

Event recording

New Research on Illiberalism: Theoretical Perspectives with Helena Rosenblatt, Michael C. Behrent, and Andy Hamilton

Publications

Reflections on CPAC México: Five Battles of the International Far Right

Joe Cerrone on the five major themes discussed among speakers at CPAC Mexico.

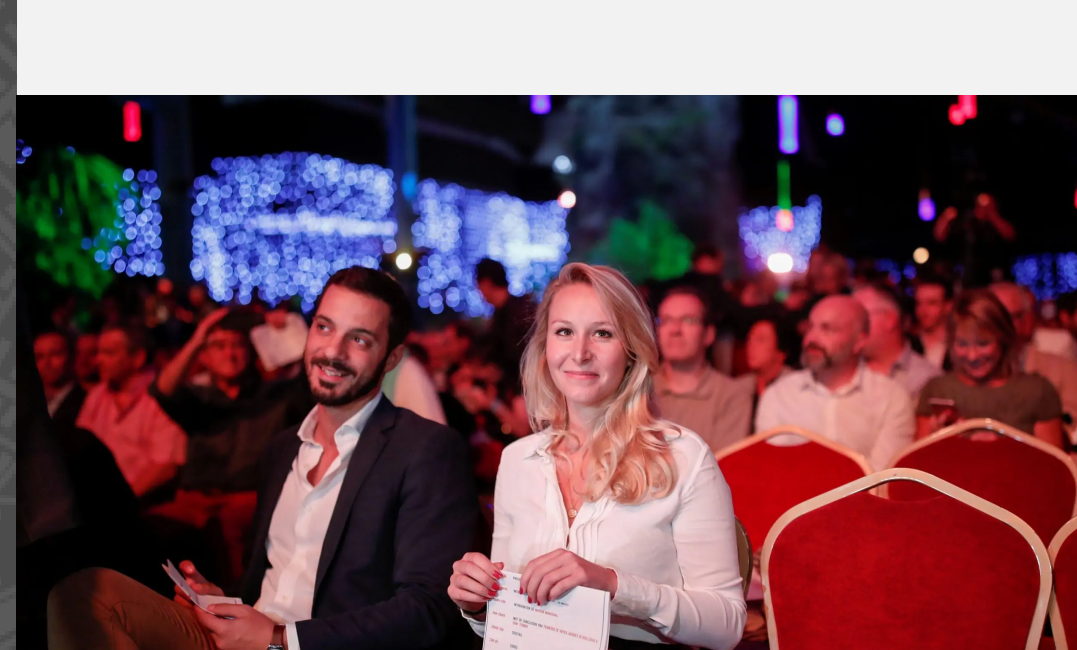


The Golden Dawn Trials on Appeal

Giorgos Pappas on the current status of Golden Dawn's ongoing legal process.

Foreshadowing the Comeback of the Far-Right Challenge in the US for 2024

Cas Mudde and Amb. Gérard Araud provide their respective analyses on the results of the US midterm election for Institut Montaigne.

