Populism, Protest, and New Forms of Political Organization: Ten Years after the Movements of the Squares

Joint conference of the DVPW Populism Group & the PSA Populism Specialist Group
8-10 September 2021, Freie Universität Berlin

DAY 1 | WEDNESDAY, 8 SEPTEMBER 2021

09:30-10:00 | Registration

10:00-10:30 | Welcome remarks and introduction

10:30-12:00 | Panel 1: Theoretical Considerations on Populism and the Squares (I)

Arthur Borriello (Université libre de Bruxelles) ‘Navigating through the void: The paradoxes of European populism’

Emmy Eklundh (Cardiff University) ‘Performing sovereignty: Populism as the European condition’

Andy Knott (University of Brighton) ‘Populism: Theory after Practice’

Mark Devenney (University of Brighton) ‘Populism and Radical Democracy’

– Chair: Marina Prentoulis (University of East Anglia)

12:00-13:00 | Lunch

13:00-14:30 | Panel 2: Populism and New Forms of Organization in Southern Europe

Cristiano Gianolla (University of Coimbra), Antoni Aguiló (University of Coimbra), Jesus Sabariego (University of Seville) ‘Emotions for participation in southern European populist movement-parties: From grassroot activism to ICT membership’

Enrico Padoan (Scuola Normale Superiore) ‘From a “Web-Based Populist Party” to a Parliamentary Group? The Organizational Trajectory of The Five Star Movement’

Saija Räsänen (University of Milan) ‘From squares to status quo – Gradual abandoning of populist principles in Italian Five Star Movement’s communication from 2013 to 2021’

Lluis de Nadal (Columbia University) ‘The Digital Party: Passing Fad or Organizational Template for the Digital Age?’

– Chair: Seongcheol Kim (University of Kassel)

14:30-14:45 | Coffee Break
14:45-16:15 | Panel 3: The Yellow Vests and Populism in France

**Thomás Zicman de Barros** (Sciences Po Paris)  “It is all a matter of image”: Radical democracy and aesthetics in the Yellow Vests movement

**Céline Righi** (independent scholar, London)  “Can you not hear the anguish gathering across France?” Reclaiming political agency within a maximal asymmetry of power? The case of the Yellow Vests movement and the government’s response

**Morgane Belhadi** (Université Sorbonne Nouvelle Paris 3)  ‘Postmodern populism in France: Visual media as a central political strategy of populism. A study of National Rally’s and France Unbowed’s visual artefacts

**Panos Panayotou** (University of Loughborough)  ‘Lessons for Left-Wing Populism from the 2010s Austerity Wave in Europe’

– Chair: Andy Knott (University of Brighton)

16:15-16:30 | Coffee Break

16:30-17:30 | DVPW and PSA Group members’ meetings

– Convenors (DVPW): Nina Elena Eggers (University of Kiel), Seongcheol Kim (University of Kassel), Karsten Schubert (University of Freiburg), Veith Selk (TU Darmstadt)

– Convenors (PSA): Emmy Eklundh (University of Cardiff), Giorgos Katsambekis (University of Loughborough), Andy Knott (University of Brighton), Marina Prentoulis (University of East Anglia)

17:30-18:45 | Keynote 1: Cristina Flesher Fominaya (Editor-in-Chief, *Social Movement Studies*)  ‘10 Years after the movements of the squares: Democracy and Protest in Times of Crisis’

19:30 | Dinner

DAY 2 | THURSDAY, 9 SEPTEMBER 2021

09:30-11:00 | Panel 4: Theoretical Considerations on Populism and the Squares (II)

**María Esperanza Casullo** (Universidad Nacional de Río Negro)  ‘Antagonism, Flexibility and the Surprising Resilience of Populism’

**Milos Rodatos** (University of Greifswald)  ‘Representations of the Populist Intellectual. Organic Intellectuals as Populist Representatives’

**Carola Schoor** (University of Maastricht)  ‘Leaderless populism versus leader centered populism – a comparison’
**Iván Villalobos-Alpizar** (University of Costa Rica) ‘Towards a transcendental theory of Populism’

– Chair: Nina Elena Eggers (University of Kiel)

11:00-11:15 | Coffee Break

11:15-13:00 | Panel 5: Populism and Protest in Southern Europe

**Valeria Reggi** (University of Bologna) “‘I’m Giorgia, I’m a Woman, I’m a Mother, I’m Italian, I’m Christian’: The ideological populism of Giorgia Meloni’s imagined community’

**Mónica Soares, Marcela Uchôa** (University of Coimbra) ‘Is this making any sense? Situating conspiracy theories, the anti-lockdown protests and the endorsement of the populist far-right imaginary in Portugal’

