



CORE CURRICULUM

Summer School on Internal contestation of EU Values: Euroscepticism and Populism

Roskilde University Summer school program, 11-15 August 2025

Contents

Program timetable:	2
Important Information:	3
Program	4
Monday 11 th August (10.30-19.00).....	4
Tuesday 12 th August (10.30-19.00)	6
Wednesday 13 th August (9.15-19.00).....	8
Thursday 14 th August (10.30-19.00)	10
Friday 15 th August (10.30-19.00)	12



Program timetable:

VALEUS ROSKILDE SCHOOL PROGRAM

11 August	12 August	13 August	14 August	15 August
<p>10.30- 11.00</p> <p>Welcome</p> <p><i>RUC, 40.2.25</i></p>	<p>10.30- 11.00</p> <p>Wrap-up first day</p> <p><i>RUC, 40.2.25</i></p>	<p>9.15-13.00</p> <p>Field Trip and Simulation game</p> <p>Democracy in Europe Information Alliance (DEO)</p> <p><i>Stuðiestræde 24, 1455 København</i></p>	<p>10.30- 11.00</p> <p>Wrap-up previous days</p> <p><i>RUC, 40.2.25</i></p>	<p>10.30- 11.00</p> <p>Wrap-up fourth day</p> <p><i>RUC, 40.2.25</i></p>
<p>11.00-13.00</p> <p>What is populism and how do we recognise it?</p> <p><i>Amelie Kutter, Sorina Soare, Francesco Campo</i></p>	<p>11.00-13.00</p> <p>Populism and Euroscepticism: Elections and institutions</p> <p><i>Sorina Soare, Erica Edwards</i></p>		<p>11.00-13.00</p> <p>Populism and regionalism beyond Europe</p> <p><i>Erica Edwards</i></p>	<p>11.00-13.00</p> <p>Responding to Populism at home and abroad</p> <p><i>Francesco Campo, Angela Bourne</i></p>
<p>13.00-14.00</p> <p>Lunch break</p>	<p>13.00-14.00</p> <p>Lunch break</p>	<p>13.00-14.00</p> <p>Lunch break</p>	<p>13.00-14.00</p> <p>Lunch break</p>	<p>13.00-16.00</p>
<p>14.00-16.00</p> <p>How to conduct a Critical Discourse Analysis of populist practice</p> <p><i>Amelie Kutter</i></p> <p>What is Euroscepticism and why does it matter?</p> <p><i>Erica Edwards, Sorina Soare</i></p>	<p>14.00-16.00</p> <p>Populism, Liberalism and democracy</p> <p><i>Angela Bourne</i></p>	<p>14.00-16.00</p> <p>Long break</p> <p><i>Please remember to be back on campus at RUC by 16.00</i></p>	<p>14.00-16.00</p> <p>Transnationalism, Euroscepticism and populism</p> <p><i>Erica Edwards, Sorina Soare, Francesco Campo</i></p>	<p>Summer school BBQ</p>
<p>16.00-17.00</p> <p>Break</p>	<p>16.00-17.00</p> <p>Break</p>	<p>16.00-17.00</p> <p>Reflections on the simulation game</p> <p><i>RUC, 40.2.25</i></p>	<p>16.00-17.00</p> <p>Break</p>	<p>16.00-17.00</p> <p>Wrap of the summer school</p> <p><i>Angela Bourne, Francesco Campo, Amelie Kutter, Erica Edwards</i></p>
<p>17.00-19.00</p> <p>JOINT SESSION: What (if anything) are EU values?</p> <p><i>Timm Beichelt</i></p>	<p>17.00-19.00</p> <p>JOINT SESSION: Europe in 'polycrisis'</p> <p><i>Amelie Kutter</i></p>	<p>17.00-19.00</p> <p>JOINT SESSION: Mass Migration of Refugees and Externalisation of Migration and Asylum Policies in the EU</p> <p><i>Ayhan Kaya</i></p>	<p>17.00-19.00</p> <p>JOINT SESSION: Whose Values? A Postcolonial Look at the EU and the Global South</p> <p><i>Nina Sajić</i></p>	<p>17.00-19.00</p> <p>JOINT SESSION: Democratic Backsliding and the rule of law crisis in the EU</p> <p><i>Angela Bourne</i></p>

Important Information:

On the program:

- **Additional readings:** The core program includes only required readings to complete before summer school; find additional suggested material on TEAMS→ 2. Roskilde University → Files → “RUC Additional readings”
- **Joint sessions** are organized on TEAMS in a hybrid format; you can always join the meeting by looking at the event organized on TEAMS→ 0. Global summer schools channel.

