

UNIVERSITY OF ORADEA
FACULTY OF HISTORY, INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, POLITICAL SCIENCES AND COMMUNICATION
SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AND COMMUNICATION SCIENCES

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE AND CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

The University of Oradea and the Development of Political Science: 30 Years

26–27 October 2026 · University of Oradea · On-site and online participation

English translation of the original call. The Romanian version is the reference text.

Dear Professor,
Dear colleagues,

The University of Oradea, through the Faculty of History, International Relations, Political Sciences and Communication Sciences and the Department of Political Science and Communication Sciences, is preparing the anniversary conference “The University of Oradea and the Development of Political Science: 30 Years”, scheduled for 26–27 October 2026.

The event marks three decades of the Political Science programme at the University of Oradea and seeks to create a framework for reflection on the development of the field, on the current state of Political Science in Romania and on its future directions.

The conference is conceived in an anniversary and academic format, bringing together academic staff, researchers, representatives of university centres in the field, former and current members of the academic community, as well as specialists interested in recent developments in Political Science.

Given the short notice and the current difficulties of travelling to Oradea, we envisage a flexible format allowing both on-site participation and online contributions for guests and participants who cannot be present in Oradea.

Structure of the event

Day I — Anniversary session and mapping the state of Political Science

The first day will be devoted to the anniversary and institutional dimension of the event, as well as to a session of reflection on the current state of Political Science in Romania.

The programme will include:

- the official opening of the conference;
- addresses by representatives of the University of Oradea;
- an anniversary session dedicated to 30 years of Political Science at the University of Oradea;
- contributions from those who shaped the institutional development of the programme;
- the session “Mapping the state of Political Science in Romania”;
- the launch / presentation of the conference volume or of the anniversary editorial project.

Within the session “Mapping the state of Political Science in Romania”, we invite representatives of university centres in the field to give short contributions of approximately 10–12 minutes, synthetic and reflective in character.

As indicative points of reference, contributions may address:

- the development and profile of Political Science programmes;
- current directions in teaching and research;
- the institutional and academic challenges of the field;
- the relationship between Political Science, the profession and the labour market;
- the role of the field in the public, civic and institutional sphere;
- possible directions of cooperation between university centres in the field.

This session is not intended as a sequence of classical academic papers, but as a joint contribution to shaping an overall picture of the state of Political Science in Romania.

Day II — Academic panels

The second day will be devoted to academic panels, organised around themes concerning recent transformations of politics, communication and democratic change.

Paper proposals are welcome in the following thematic directions:

1 New research agendas in Political Science

Possible topics: transformations of the discipline, new theoretical and methodological directions, political science research after 1989, democracy, representation, participation, populism, polarisation.

2 The public and civic role of the academic

Possible topics: academic expertise and the public sphere, democratic education, the public responsibility of the university, the relationship between research, society and public decision-making.

3 Political institutions, governance and community involvement

Possible topics: political and administrative institutions, democratic governance, public policy, local administration, community development, civic participation and public consultation.

4 Political leadership, communication and legitimacy

Possible topics: political leadership, democratic legitimacy, political communication, electoral campaigns, political discourse, media, public trust, crises of legitimacy.

5 Reconfiguring the European and international public sphere

Possible topics: the European Union, Central and Eastern Europe, international relations, security, regional geopolitics, democratic crises, disinformation, the digital public sphere, European identity.

Papers are expected to last approximately 10–15 minutes, depending on the final structure of the panels.

Forms of participation

- a contribution to the session mapping the state of Political Science in Romania;
- an academic paper in the thematic panels of Day II;
- participation in the anniversary and academic debates of the conference;
- online participation, where travelling to Oradea is not possible.

Faculties, departments and university centres in the field may take part through deans, heads of department, programme coordinators or other designated representatives.

Submitting proposals

Those interested are kindly asked to send, **by 6 October 2026**, the following information:

- name and institutional affiliation;
- preferred form of participation: on-site or online;
- type of contribution: mapping session / academic paper / participation in the debate;
- the title of the contribution or paper, where applicable;
- a short description of the contribution, of approximately 5–10 lines.

Proposals and confirmations of participation may be sent to:

Prof. Dr. Habil. Gabriela Goudenhooff

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The final programme of the conference will be set according to the confirmations and proposals received.

We would be honoured by your participation in this important anniversary for the University of Oradea and for the academic community of Political Science in Romania.