**Davide Rocchetti** (University of Trento) ‘From ballots to barricades: Responses to the growth of radical right-wing populism at the local level’

**Florian Skelton** (Goethe University Frankfurt) ‘Populism in Suspension. SYRIZA’s Changing Discourse while in Government, 2015-2019’

– Chair: Marina Prentoulis (University of East Anglia)

13:00-14:00 | Lunch

14:00-15:15 | Panel 6: Populism and Protest in Central and Eastern Europe

**Volodymyr Ishchenko** (TU Dresden), **Oleg Zhuravlev** (Public Sociology Laboratory) ‘Post-Soviet vicious circle: Populist uprising as a reproduction of the crisis of hegemony’

**Seongcheol Kim** (University of Kassel) ‘Between Radical Democracy and Left Populism on the Margins: The Post-Protest Trajectories of the Left Front (Russia) and the Left Opposition (Ukraine) Compared’

**Courtney Blackington** (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) ‘In Defense of Liberal Democracy: Who Protests against Populists and Why?’

– Chair: Milos Rodatos (University of Greifswald)

15:15-15:45 | Coffee Break

15:45-17:15 | Panel 7: Populism and Protest in Latin America

**Camila Vergara** (Columbia University) ‘Popular Uprising in Chile: A Populist Constituent Moment?’
Étienne Levac (Université du Québec à Montréal), Marwan Attalah (Université du Québec à Montréal), Williames Sousa (Federal University of Western Pará) ‘The people against its “others” – The Perspectives of Brazilian Populisms on Indigenous Peoples and Indigenous Imaginaries of Resistance’

Sebastián Ronderos (University of Essex), Tathiana Chicarino (Pontifical Catholic University of São Paulo), Rosemary Segurado (Pontifical Catholic University of São Paulo) ‘Collectivising Political Mandates: A Discursive Approach to the Brazilian Bancada Activista’s Campaign in the 2018 elections’

Belén Díaz (Freie Universität Berlin) ‘One-Size-Fits-All “Right-Wing Populism”? On Conceptual Impasses and Eurocentric Tales’

– Chair: Thomás Zicman de Barros (Sciences Po Paris)

17:15-17:30 | Coffee Break

17:30-18:45 | Keynote 2: Paolo Gerbaudo (King’s College London) ‘Populism, the crisis of representation and the transformation of political parties’

19:30 | Dinner

DAY 3: FRIDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER 2021

09:30-11:00 | Panel 8: Populism and Protest in Asia

Andreas Eder-Ramsauer (Freie Universität Berlin) ‘Challenging Japanese Conservatism’s new legitimacy discourse: Analyzing the (un-)successful left-wing populism of Yamamoto Tarō in a context of hegemonic “compassionate paternalism”’

Frédéric Krumbein (University of Tel Aviv), Hannes Mosler (University of Duisburg-Essen), Axel Klein (University of Duisburg-Essen) ‘Populism in East Asian Democracies’

Ayan Das (University of Gour Banga), Debajit Goswami (Netaji Subhas Open University) ‘Investigating Left-wing Populism: Reflections on the Left regime in West Bengal, India’

Lena Muhs (University for Peace) ‘Duterte’s “War on Drugs” Discourse – Consolidating Power through Penal Populism’

– Chair: Andy Knott (University of Brighton)

11:00-11:15 | Coffee Break

11:15-12:45 | Panel 9: Populism and Protest in the UK and Canada

Hector Ríos-Jara (University College London) ‘Between movements and party politics. Corbynism and the limits of in-and-out strategy in the UK’
Frédérick Guillaume Dufour (Université du Québec à Montréal) ‘From Nationalism to National-Populism and Left-Wing Populism: The Case of Quebec’

Djamila Mones (Université du Québec à Montréal) ‘“Wexit”: The subnational, regional and “protestor” populism embodied by supporters of secession of the western provinces from the rest of Canada’

Marina Prentoulis (University of East Anglia) ‘From austerity to Brexit: The failed populist moment’

– Chair: Andreas Eder-Ramsauer (Freie Universität Berlin)

12:45-13:45 | Lunch


Benjamin Abrams (University College London) ‘Resistance to Populism: The Dynamics of Counter-Populist Contention in Comparative Perspective’

Alexandra Homolar, Georg Löfflmann (University of Warwick) ‘Populism and the Affective Politics of Humiliation Narratives’

Marieluise Mühe (University of Cologne) ‘Civic Counter-Protests in Face of Pandemic Challenges’

Benjamin Opratko (University of Vienna) ‘From “national unity” to “stop the madness”. Authoritarian populism and the COVID crisis: The case of the Austrian Freedom Party’

– Chair: Karsten Schubert (University of Freiburg)

15:30 | Farewell Drinks