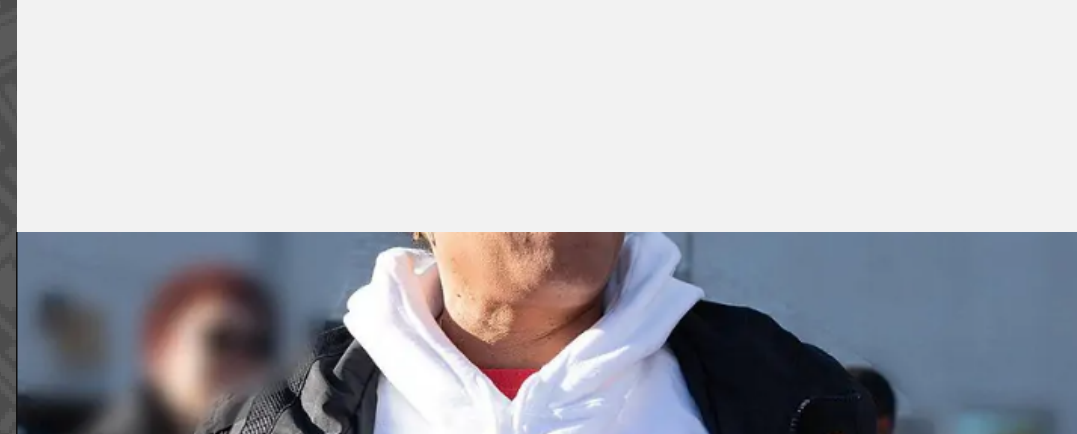
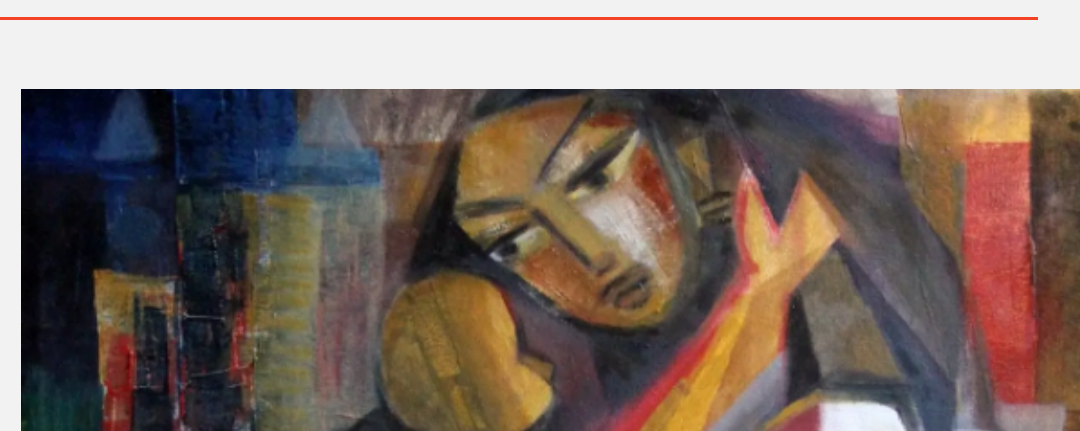


The French Connections of the Italian Far Right, from the MSI to Fratelli d'Italia

Périne Schir on the historical connections between the Italian and French far right and the personalization of relations with the marriage of Vincenzo Sofo and Marion Maréchal.

Surrogacy: Three Headlines

Kajsa Ekis Ekman on ethical issues related to surrogacy and its power relation aspect.

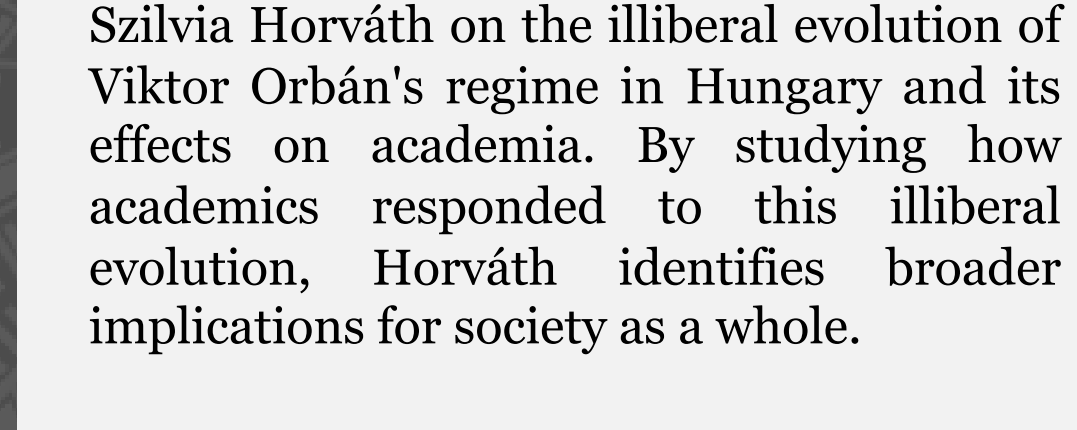
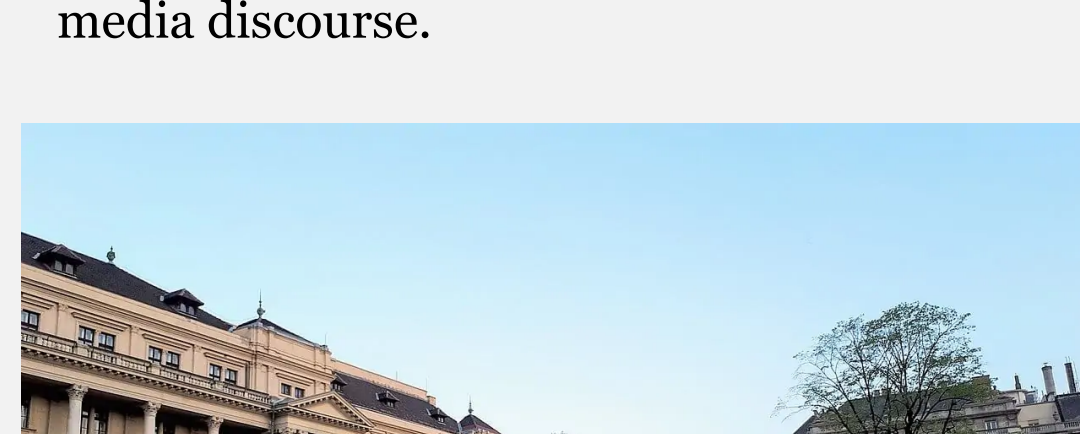


