

Call for Papers

RECONSIDERING THE RISE OF THE RIGHT POLITICS TODAY: CONCEPTUAL APPROACHES, METHODOLOGICAL CHOICES, AND CHALLENGES

Columbia University Columbia Global Centers (CGC) | Amman-Jordan

30-31 October, 2023

The surge of right-wing politics on a global scale has sparked significant interest among scholars and researchers, leading them to explore the fundamental factors, drivers, and possible consequences of this phenomenon. They grapple with questions surrounding the implications for societies and states in the future. While attempting to frame this phenomenon, they use different periodizations, concepts, and perspectives, employing a variety of methods to better comprehend this political shift. However, this rise of right-wing politics presents unique challenges due to its inherent political and social complexities, historical conditions, and contradictions. As a result, researchers and scholars face difficulties in defining and clarifying this surge.

With the objective of addressing the challenges in comprehending the rise of right-wing politics, this workshop seeks to bring together scholars from various disciplines such as political science, sociology, history, political sociology, and theory. The purpose is to explore their research on right-politics and its surge, and to delve into the conceptual and methodological approaches used to define and explain this phenomenon.

According to the literature, numerous scholars and researchers employ various concepts to elucidate the ascent of right-wing politics and far-right movements across the globe (Traverso, 2019; Mudde, 2017; Mudde, 2019; Kallis, 2003; Stanley, 2018). Right-authoritarianism, fascism, post-fascism, fascistization... and so on can be assumed among the concepts in question. In general, scholars and researchers who study these concepts emphasize that the current political landscape is marked by significant political and social conditions that vary historically across different contexts. Despite these variations, we see a common political experience in countries like the United States, Hungary, Poland, Italy, Slovenia, Turkey, Russia, and others, characterized by a predominant rise of right-wing politics and similar far-right ideologies and views. With a focus on these debates and political experiences, this event will be framed by the following questions:

1. Does the rise of right-wing politics vary across different regions of the world? If so, how should it be defined and studied?

2. What are the concepts and/or conceptualizations that can be applied to understand and elucidate the rise of right-politics?
3. What are the most appropriate methodological approaches for researching and analyzing the rise of right-wing politics?
4. To what extent do the challenges in comprehending and clarifying the rise of far-right politics impact our understanding of the phenomenon?

The thematic focus of this workshop “Reconsidering the Rising of the Right Politics: Conceptual Approaches, Methodological Choices, and Challenges”, expects discussants from political and social sciences:

- to conceptually contribute to the literature and academically debate the rise of right-politics
- to put forward what type of concepts and conceptual approaches should be utilized in the study of right-politics
- to highlight the significance of methodological preferences in the study and discussions surrounding right-politics
- to explore the extent to which challenges pose difficulties in understanding right-wing politics
- to explain why the right-politics is on the rise in the world
- to consider some general and specific political motivations and facts on the rise of right-wing politics
- to discuss what type of historical-social conditions contribute to the emergence of right-wing politics, if there are any
- to bear in mind if there are strong intellectual contributions and ideologies that support the coming of the -far- right-politics to power
- to ascertain whether the rise of right-wing politics stems from large-scale social grassroots movements and populism
- to debate whether there are conditions that lead to the radicalization of right-wing politics, and if so, to identify what those conditions may be.

Guide for Participants

The workshop will be held on the **30-31 October, 2023**. Attendance to the workshop will be **in person, but a hybrid format will be made available**. Please submit a 300–500 words abstract proposal and a brief recent CV/bio (up to half a page) if you wish to participate. In your email, **kindly indicate your preferred attendance format**. To submit your abstracts, please send them to **Özgür Olgun Erden, oe2187@columbia.edu by Thursday, July 20, 2023**.

In addition, we plan to publish the selected papers in an edited book or a special issue of reputable journals in the field, as we have received expressions of interest from several publishers.

The participants in need of accommodation and transportation are kindly asked to request their own institutions. Otherwise, they need to make their own arrangements for travel and accommodation. There is no conference fee. Refreshments will be served during coffee breaks, and lunch will be provided.