Is Europe Losing its Democratic Compass?  

Authoritarian Populism, Restrictions of Migrants’ Rights and Democratic Decay in Europe  

13-14 February 2020  
Co-organized by Hasselt University and Lund University  
Venue: Gamla Biskopshuset, Biskopsgatan 1, Lund
9:00 – 9:15: Opening Remarks, Mia Rönnmar, Dean of Lund University’s Law Faculty
9:15 – 10:45: Panel 1 – Theoretical and Comparative Perspectives
   2. What is Left to Say About Illiberal Democracy 10 Years Down the Road: Comparative Constitutional Perspectives, Renáta Uitz (Central European University)
   3. Viciously Circular: Will Aging Lock us Into Immigration Exclusion?, Gregor Noll (Gothenburg University)

   Discussant: Michaela Hailbronner (University of Giessen)

10:45 – 11:15: Coffee break

11:15 – 12:45: Panel 2 – Democracy, the Rule of Law and Belonging
   1. On Population Design, Patricia Mindus (Uppsala University)
   2. What Is Immigrant Sanctuary? Illiberalizing Nationalism and the Regulative Scope of Borders, Linda Bosniak (Rutgers University)
   3. Rule of Law, Citizenship and Change, Dimitry Kochenov (University of Groningen)
   4. International Migration Law and Populist Agendas, Jaya Ramji-Nogales (Temple University)

   Discussant: Gregor Noll (Gothenburg University)

12:45 – 14:00: Lunch at Gamla Biskopshuset, Lund

14:00 – 15:30: Panel 3 – Migrants’ Rights and the Rule of Law
   1. Our Authoritarian Administrative Law: Authoritarian Tendencies in Administrative and Immigration law, Bas Schotel (University of Amsterdam)
   2. Rule of Law, Authoritarian Legalism and Refugees, Cathryn Costello (Oxford University)
   3. Proportionate Exclusion and Inclusion?, Vladislava Stoyanova (Lund University)

   Discussant: Boldizsár Nagy (Central European University)

15:30 – 16:00: Coffee break

16:00 – 17:30: Panel 4 – The Prototypical Cases
   1. The Return of the Schmittian: Constitutionalism in Hungary, Kriszta Kovács (WZB Berlin Social Science Center)
   2. In the Hand of an Illiberal Populist: the Agony of the Hungarian Asylum System and the Arbitrary Migration Governance in Hungary, Boldizsár Nagy (Central European University)
   3. Judicial Independence (Non)Internalized? On the Polish Community of Judges, Quasi-Constitutional Changes and the Struggle for Power, Karolina Podstawa (Maastricht University)
   4. Poland’s Current Approach to Migration from a Human Rights Perspective, Barbara Mikolajczyk (University of Silesia)

18:30 – 20:30: Dinner at Gamla Biskopshuset, Lund
14 February 2020

9:00 – 10:30: Panel 5 – New and/or Future Cases? (I)
   1. Authoritarian populism and democratic decay in Austria? How to deal with Austrian ‘Einzelfälle’,
      Lando Kirchmair (University of Salzburg)
   2. Restriction of Migrants’ Rights as a Means of Authoritarian Populism: The Case of the ÖVP-FPÖ Coalition 2018-2019 in Austria,
      Margit Ammer (Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Human Rights, Vienna)
   3. Constitutional Counter-Narratives and Populism: The Italian Case,
      Giuseppe Martinico (Sant’Anna School of Advanced Studies)
      Stefano Zirulia (University of Milan)

10:30 – 11:00: Coffee break

11:00 – 12:30: Panel 6 – New and/or Future Cases? (II)
   1. The Good, the Bad and the Ugly in the Constitutional Matters of Migration in Slovenia,
      Saša Zagorc (University of Ljubljana)
   2. “Don’t’ Let the Sun Go Down on Asylum”: Dispersal of International Protection Structures in Slovenia,
      Neža Kogovšek Šalamon (The Peace Institute)
   3. Right-wing Populism in Belgium: Caught between Democratic Decay and Constitutional Resilience?,
      Stijn Smet (Hasselt University)
   4. Crumbling Migrants’ Rights, Populist Policies and Strategies of Resistance: The Case of Belgium,
      Ellen Desmet (Ghent University)

12:30 – 13:30: Lunch at Gamla Biskopshuset, Lund

13:30 – 15:00: Panel 7 – New and/or Future Cases? (III)
   1. Sweden: The Constitution and Populism, Anna-Sara Lind (Uppsala University)
   2. Blame it on the Populists? Changes in the Swedish Migration Policy and Legislation post-2015,
      Rebecca Stern (Uppsala University)
   3. A Bulwark of Militant Democracy or a Bastion of Human Rights? How German Constitutional Law Reacts to Right-wing Extremism and the Anti-immigrant Right,
      Tim Wihl (Free University of Berlin)
   4. Driven by Panic and Populists: German’s Return Turn,
      Constantin Hruschka (Max Planck Institute for Social Law and Social Policy)

15:00 – 15:30: Coffee break

15:30 – 17:00: Restoring Europe’s Democratic Compass by Taking its Fundamental Values Seriously,
   Jan Wouters (University of Leuven) – followed by closing discussion, chaired by Jan Wouters.