

PopCon 2021

The populist transformation of constitutional law: Populist constitutionalism and democratic representation

Online Conference, 7-8 May 2021

Project “Populist Constitutionalism”, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki Law School

Conference Program

Friday, 7 May 2021

(All times in Eastern European Summer Time, UTC+3)

11:45 Conference opening

Welcome speech by Ass. Prof. Ifigeneia Kamtsidou, Head of the Public Law & Political Science Section of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki Law School

12:00 Keynote address

Prof. Bojan Bugarič Power to the People: Constitutionalism in the Age of Populism

12:45 Panel 1. Constitutionalism: Populist, popular, democratic

Chair: Ass. Prof. Christos Papastylianos

Prof. Gábor Halmai	‘False’ populists’ abuse of political constitutionalism
Prof. Paul Blokker	20th century constitutionalism and the populist imaginary
Prof. Valerio Fabbrizi	Populism and democratic theory: political and constitutional implications of a complex phenomenon
Dr. Charalambos Kouroundis	Populist constitutionalism and representation

14:30 Panel 2. Representation of the people

Chair: Ass. Prof. Costas Stratilatis

Prof. Roberto Di Maria	Lobbying vs. populism
Dr. Dan Paget	Virtuous government: Elitist plebeian constitutional thought
Dr. Patrik Rako	Playing the Trump card: Entrepreneurial democracy as a new wave of populism
Mr. Jason Koutoufaris-Malandrinos	A people’s voting system

16:15 Break

17:15 Keynote address

Prof. Antoine Vauchez Europe's Independence Wars. Independent Policy-Making in Times of Populist Constitutionalism

18:00 Panel 3. The limits of liberal constitutionalism

Chair: Ass. Prof. Ifigeneia Kamtsidou

Prof. Aeyal Gross From transitional justice to democratic backsliding: The limits of the comparative discussion and the liberal model
Dr. Roila Mavrouli Entre parade juridique et légalisme autocratique des 'démocraties': Un nouveau régime à étudier?
Dr. Nikolas Vagdotis Populism vs liberalism: Is this always the case? A remark on Carl Schmitt's theory
Mr. Amal Sethi Populism, liberal democracy, and constitutional law – An unholy trinity: Lessons from India

19:45 Panel 4. The sovereign people and the constitution

Chair: Dr. Eleni Kalampakou

Ass. Prof. Christos Papastylianos Charismatic leadership, popular mobilization and constitution-making: The making of the Greek Constitution of 1911
Dr. Anna Tarnowska & Dr. Wojciech Włoch Constitutive power and law-making delegation: The metaphysics of homogeneous unity as the basis of populist politics
Dr. Thomas Siomos Comparing the 'discourse-constructed' with the constitutional populisms
Dr. Fotis Vergis The unpopulous EU constitution: From undemocratic democracy to the constitutional construction of the populist 'other'

Day 2, Saturday, 8 May 2021

13:00 Keynote address

Prof. Costas Douzinas The people and the conflict of the Constitution with itself

13:45 Panel 5. Populism, constitutionalism, and the judiciary

Chair: Asst. Prof. Akritas Kaidatzis

Prof. Lucia Corso The judiciary as a populist actor
Prof. Fausto Vecchio The dark side of the force: Judicial corporatism, constitutional state and constitutionalism
Ass. Prof. Fruzsina Gárdos-Orosz & Prof. Populist challenges to constitutional interpretation in Europe

Zoltán Szente	
Dr. Jan Petrov	(De)judicialization of politics in the era of populism: Lessons from Central and Eastern Europe
Mr. Dimitris Patsikas	Rules of standing and populist constitutionalism: The case of the Greek Council of State

15:30 Break

16:30 Panel 6. Populist constitutionalism in practice: Case studies

Chair: Dr. Nikolas Vagdoutis

Prof. Eleonora Mesquita Ceia	Populism government and judicial power in Brazil in times of the Covid-19 pandemic
Prof. Renata Treneska Deskoska	Populism and democratic erosion: Balkan's examples (Serbia & N. Macedonia)
Ass. Prof. Yaniv Roznai & Prof. Amichai Cohen	Populist constitutionalism in Israel
Dr. Ilker Gokhan Sen	Populist constitutionalism (or populist's constitution?) in Erdogan's Turkey

18:15 Panel 7. Populist constitutionalism's rhetoric and practices

Chair: Dr. Eleni Lappa

Ass. Prof. Aleksandra Kustra-Rogatka	The hypocrisy of populist constitutionalism: Between the façade rhetoric of popular constitutionalism and the actual (ab)use of counter-majoritarian institutions in Poland
Dr. Alexianna Tsotsou	The discursive strategies of populist rhetoric in Greece: A linguistic approach to populist constitutionalism in the context of Critical Discourse Analysis
Dr. Juha Tapani Tuovinen	Populism, communication and the regulation of free speech
Mr. Alberto Nicotina	The impact of populism on EU multi-level governance: political and constitutional strategies