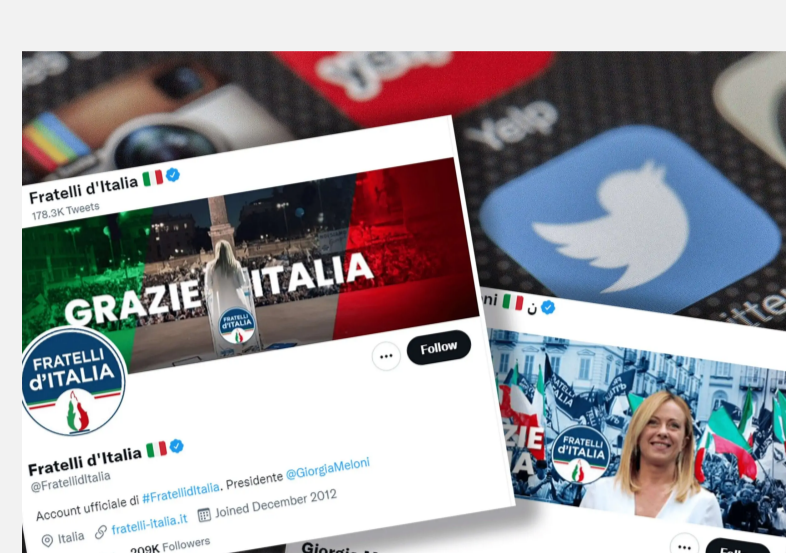


Event recording**The Never-Ending Story: General Vlasov in Post Soviet Collective Memory with Benjamin Tromly****Publications****Eric Zemmour, The New Face of the French Far Right: Media-Sponsored, Neoliberal, and Reactionary**

Périne Schir and Marlene Laruelle on the presidential campaign of Eric Zemmour and his new brand for the French far right.

Italian Far-Right Discourse in the 2022 Election Campaign

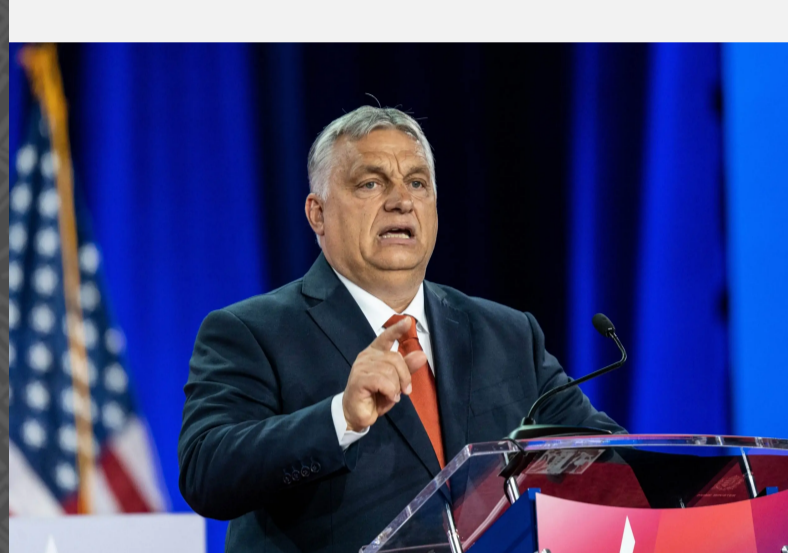
Joseph Cerone on the Italian far right social media techniques and its stress on nationalist symbols

**Italy, Putin's Russia, and Ukraine**

Marc Lazar on the prospects for Italy's relations with Ukraine and dealing with Russia in the wake of the far-right victory in the last parliamentary elections.

What the Italian Election Results Mean for Europe and Trans-Atlantic Relations

Giovanna De Maio on the most recent Italian elections and what Giorgia Meloni's leadership could mean for Italy's transatlantic relationships.

