Johan Skytte Prize for Lifetime Achievement in political science. In 2000 he was also awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award from the British Political Studies Association. He has been elected as member of the American Academy of Sciences, and the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, and he has been awarded honorary doctorates from the Universities of Salford, Essex, Turku, Siena, and Catholic University of Louvain la Neuve. His many visiting positions have included Leuphana University of Luneburg, Université Catholique de Louvain, Institut d'études Politiques of Paris, Université de Lille, University of Seoul, University of Bologna, Carlton University, and Colorado College.

Professor Blondel remains at his current position at the Centre for the Study of Political Change at the University of Siena (CIRCAP), where he recently published his latest work on African presidents.

**David Farrell (Chair)**

---

**On behalf of the Jury for the Lifetime Achievement Award**

European Consortium for Political Research

