WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

Populism and illiberalism have firmly entrenched themselves in global politics, with parties across the globe combining the 'thin' rhetoric of populism with a variety of 'thick' ideologies (Mudde 2004; 2014). While each case was initially unique, in recent years the durability of populist parties has embedded them in existing networks of NGOs, think-tanks, and religious organization, helping to impact the legal and political milieu of their countries and sometimes of other countries too. The rise of such formal groups begs the question of under what conditions do populist politics and illiberal public policy diffuse? Are these groups creating a coherent ideological platform and under what conditions are they successful in doing so?

To address these questions, this one-day workshop intends to bring scholars from across the humanities and social sciences to study the diffusion of radical right-wing populism (RRP) and illiberal policy in Europe. This call welcomes scholars who study the issue from a variety of perspectives seeking to combine our efforts to understand this phenomenon. In particular, this workshop seeks contributions from scholars around the following research questions:

- To what extent have radical right-wing populist parties and movements constructed a coherent legal and political framework?
- What are the structures and impacts of networks between actors, both domestically and internationally?
- How are these legal and political concepts translated into jurisprudence and public policy?

We have limited funding to provide travel and accommodation grants to Early Career Researchers (up to 5 years post-PhD) from Widening Countries. If you would like to apply for a grant, please indicate in your email, and we encourage all participants to use their own funding where available.

Organizers: Alexander Mesarovich (EUI), Karolina Kocemba (EUI), and Kacper Majewski (EUI)

Submissions with a short abstract (up to 400 words) should be sent by March 20, 2024 to Alexander Mesarovich (alexander.mesarovich@eui.eu).