

Liberal Democracy in Crisis? Dialectics of Politicization and Depoliticization

Third Workshop of COST Action RECAST Working Group 1: Practices

Inter-University Centre Dubrovnik (in person and online)
Ul. don Frana Bulića 4, 20000 Dubrovnik, Croatia

8–9 July 2021

PROGRAMME

Thursday, 8 July 2021

8:30 – 9:00 Coffee and Registration

9:00 – 9:20 *Welcome*

Nada Bruer Ljubišić, Executive Secretary, Inter-University Centre Dubrovnik
Ana Matan
José María Rosales

9:20 – 10:00 **First Panel**

Presenting the Book Rationale

Chair: Ana Matan

Ruzha Smilova, *Meike Schmidt-Gleim*, *Introduction*
Claudia Wiesner, *Crisis or Change of Democracy?*

10:00 – 12:40 **Second Panel**

Depoliticization or Democracy without Politics

Chair: José María Rosales

10:00 – 10:50 (*first part*)

Gonçalo Marcelo, University of Coimbra and Catholic University of Porto, *Progressive Politics within the EU's Fiscal Orthodoxy: Lessons from the Portuguese 'Contraption'* – online
Evgeni Dainov, New Bulgarian University, *NGOs Trajectory: Agents of Change, 'Enemies of the People' and Back Again* – online

10:50 – 11:20 Coffee break

11:20 – 12:40 (second part)

Ruzha Smilova, Sofia University and Centre for Liberal Strategies, *Rights versus Rights? The Meritocratic Depoliticization of Human Rights*

Dušan Spasojević, University of Belgrade, *Narrowing the Political Space: Depoliticization as a Strategy of Anti-democratic Rule*

Aleksandra Belina, Institute of Sociology, Warsaw University, *From Formalism to Activism? Social Consequences of Commercialization of NGOs*

12:40 – 15:00 Light lunch

15:00 – 17:30 Third Panel

Anti-democratic / Illiberal Repoliticization

Chair: Meike Schmidt-Gleim

15:00 – 16:15 (first part)

Renáta Uitz, Central European University, *Capturing Public Space in Hungary: The Urban Landscape of Illiberalism* – online

Tonči Kursar & Ana Matan, University of Zagreb, *Right-wing Politicization in Croatia: A Road to a Consensus Democracy 2.0*

Přemysl Rosůlek, University of West Bohemia, *Banal Nationalism Theory & Rhetoric of the Czech PM Andrej Babiš during the Covid-19 Pandemic (2020–21)*

16:15 – 16:45 Coffee break

16:45 – 17:30 (second part)

Natalija Shikova, International Balkan University Skopje, *Civic Participation in Shaping Public Policies? Evaluating 'Regulatory Impact Assessment' as a Democratic Tool*

Claudia Wiesner, Fulda University, *The Janus-facedness of Identity Politics, or: When Emancipatory Ideologies Take Autocratic Turns*

Friday, 9 July 2021

9:30 – 12:10 Fourth Panel

Repoliticization – The Promises

Chair: Ruzha Smilova

9:30 – 10:20 (first part)

Maria Brown, University of Malta, *Repoliticizing Movements: The Case of Pro-LGBTIQ Rights in Malta* – online

Leire Rincón, University of Barcelona, *Advocating for UBI in UBIE: Combining Research and Activism* – online

10:20 – 10:50 Coffee break

10:50 – 12:10 (*second part*)

Anna Krasteva, New Bulgarian University, *Reinventing Contestatory Citizenship in Post-democratic Times*

Christel Stormhøj, Roskilde University, *Practicing Utopia, Deepening Democracy: Feminist Activism in Denmark Today* – online

Meike Schmidt-Gleim, Institute of Fine Arts Vienna, *Nothing is Lost for History: Narrating Social Protest Practices*

12:10 – 13:00 *Conclusions*

The publication: next steps

Organizers

Working Group 1: *Practices*. COST Action CA 16211 RECAST: *Reappraising Intellectual Debates on Civic Rights and Democracy in Europe* (https://www.cost.eu/COST_Actions/ca/CA16211 & <https://www.uma.es/costactionrecast>)

University of Zagreb, Faculty of Political Science (https://www.fpzg.unizg.hr/en/about_us)

Academy of Fine Arts Vienna (<https://www.akbild.ac.at>)

Fulda University (<https://www.hs-fulda.de/en/home>)

Centre for Liberal Strategies (<http://cls-sofia.org>)

Sofia University (<https://www.uni-sofia.bg/index.php/eng>)

Conveners

Dr. Ana Matan, University of Zagreb

Dr. Meike Schmidt-Gleim, WG1 Vice Leader, Academy of Fine Arts Vienna & Fulda University

Dr. Ruzha Smilova, WG1 Leader, University of Sofia and Centre for Liberal Strategies