
April 2019, Issue 7

It's election season and **TCPD** has been busy! We also received an overwhelming number of applications for for the 2019 **TCPD** summer internship and summer school. We will be in touch with applicants soon.

Outreach

Internal Engagements

- Data Driven Election Analysis (DDEA) (POL 211): This course was co-taught by Gilles Verniers and Sudheendra Hangal this semester. Saloni Bhogale was Teaching Fellow for the course. The course was designed to introduce students to electoral analysis by combining political parties' genealogies with a data-driven approach to political transformations. On account of the 17th General Elections, this course offered an opportunity to acquire the skills required to handle political data, from data handling and cleaning to data visualization and political cartography. It also addressed a number of key questions pertaining to political representation - the role of caste, women and minority representation, the changing profile of elected representatives - through data as well as through the literature. Two students share their experience below:

Niharika Tiwari (UG 2020): DDEA was a very unique course. Students could explore more about Indian politics and elections and also learn how to read, analyse and project trends. I loved working with the different tools that we learnt in class. The course also helped me realize my love for data and how I can bring together Computer Science and Political science. The tools that we learnt in class also helped me expand my skill set and use these tools in other internships and courses, as I can now make data to support my arguments, unlike having to spend hours looking for a certain type of map pr graph.

Vaibhav Parik (UG 2020): I think the best part about the course was that it is not just learning to handle and manipulate huge datasets, but also the sheer understanding you develop looking and trying to make sense of data. I enjoyed how the software we learnt in the technical modules, was supplemented with critical themes during elections. It was a great mix of acquiring data skills alongside a political insight on how elections work, which made me learn how to generate data and being able to say things about it.

External Engagements

- Gilles Verniers was a part of a panel on the [2019 General Elections](#) held at Azim Premji University, Bangalore on April 19, 2019. His presentation was on "King in the North? The BJP's Prospects across the Hindi Belt and Beyond".

Research Updates

TCPD Research Workshop

Our workshop continues to meet on a weekly basis to discuss on-going research. Our semester schedule can be viewed [here](#).

Publications

In the News

S.Y. Quraishi. [Proving a point on audit trail](#). *The Hindu*, April 4, 2019.

S.Y. Quraishi. [Women shouldn't just choose their political representatives, they should become one](#). *WION*, Apr 12, 2019.

Surya Harikrishnan. [Elections 2019 : BJP, Congress Manifestos on Women – How do they compare?](#). *SheThePeople.tv*, April 14, 2019.

Gilles Verniers. [The Return of Thakurvad](#). *India Today*, April 19, 2019.

Gilles Verniers. [Lok Sabha elections 2019: Can BJP retain dominance in Hindi heartland?](#). *Hindustan Times*, April 29, 2019.

Gilles Verniers. [To win this election, Congress will have to master the spill-over effect](#). *ThePrint*, April 25, 2019.

Gilles Verniers. [Lok Sabha elections 2019: Will BJP be able to win back key heartland states from Congress?](#). *Hindustan Times*, April 25, 2019.

S.Y. Quraishi. [What It Takes To Run An Election For India](#). *New York Times*, April 25, 2019.

News articles based on TCPD data

Chaitanya Kalbag. [Democracy On Display](#). *Businessworld*, April 2, 2019.

The Wire Staff. [How Many Women Candidates Will Contest in 2019?](#). *The Wire*, April 5, 2019.

Chetan Chauhan. [Lok Sabha elections 2019: Sugarcane may tilt the scales in west UP](#). *Hindustan Times*, April 7, 2019.

Adil Rashid. [Electoral Bonds Have Legalised Crony Capitalism: Ex-Chief Election Commissioner SY Quraishi](#). *Outlook*, April 7, 2019.

Stephanie Findlay and Jyotsna Singh. [Indian Muslims go to polls fearing further marginalisation](#). *Financial Times*, April 12, 2019.

Roshan Kishore. [Lok Sabha elections: BJP's 2019 challenge is threefold](#). *Hindustan Times*, April 13, 2019.

Nikita Vashisth. [With Parties Spewing Millions, Does Campaigning Affect Voter Preference in Multi-Phase Elections?](#). *News18*, April 16, 2019.

In the Media

Gilles Verniers has been a part of several NDTV segments such as the one on [No Place for Women in World's Biggest Election?](#) on April 16 and [Final Four Phases: Real Test for BJP](#) on April 29.

Saloni Bhogale was a part of a panel discussion on Tiranga TV on the ['Marginalization of Muslim Votes: Are Political Parties Ignoring The Muslim Population?'](#) moderated by Barkha Dutt on April 28.

Events

Past Events

- April 4: [CPR-TCPD Dialogues: Discussion on Women Candidates and Voters: Will they shape the 2019 election result?](#)

- April 18: [TCPD Lok-Dhaba Teach-In](#)

- April 26: [Book launch and panel discussion 'Majoritarian State: How Hindu Nationalism Is Changing India'](#) edited by Angana Chatterji, Thomas Blom Hansen, and Christophe Jaffrelot, jointly organized by Centre for Policy Research (CPR), **TCPD**, Centre de Sciences Humaines (CSH) and HarperCollins India.