

International conference

## Resisting the autocratic turn: Can (and should) autocratization be prevented, stopped, and resisted?

28-29 September 2023

**Thursday 28th September 2023**

**09:30 Opening: welcoming reception**

**09:45: Introduction: Luca Tomini (ULB) and Johannes Gerschewski (WZB)**

**10:00 PANEL 1: Conceptualizing Resistance to Autocratization**

Chair: Luca Tomini (ULB)

- Anthoula Malkopoulou (Uppsala University) *Exclusion, Toleration, Integration: A Critical Evaluation of Three Ideal-Typical Responses to Antidemocratic Threats*
- Venelin Bochev (ULB) *Walking the tightrope: linking democratization and autocratization via the concepts democratic resilience and resistance against autocratization*
- Campbell MacGillivray (University of Göttingen) *How Courts Function as an Institution of Militant Democracy*

**12:00 – 13:00 Lunch**

**13:00 PANEL 2: The legal-institutionalist dimension of resilience and resistance**

Chair: Johannes Gerschewski (WZB)

- Florian Grotz and Marko Kukec (University of Hamburg) *Dismantling and Restoring Liberal Democracy by Legislative Acts? A Framework for Analysis and Evidence from Central and Eastern Europe*
- Gulay Icoz (University of Middlesex) *Resisting Democratic Backsliding and Autocratisation through (i) Educating the Democratically Elected Politicians (ii) Adopting a rule of law framework*
- Alina Maria Ripplinger (University of Hamburg/ Heidelberg) *From legal mobilization to accountability? Strategies to halt autocratic consolidation in Nicaragua.*

**15:00 -15:15 Coffee break**

**15:30 PANEL 3: Working from the outside in: the international dimension**

Chair: Venelin Bochev (ULB)

- Simone Benazzo (ULB) *Unpacking strategies of digital resistance to authoritarianism. The case of exiled media*
- Sonja Grimm (Konstanz) *Plus ça change... Explaining EU policy adaption towards the European Neighbourhood in the light of rising authoritarianism*
- Saipira Furstenberg (University of Venice) *The EU's responses to authoritarian transnational repression phenomenon.*

# Friday 29th September 2023

## 09:45 Opening

### 10:00 PANEL 4: Remote causes: Structural constraints and opportunities

Chair: Guido Panzano (ULB)

- Márk Stégmayer (University of Linz) *How to reverse autocratization? Positive and Negative Examples from the Visegrád Countries*
- Olga Kutsenko (Berlin Technical University) *Resilience of Democracy via Social Rooting, or what does the Ukrainian experience highlight in understanding democracy?*
- Tiziana Corda and Andrea Cassani (University of Milan) *Countering autocratization in Africa from within and outside*
- Joep Boonekamp -van Lit and Maurits J. Meijers (University of Nijmegen) *Citizens as Democratic Judges: When Credibility and Ambiguity Collide.*

## 12:00-13:00 Lunch

### 13:00 PANEL 5: Proximate causes: Political opposition and mobilization of protest

Chair: Suzan Gibril (ULB)

- Laura Gamboa (University of Utah) *The Opposition Gamble: Explaining Opposition Strategies against Potential Autocrats,*
- Yetkin Başkavak (Yıldız Technical University) *Deliberative Quality, Democratization and Autocratization: The Case of Turkey*
- Mert Arslanalp (Bogazici University) and T. Deniz Erkmen (Ozyegin University) *Democratic Resilience and its limits: The evolution of protests in authoritarian Turkey*
- Guido Panzano (ULB) and Sofia Marina (University of Vienna) *Liberal Anchors or Illiberal Sinkers? Investigating Political Parties' Resistance against Autocratization*

## 15:00 End of conference