Dual Attack on Social Justice: The Delegitimization of "Woke"/"Wokism"

Angéla Kóczé on efforts to delegitimize woke/wokism, conceptualization of anti-woke culture, and the effects of its mobilization in mainstream political and media discourse.

Illiberal Cultural War and Hegemony-Building in Hungarian Academia

Szilvia Horváth on the illiberal evolution of Viktor Orbán's regime in Hungary and its effects on academia. By studying how academics responded to this illiberal evolution, Horváth identifies broader implications for society as a whole.

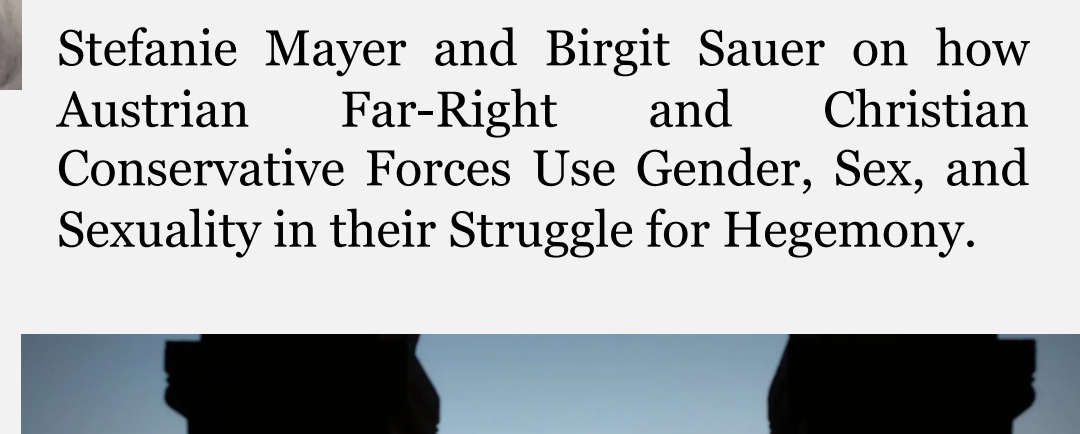


Culture Wars en Miniature: How Austrian Far-Right and Christian Conservative Forces Use Gender, Sex, and Sexuality in their Struggle for Hegemony

Stefanie Mayer and Birgit Sauer on how Austrian Far-Right and Christian Conservative Forces Use Gender, Sex, and Sexuality in their Struggle for Hegemony.

