



March 26, 2021

### **APSA Statement in Support of Dr. Nonna Mayer**

On behalf of the American Political Science Association, we write to express grave concern as well as support for Dr. Nonna Mayer, a respected scholar and teacher of voting and European politics. We echo the statement of the [French Political Science Association \(AFSP\)](#) [condemning](#) the attacks on Dr. Mayer.

Recently announced as a candidate for President of Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques (National Foundation of Political Sciences, FNSP), Dr. Mayer's research, teaching, and public contributions include scholarship on right wing parties, anti-Semitism in European politics, voting, gender, race and ethnicity – all well-established areas of scholarship within [French](#), European, American, and global political science. In particular, her scholarship has helped advance understanding of who votes for Far Right parties and under what conditions, which contributes to a broader literature on party competition and voting behavior that has changed rapidly over the past three decades across Europe and North America. Dr. Mayer's candidacy comes at a time when [U.S. and international](#) news reports have highlighted the ways in which the academy in France has been politicized in the leadup to the French Presidential elections. The partial selection from and [manipulation](#) of Dr. Mayer's scholarship in anonymous online postings and blogs serves to undermine, rather than further, scholarly debate and the tenets of academic freedom.

In addition to her contributions through the AFSP and appointment at Sciences Po, Dr. Mayer has also been a dedicated servant to political science as a Council member of the [American Political Science Association](#). We are grateful for the many scholarly and public service contributions of Dr. Mayer and stand ready to support her and all scholars whose rigorous scholarship on important topics of the day are subject to anonymous and misleading attacks.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Janet M. Box-Steffensmeier'.

Janet M. Box-Steffensmeier  
President

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Paula D. McClain'.

Paula D. McClain  
Past President



John Isiyhama  
President-Elect



Steven Rathgeb Smith  
Executive Director

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*Founded in 1903, the American Political Science Association is the leading professional organization for the study of political science and serves more than 13,000 members in more than 80 countries. With a range of programs and services for individuals, departments, and institutions, APSA brings together political scientists from all fields of inquiry, regions, and occupational endeavors within and outside academe to deepen our understanding of politics, democracy, and citizenship throughout the world.*