**Mr. Orbán Goes to Dallas**

Grant A. Silverman on Viktor Orbán's appearance at CPAC Texas and the broader implications for the erosion of democratic institutions and principles.

What's at Stake in Brazil's Upcoming Election?

Olivier Dabène (CERI-SciencesPo) shares his analysis and speculates on the on Brazil's presidential election and the country's future.

**Did the Woke Movement Hijack Feminism in Poland?**

Magdalena Grzyb on the tension between the fight for LGBTQ+ rights and women's rights in the Polish context.

The Personal is Problematic: Feminist Politics, the Post-Truth Era, and the Culture Wars

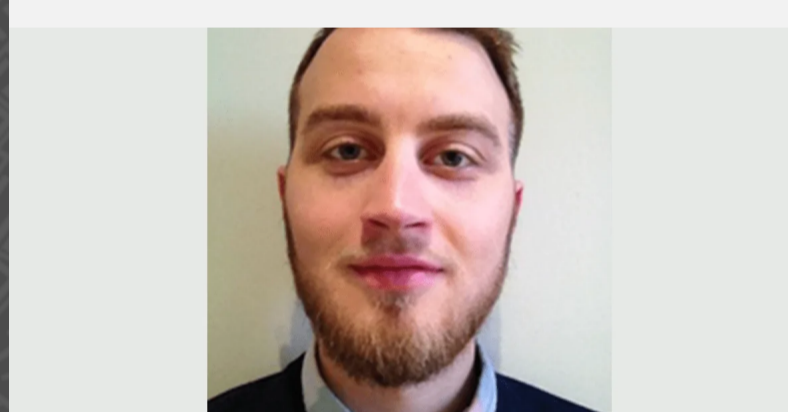
Shelley Budgeon on the need to revisit feminist scholarship to defend women's experience as a source of critical knowledge.

**Whose War? The Nature and Analysis of "Culture Wars" in Europe and Beyond**

Anja Hennig on the core components of the concept of "Culture Wars" and how it relates to morality politics and conflict.

Between Warring Parties: Culture Wars over LGBT+ Equality

Malte Breiding Hansen on the importance of going beyond the implied binary of "culture wars" and what simplified us/them dichotomies miss from the broader picture.

**Agora****Philipp Lottholz on Post-Liberalism in Central Asia**

Philipp Lottholz on how post-liberalism helps us rethink the link between post-colonial studies and post-Soviet studies.



In a new edited volume *Democratic Crisis Revisited*, the contributors unpack the contemporary crises of democracy in Europe. The authors theorize democracy as practice and procedure and therefore view crises as dialectical process that can "disintegrate" as well as "recreate democracy." The volume thus entertains the possibility that crises are not death blows to democracy but opportunities for renewal.

Beken Saatçioğlu evaluates the European Union's commitment to liberal democracy through an investigation of EU-Turkish relations and the EU's willingness to employ "its principal policy instrument to tackle illiberalism," membership conditionality. Saatçioğlu concludes that the European Union's commitment to democratic values is secondary to protecting its geostrategic interests. In particular, its transactional approach towards Turkey during the 2015/2016 Syrian refugee crisis undermined its commitment to conditioning membership on upholding democratic norms and therefore fostered illiberalism in Turkey.

Simon Bradford and F.J. Cullen explore the opportunities and challenges that the COVID-19 pandemic posed for populist governments. They focus their attention on Hungary, where "pandemic mythogenic narratives" fortified and reconfigured deeper narratives that are integral to Hungary's populist regime, such as ethno-nationalist myths, exceptionalism, treachery, betrayal, and the myth of a "polluting alien Other." They conclude that the pandemic had the effect of supporting local political ends, not dislodging them.

To explain why some countries that faced vaccine scarcity during the COVID-19 pandemic opted for the Russian Sputnik vaccine and others did not, Petra Guasti and Jaroslav Bilek employ a unique dataset, quantitative analysis, and qualitative studies. They conclude that the illiberalism of the governing party is the key explanatory factor while also illustrating a broader point about when "institutional guardrails withstand the pressure of populist and illiberal leaders."