On communications

- **Updates:** Please refer always to TEAMS and your email for updates and announcements
- **Newsletters:** If you have any questions on the organization of the summer school please consult the newsletters distributed between May and July for further information.
- **Contacts:** If you have any remaining question about the program, you can contact Syaza Syafiqah Binti Roslan at ssbr@ruc.dk or Francesco Campo at campo@ruc.dk.

On directions:

- How to get to Roskilde University campus:
 - Google Maps: [CBIT Building 40, 41, 42 - Google Maps](#)
 - Roskilde University Map: [Directions to Roskilde University | Roskilde University](#)
 - Mazemap:
<https://use.mazemap.com/#v=1&config=ruc&campusid=209&zlevel=1¢er=12.138709,55.654577&zoom=19.5&sharepoitype=poi&sharepoi=544061>
 - room 40.2.25: building 40, second floor, room 25.
- Activities will take place on campus starting at 10.30 on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.
- On Wednesday, we will meet at 9.15 in Copenhagen at [Stuðiestræde 24, 1455 København](#). After our activities in Copenhagen, **you are expected to come to campus autonomously by 16.00 to resume with the afternoon activities**



Program

Monday 11th August (10.30-19.00)

Roskilde University (RUC), 40.2.25

10.30-11.00: Welcome

11.00-13.00: Morning session - What is populism and how do we recognise it?

Lecturers: Amelie Kutter, Sorina Soare, Francesco Campo

Description: *Populism is widespread across Europe and beyond. While it is certainly not a new phenomenon, its significance has grown against the backdrop of multiple crises, the decline of established political parties, and digitally mediated political discourse. But, what does 'populism' actually mean? This first session will address how populism can be defined and recognised. Three RUC summer school lecturers will present the concepts of populism that inform their own work. They will outline populism as 'thin ideology', 'style', and 'radical democratic politics'. Building on these concepts, students will then work in groups to determine whether phenomena they encounter in their countries can be classified as populist.*

Core Readings:

- Mudde, C., & Rovira Kaltwasser, C. (2017). 'What is populism?', in *Populism: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 1-20. Available at: https://soeg.kb.dk/permalink/45KBDK_KGL/1f0go08/cdi_proquest_ebookcentralchapters_4773366_2_12
- Ostiguy, P., Panizza, F., & Moffitt, B. (2020). 'Introduction', in *Populism in Global Perspective: A Performative and Discursive Approach*. 1st ed. London: Taylor and Francis, pp. 1-18. Available at: https://soeg.kb.dk/permalink/45KBDK_KGL/1f0go08/cdi_askewsholts_vlebooks_9781000335545 **Focus only on pp. 1-8**

13.00-14.00: Lunch

14.00-16.00: Afternoon session

a. *How to conduct a Critical Discourse Analysis of populist practice*

Lecturer: Amelie Kutter

Description: *This session introduces students to the theoretical perspective and analytical techniques of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA). CDA is seminal in the study of the far right's populist practice and the mainstreaming of that practice across the political spectrum. Students will probe the application of CDA, drawing on the example of the campaign that the European People's Party (EPP) launched against the EU nature restoration regulation. Against the backdrop of farmers' protests and upcoming European elections, the EPP agitated not only against the Commission's proposal, but also against the compromise that its members had co-brokered in the climate, environment and food safety committee of the European Parliament. We will assess whether, in this campaign, the EPP employed far right populist practice, concerning communicative and discursive strategies as well as imaginaries of nature and people.*

Core Reading and Material for analysis:

- Cliquet, A., Aragão A., Meertens M., Schoukens H., and Decler K. (2024). ‘The negotiation process of the EU Nature Restoration Law Proposal: bringing nature back in Europe against the backdrop of political turmoil?’, *Restoration Ecology*, 32 (5), pp. 1-7. Available at: https://soeg.kb.dk/permalink/45KBDK_KGL/1f0go08/cdi_proquest_journals_3075437022
- European People’s Party Group (2023). ‘Start over with the Nature Restoration Law’, *European People’s Party Group*, 6 July. Available at: <https://www.eppgroup.eu/newsroom/start-over-with-the-nature-restoration-law>

b. What is Euroscepticism and why does it matter?

