

Backsliding and Resilience in Liberal Democracies

One-day conference

Giovanni Capoccia and Petra Schleiter (Oxford)

21 May 2022, DPIR, University of Oxford—Lecture Theatre, and on Zoom

Program

9.30—Breakfast

10.00-10.15 - Introduction: Giovanni Capoccia and Petra Schleiter

10.15-12.00 Panel 1— Confronting Illiberalism and Populism in Liberal Democracies

Chair: Stathis Kalyvas (Oxford)

Giovanni Capoccia (Oxford) “Confronting Illiberalism in Liberal Democracies: Conceptual Challenges and Historical Perspectives”

Ivan Ermakoff (Winsconsin) “Democratic Resistance to Authoritarian Bids for State Power: Challenges and Prospects”

Isabela Mares (Yale) “The Erosion of Parliamentary Norms: Evidence from Weimar Germany”

Vicente Valentim (Oxford) “Social Norms, Preference Falsification, and Democratic Backsliding”

12.00-13.30 - Lunch for conference participants

13.30-15.15 Panel 2 - Challenges to democratic participation and representation

Chair: Adam Smith (Oxford)

Petra Schleiter (Oxford) “The Attitudinal and Behavioural Effects of Voter ID in the UK and Northern Ireland”

Justin Grimmer (Stanford) “Crisis and Opportunity in American Election Administration”

Lonna Atkeson (Florida) “Restoring Voter Confidence: Conditional Explanations for the Partisan Effects on Voter Confidence”

Susan Stokes (Chicago) “Polarization as a Strategy for Aspiring Autocrats: Why does it Work? What are its Limits?”

15.15-15.45 — Coffee Break

15.45-17.30 Panel 3 – Sources and Strategies of Democratic Resilience

Chair: Andrea Ruggeri (Oxford)

Robert Lieberman (Johns Hopkins) “Backsliding in Reverse? Reflections on Democratic Fragility and Resilience”

David Bateman (Cornell) “Democratic Hardball: Clutching for Straw at the Edge of the Cliff”

Melis Laebens and Marcin Slarzynski (Oxford) “Political Sources of Democratic Resilience in Poland”

Stephen Haggard (UC San Diego) “Backsliding, Incrementalism and Resilience”

18.00—Dinner, Old Bank Hotel