Dorothee Bohle et al. explain how the COVID-19 pandemic served as a pretext for governments to reshape their socio-economic orders. The authors focus specifically on four illiberal governments: Hungary, Poland, Serbia, and Slovenia. They conclude that the pandemic enabled a further centralization of power in these countries, democratic backsliding, and the ushering in of a more authoritarian form of capitalism.

Using Hungary's exclusionary political environment as a backdrop, Thomas B. Pepinsky et al. investigate how the country, often associated with anti-migrant and anti-refugee sentiments, dealt with the recent wave of Ukrainian refugees. The authors find that the recent wave of Ukrainian refugees triggered a large increase in tolerance for refugees. This phenomenon can be attributed to so-called *civilizational* factors, namely that Ukrainian refugees were largely white European Christians.

Javier Corrales and Jacob Kirsh unpack the relationship between populism and religious conservatism, which informs the populist orientation towards homophobia and transphobia. They characterize the relationship between populism and religious conservatism as "a marriage of convenience and inconvenience," as it benefits both camps socially and electorally but can create internal frictions within populist coalitions. They show that these frictions are more pronounced within left-wing populist coalitions than right-wing ones, which explains why "the populist-religion nexus is more resilient among right-wing populist movements, as cases from the Americas and Europe illustrate."

Jessie Barton Hronešová tackles the question of why victimhood narratives have become so pervasive in Eastern Europe. The answer lies in their political utility. As Hronešová shows, victimhood narratives "linked to World War II, communism and the precarious relationship with the West" enhance "ontological security" for power-seeking political actors, especially populists, and help justify their policies once they capture the state.

In *Minority Rights and Liberal Democratic Insecurities: The Challenge of Unstable Orders*, Anna-Mária Biró, Dwight Newman and their contributors address from an interdisciplinary perspective the question of how various crises in Europe and North America affect the status of minority rights. The volume traces the impacts that terrorist attacks, the financial crisis, mass migration, the rise of populism, technological change, the pandemic, and other destabilizing events have had on Western political orders before addressing the "issue of the future of the minority rights regime at global, regional and national levels."

Using the Polish Constitutional Court's cementing of a total abortion ban as background, Tomasz Tadeusz Koneciewicz provides a deeper, systemic, analysis of the weaponization of judicial review in Poland and the capture of independent institutions by the ruling majority. His analysis provides important context to the events in Poland, but also serves as a "cautionary tale of the institutional fragility" at the heart of other liberal democracies around the world.

Arguing that most attempts to conceptualize populism refer to its relationship with representative democracy, Hing-Cunhae instead expands on populism's relationship with political liberalism. Cunhae parts with the popular characterization of populism as illiberal, arguing that the meaning of "illiberal" is elusive, and that the concept often overlaps with others like "anti-liberal" or "post-liberal." Instead, he attempts to conceptualize all three phenomena in a distinct manner before suggesting that they can be used "in combination to fruitfully account for different dimensions of the study of populism, namely research on populist discourses, ideas and practices."

Aleksandr Fisher et al. provide a novel analysis of how autocrats attempt to shape public opinion outside their borders. The authors focus on the Russian state's attempts to shape orientations towards U.S. foreign policy in Serbia and Albania. They conclude that, despite the fact that Putin has a considerable number of sympathizers in both countries, "these sympathies do not translate into an ability to move public opinion, and that where pro-American priors are strong, illiberal nationalist endorsement can actually backfire."

For resources on illiberal, populist, and authoritarian trends across the globe, consult our growing **Resource Hub** aggregating hundreds of published academic articles on illiberalism and other topics relating to illiberal movements. From security and international affairs, to democratic backsliding and public policy, this center of longstanding and recently-published literature continues to document ongoing global trends of growing illiberal movements around the world.

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