

Webinar

Citizenship and Populism: a Twenty-First Century Challenge across the Globe

24 November 2020

Online - Zoom

Scientific organiser: [Jo Shaw](#) | University of Edinburgh/Tampere University and GLOBALCIT

Introduction

The rise of populism - a contested political phenomenon - represents one of the central challenges to the ideals of equal citizenship across the globe. Reflecting a variety of institutional and bottom-up perspectives on populism, the papers in this webinar will draw on case studies from India, Western Europe, Latin America and elsewhere in order to illuminate engagements between citizenship, democracy and the people.

The webinar is organised by the [Global Citizenship Observatory](#)

Programme

18.00 - 18.10 Chair: [Jo Shaw](#) | University of Edinburgh/Tampere University and GLOBALCIT

Welcome

18.10 - 18.25 **Citizenship, National Populism, and the Democratic Contestation of the “We” Group**

[Sara Wallace Goodman](#) | University of California, Irvine

The talk examines how populist parties talk about, respond to, and shape the politics of national citizenship, the state’s core instrument of identity-making. Drawing on cases from Western Europe, the talk illustrates how we cannot understand the strength and salience of national populism without also looking at citizenship politics.

Dr Sara Wallace Goodman is Associate Professor, Political Science, at University of California at Irvine

18.25 - 18.40 **Anti-hygienic outrage: citizens’ right to protest and far right**



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[Ulrike Vieten](#) | Queen's University Belfast

This talk will foreground the motivation and ideological anchoring of the so called 'anti-hygienic' demonstrators taking to the streets in different countries, and very prominent in Germany, since Spring 2020. Building on recent work on far-right populism (Vieten & Poynting, 2016, Vieten, 2020), the talk looks at the blurred boundaries between civil society groups that claim legitimate civil protest, on the one hand, and the way they accept far-right groups entering shared platforms, on the other. As the pandemic crisis continues to define our lives, it is open to further discussions how the normalisation of the far-right could be halted without denying citizens' rights to critique government policies.

Dr Ulrike Vieten is Lecturer (Assistant Professor) in Sociology and Fellow of the Senator George J. Mitchell Institute for Global Peace, Security and Justice at Queen's University Belfast.

18.40 - 18.55 **Populist or Majoritarian? Citizenship Inclusions and Exclusions in Contemporary India**

[Sanjib Baruah](#) | Bard College

While a populist strategy may have led to the electoral success of the Narendra Modi-led Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in India in 2014, the changes in the country's citizenship laws that have occurred under this government have their roots in the party's majoritarian ideology. Baruah's talk will address the politics surrounding India's controversial Citizenship Amendment Act of 2019.

Dr Sanjib Baruah, Professor of Political Studies at Bard College, is the author of [In the Name of the Nation: India and its Northeast](#) (Stanford University Press, 2020).

18.55 - 19.10 **Citizen Participation, Populism, and Repressive Policing in Latin America**

[Lindsay Mayka](#) | Colby College

In Brazil and elsewhere in Latin America, grassroots mobilization through social movements and participatory institutions has played a crucial role in constructing new populist discourses that restructure the boundaries, processes, and content of citizenship. This talk will discuss how right-wing mobilization in the arena of policing has advanced conceptions of citizenship that define marginalized groups as security threats—instead of rights-bearing citizens—that must be contained or eliminated through repressive policing. Illiberal politicians can later harness these discourses laid by civil society to mobilize political support and advance repressive projects.

Dr Lindsay R. Mayka is Assistant Professor of Government at Colby College.

19.10 - 19.30 **Q&A**