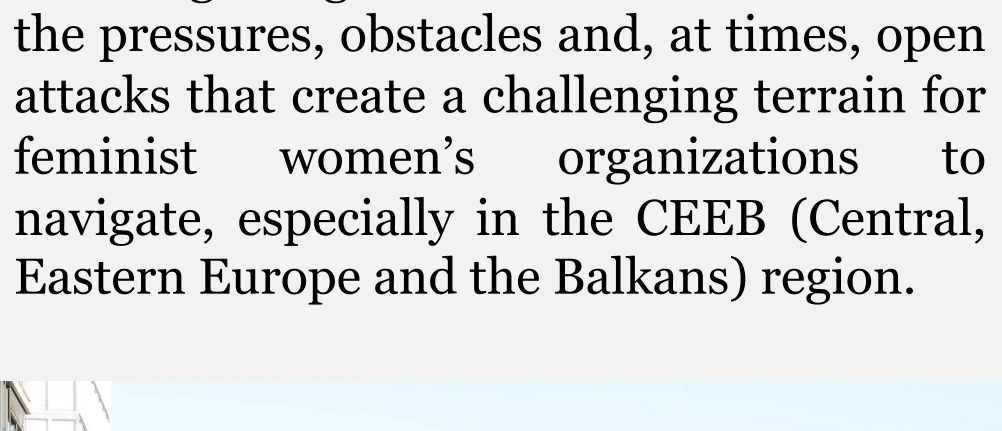
Navigating Hostilities from One Direction and Pressures from Others: Exploring the Realities of Feminist Women's Organizations in Central-Eastern Europe through the Example of Hungary

Noá Nogradi gives an overview of some of the pressures, obstacles and, at times, open attacks that create a challenging terrain for feminist women's organizations to navigate, especially in the CEEB (Central, Eastern Europe and the Balkans) region.



Critical Whiteness: On the Aberrations of Identity Politics in Germany

Massimo Perinelli on racism and white supremacy in Germany and authoritarian forms of politics within the anti-racism movement.



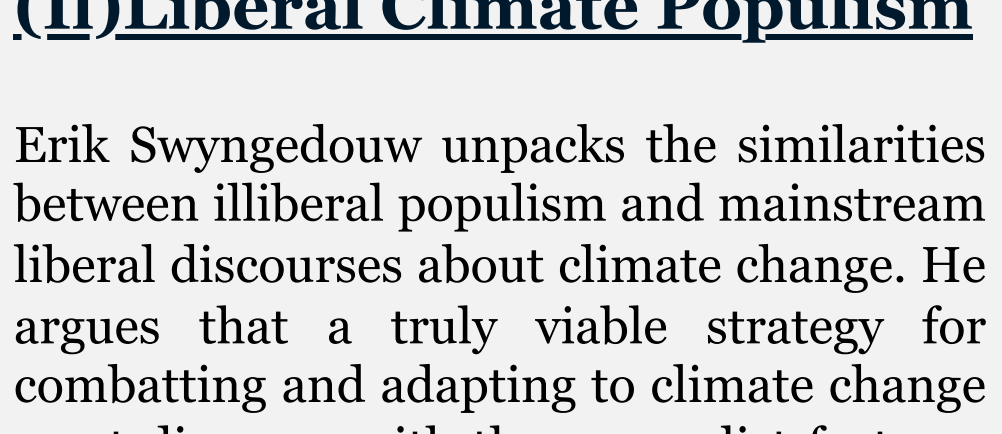
(I)lliberal Climate Populism

Erik Swyngedouw unpacks the similarities between illiberal populism and mainstream liberal discourses about climate change. He argues that a truly viable strategy for combatting and adapting to climate change must dispense with these populist features and focus on "agonistic politicization."



