In Russia Fascist? Unraveling Propaganda East and West

March 11th, 2021

By Andy Hall and Aliaksei Kazharski, event organizers, and Aliaksei Kazharski, event presenters.

In this Elliott School Book Launch Series event, Dr. Laruelle was be joined by moderator Henry Hale, Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University, and author Dr. Marlene Laruelle, as well as her new book, Is Russia Fascist?: Unraveling Propaganda East and West.

Dr. Laruelle explained the conceptual history of the term “illiberalism,” insisting on the need to dissociate it from theories of regime types. She explained that “illiberalism” is a blending of liberal and non-liberal cultural and economic principles. It is therefore necessary to distinguish illiberalism from other theories and to differentiate it from other terms.

Examples of these other terms include: populism, authoritarianism, prebendalism, and neo-Gramscianism. Dr. Laruelle summarized each term and its approaches to the international sphere, such as in Russia.

This seminar will feature a discussion with participants about Russia’s illiberalism, its connection with Euroskepticism, and its relationship to the international order. It will also focus on the impact of COVID-19 on France and the Mediterranean, as well as its connection with Euroskepticism. Further, she illustrated that Russia is opportunistic, not ideologically motivated in its support of pro-Russian political parties.

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March 24th, 2021

French ambassador to the Mediterranean, Marine Fournel, spoke about her current job and the impact of COVID-19 on French foreign policy.

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