

# **Back from the Brink: Countering Illiberalism in Liberal Democracies**

Conference

Prof. Giovanni Capoccia (Oxford), Prof. Isabela Mares (Yale)

Friday 3-Saturday 4 November 2023

Venue: Lecture Theatre, Department of Politics and IR, University of Oxford, Manor Road Building, Manor Road, Oxford OX1 3UQ.

*Draft program*

## **Day 1: Friday, November 3 (14.30-18.40)**

### **Lecture Theatre, Department of Politics and IR**

#### **14.30-14.45 Arrival**

#### **14.45-15.00: Introduction**

Giovanni Capoccia (Oxford) and Isabela Mares (Yale)

#### **15.00-16.40 Panel #1**

Chair: Isabela Mares (Yale)

Giovanni Capoccia (Oxford), *Countering Illiberalism in Liberal Democracies: Actors, Strategies, Temporalities*

Discussants: Desmond King (Oxford) and Alexander Kuo (Oxford)

Melis Laebens (Central European University) and Marcin Ślarzyński (Polish Academy of Sciences), *Opposing backsliding in Poland: Finding new political identities after realignment.*

Discussant: Marek Naczyk (Oxford) [remote]

#### **16.40-17.00 Coffee break**

**17.00-18.40 Panel #2**

Chair: Desmond King (Oxford)

Rob Lieberman (Johns Hopkins University) and Daniel Schlozman (Johns Hopkins University),  
*Ethnic parties and democratic backsliding: The case of the United States.*

Discussant: Adam Smith (Oxford)

Lautaro Cella (University of Chicago), Ipek Çınar (University of Chicago), Susan Stokes  
(University of Chicago), and Andres Uribe (Stanford University), *Building tolerance for  
backsliding by trash-talking democracy: Theory and evidence from Mexico.*

Discussant: David Doyle (Oxford)

**19.15 Dinner for conference participants, Brasenose College (walk to College)**

**Day 2: Saturday, November 4 (10.00-18.30)**

**Lecture Theatre, Department of Politics and IR**

**10.00-10.30: Breakfast, Common Room, Manor Road Building**

**10.30-12.10 Panel #3**

Chair: Rob Lieberman (Johns Hopkins)

Isabela Mares (Yale), *Defending parliament: Responses of mainstream parties to parliamentary  
erosion.*

Discussant: Mihail Chiru (Oxford)

David Bateman (Cornell), *Democracy-reinforcing hardball: Can breaking democratic norms  
preserve democratic values?*

Discussant: Nick Dickinson (Oxford)

**12.10-13.30 Lunch**

**13.30-15.10 Panel #4**

Chair: Susan Stokes (Chicago)

Laura Jákli (Harvard) and Jason Wittenberg, (UC Berkeley), *Unmilitant democracy: Civil society and the vincibility of democracy in Hungary.*

Discussant: Michael Biggs (Oxford)

Vicente Valentim (Oxford), *Social norms, preference falsification, and the supply of radical-right policy.*

Discussant: Katerina Tertychnaya (Oxford)

**15.10-15.40 Coffee break**

**15.40-17.20 Panel #5**

Chair: Giovanni Capoccia (Oxford)

Antonis Ellinas (University of Cyprus), *The political dynamics of democratic defense: Institutional responses to illiberalism in Greece.*

Discussant: Stathis Kalyvas (Oxford)

Ivan Ermakoff (Wisconsin Madison), *Coordinating against authoritarian power bids.* [remote]

Discussant: Martin Conway (Oxford)

**17.20-17.50 Coffee break**

**17.50-18.20 Concluding Discussion**

**18.30 Buffet dinner, Common Room, Manor Road Building.**

## **Organizers**

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