**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 Maria 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)

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


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