Epistemic Troubles: Identity Politics Between Particularism and Universalism

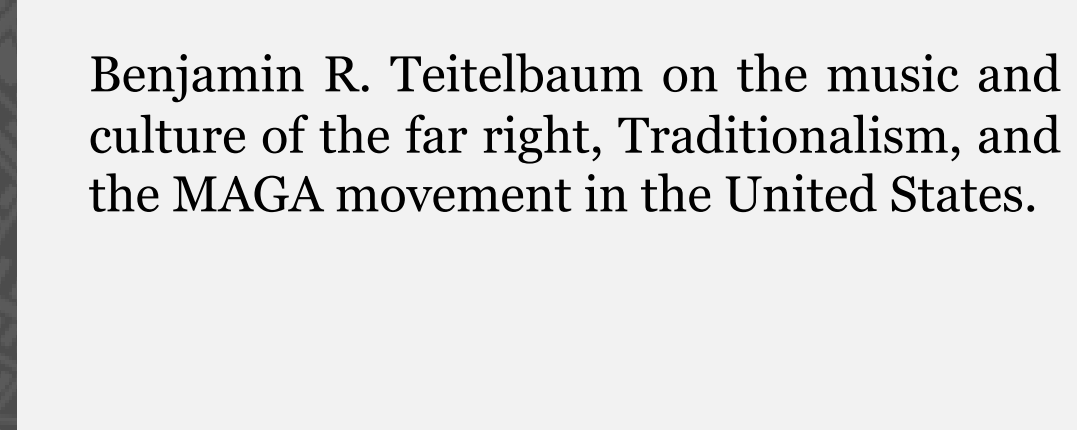
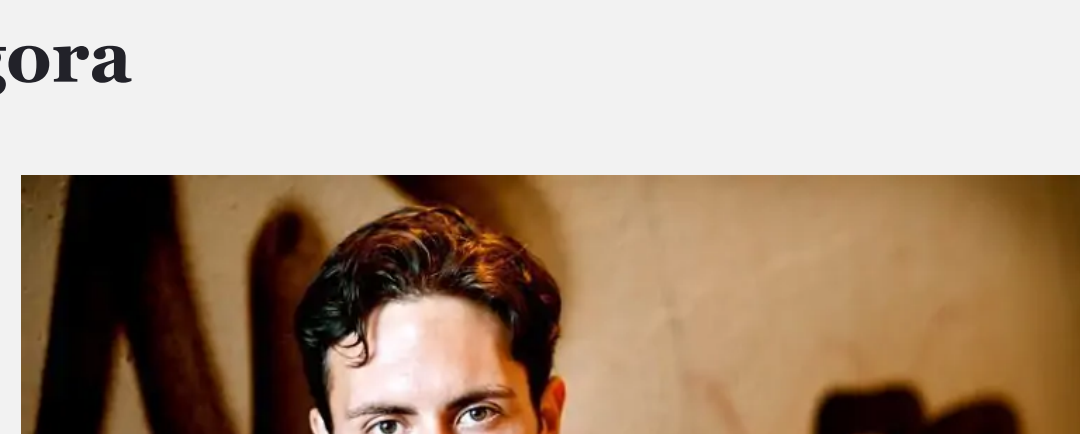
Karsten Schubert contests the notion that identity politics endangers democracy, showing how privileging suppressed perspectives in fact democratizes democracy itself, rather than undermines it.



Agora

Benjamin R. Teitelbaum on Looking at the Far Right as a Culture

Benjamin R. Teitelbaum on the music and culture of the far right, Traditionalism, and the MAGA movement in the United States.



RESOURCE HUB

Using Germany as a case study, Marcel Lewandowsky and Michael Jankowski advance a novel understanding of voters' support or opposition to liberal democracy. They show that voters of all stripes trade-off "policy congruence" against liberal democracy, i.e. voters support illiberal politicians if they agree with their policy platform, even if the voters themselves favor liberal democracy. The authors show that this tendency is especially pronounced in voters who are already skeptical of liberal democracy, and are therefore more willing to trade off liberal democracy for policy representation.

David Brenner challenges the popular juxtaposition of Western "liberal" and Eastern "illiberal" peacebuilding practices by foregrounding the authoritarian tenets of Western "liberal peacebuilding." Brenner historicizes conflict and pacification in Asia to demonstrate the problematic nature of this juxtaposition, and in doing so offers an alternative understanding of contemporary peacemaking efforts in Asia.

Bermond Scoggins conducts a meta-analysis of experiments that examine voters' attitudes toward "illiberal and undemocratic political behavior." He concludes that, while voter attitudes in long-standing democracies provide a firewall against creeping illiberalism, voters in new democracies with increasingly undemocratic yet highly popular incumbents continue to support those undemocratic candidates at "worryingly high" rates.

In a report issued by the Institute of European Democrats, Dawid Aristotelis Fusiek examines the recent democratic decline in European Union member states in the Western Balkans and Eastern Europe. He concludes that the European Union can only hope to roll back and prevent further democratic decline if it pushes for internal reforms that strengthen European institutions, maintains a decisive and joint stance on Hungary and Poland without issuing a general political condemnation against the two states; puts enlargement high on its agenda and promotes rule of law in its neighborhood; and pushes for a transatlantic and overall common Western approach to promote democratic development in the region.

Katinka Linnamäki reinterprets the concept of familism, which typically models the other social institutions. Using this framework, Linnamäki uses the case study of Hungary to show how familism is "used to render non-heterosexual rights illegitimate." By presenting the nuclear family, and children in particular, as the symbol of "the illiberalist future," the Hungarian state has a new mechanism for excluding non-heterosexual individuals from its conception of the nation and of society.

Matthijs Bogaards and Andrea Petó synthesize the existing literature on gender equality, democratization, and illiberalism to demonstrate how gender politics relates to democracy, before concluding that "the best way to protect feminist gains is to protect democracy, notwithstanding democracy's own troubled history with gender equality."

Karolina Zbytynska expands Cas Mudde's basket of major mobilizing forces of populism. I.e., a populist leader, a social movement, and a political party, to include "populist skirmishers." In her conception, "populist skirmishers" are "highly motivated, confrontational politicians who prepare the ground for populist radical ideas to take root in the electorate's minds." In other words, they set the stage that populist radical right parties take advantage of.

Through a study of feminist and LGBTQ+ activism in Russia, Turkey, and the Scandinavian countries, Hülya Arkin et al. contribute to an ongoing theoretical debate about the notion of politics itself. By challenging the traditional notion that politics is either antagonism or contestation, the authors conceptualize a context-specific idea of politics that highlights "the political expressions that do not neatly fit into the expected forms of politics, yet are motivated by a commitment to shaping new ways of living together."

Populism in Contemporary Italian Politics: Actors and Processes in Time of Crisis dissects Italian populism using a wide lens. Contributors unpack the Italian party structure, individual parties such as the Five Star Movement, the role of democracy in neoliberalism and populism, the role of immigration in Italian politics, and other topics. In doing so, they thoroughly explain the emergence and vibrance of Italian populism and contribute to an understanding of the recent past and expectations of the future.

Michael McDevitt et al. integrate the literature on mass communication theory into a discussion on democratic backsliding. While democratic backsliding theory typically sees control of media as a core mechanism in authoritarian regime consolidation, the authors focus on autonomous and semi-autonomous media organizations. Specifically, how autonomous and semi-autonomous media organizations "impact the capacity for responsive governance, consent of the governed, and ultimately the security of democracy."

Using Mexico as a case study, Alejandro Monsiváis-Carrillo unpacks voters' attitudes in countries led by individuals who actively undermine the legitimacy of democratic institutions. He finds that those who voted for Mexico's populist president support the government's performance but distrust the institutions denounced by the government. This leads to a counterintuitive situation in which voters who support a President who won the election are satisfied with democracy but are less likely to trust the integrity of elections than those who voted for the parties that actually lost the election.

Juraj Bazalka and Agnieszka Pasieka edit *Anthropology of Transformation: From Europe to Asia and Back*, a new volume that reflects on the more than 30 years that have passed since the fall of the Berlin Wall. Rather than seeing the collapse of Communism as a point of rupture, the authors take a sociocultural, anthropological approach that centers ethnographic study, micro-level analysis, and the gradual evolution of social relations to explain a diverse set of events including "the COVID-19 pandemic, the refugee 'crisis', and the rise of right-wing populism in Eastern Europe and elsewhere."

Anastasiina Kallius and Rik Adriaans examine the social media practices of young Hungarians as they challenge Viktor Orbán's increasingly authoritarian regime. The authors describe a process of neutralization used by young Hungarians, in which they challenge ubiquitous government propaganda billboards through the use of "parodic social media content," especially memes. By linking government propaganda with memes, Hungarian youth are able to "neutralize illiberal propaganda by turning it into a source of the self."

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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