Lecturers: Erica Edwards and Sorina Soare

Description: *This section aims to clarify the different meanings of Euroscepticism by moving beyond a simplistic, binary assessment of being either for or against the EU. Instead, it explores the degrees of Euroscepticism, ranging from soft to hard, as well as the specific content of critical positions, whether they concern EU integration, individual policies, or institutional structures and the EU project itself. It also identifies the main drivers behind Eurosceptic attitudes. Given the high level of political polarization in contemporary Europe, the section highlights the connection between party-based Euroscepticism and broader anti-establishment dynamics.*

Core Readings:

- De Vries, C. E. (2018). *Euroscepticism and the Future of European Integration*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Available at: https://soeg.kb.dk/permalink/45KBDK_KGL/1f0go08/cdi_askewsholts_vlebooks_9780192511904
(Note: Skim Introduction; Read Chapter 1)
- Szczerbiak, A., & Taggart, P. (2024). ‘Euroscepticism and anti-establishment parties in Europe’, *Journal of European Integration*, 46(8), pp. 1171-1191. Available at: https://soeg.kb.dk/permalink/45KBDK_KGL/1f0go08/cdi_webofscience_primary_001187456800001

16.00-17.00: Break

17.00-19.00: Joint session - What (if anything) are EU values?

Place: link available on TEAMS→ 0.Global summer school channel

Lecturer: Timm Beichelt

Description: *This lecture provides an overview of the ValEUs project and explores how its scholars approach values as a core component of the European project. A central focus is the gap between the EU’s stated ideals—such as freedom, mobility, and solidarity—and the ways in which the EU acts in relation to these values in practice.*

Core Readings:

- Manners, I. (2002). ‘Normative Power Europe: A Contradiction in Terms?’, *Journal of Common Market Studies*, 40(2), pp. 235–258. Available at: https://soeg.kb.dk/permalink/45KBDK_KGL/1f0go08/cdi_proquest_miscellaneous_39177012
- Beichelt, T. (2025). *Young Generation Policy Briefs in the ValEUs Jean Monnet Policy Network: Enquiring into European Values from the Young Generation’s Perspective*. Available at: https://valeus.eu/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/ValEUs-young-generation-policy-brief_no.-01_Beichelt_31-03-2025.pdf



Tuesday 12th August (10.30-19.00)

RUC, 40.2.25

10.30-11.00: Wrap-up of the first day

11.00-13.00: Morning session - Populism and Euroscepticism: Elections and institutions

Lecturers: Sorina Soare, Erica Edwards

Description: *This session explores the evolving interaction between populism and Euroscepticism within the institutional framework of the European Parliament. The focus is on how radical right populist parties have organized and operated in the EP since the first direct elections in 1979, examining both their growing relevance and the limits of their influence. Students will be introduced to the technical structure of EP party groups, the strategic incentives for collaboration, and the internal tensions, especially around foreign policy and national interest, that often undermine coherence among Eurosceptic populist forces. Drawing on electoral data, comparative case studies, and recent academic literature, the session helps unpack how these actors shape (and are constrained by) institutional politics in Europe.*

Core readings:

- Hwang, I. (2025). 'Is the European Parliament a Key to Success for (All) Right-Wing Populist Parties? Two Different Pathways to Engaging with the EP', *Government and Opposition*, pp. 1–21. Available at: https://soeg.kb.dk/permalink/45KBDK_KGL/1f0go08/cdi_webofscience_primary_001392081600001
- Ivaldi, G. and Zankina, E. (2024). 'Conclusion', in *2024 EP Elections under the Shadow of Rising Populism*. European Center for Populism Studies (ECPS), pp. 396-428 Available at: https://soeg.kb.dk/permalink/45KBDK_KGL/1f0go08/cdi_hal_primary_oai_HAL_hal_04760777v1

13.00-14.00: Lunch

14.00-16.00: Afternoon session - Populism, liberalism, and democracy

Lecturer: Angela Bourne

Description: *In this session we look at several different takes on the relationship between populism, liberalism and democracy. To begin with we explore the distinction between 'inclusive' and 'exclusive' forms of populism and their complex relationship to democracy. This alerts us to the possibility that populism may be emancipatory, a 'correction' and/or a 'threat' to democracy. We then turn to look at the idea that populism should be seen as illiberal but not undemocratic, and alternatively that populism is in fact a problem for both pluralism and democracy. We end by considering polarization between populist and anti-populist conceptions of democracy, and the idea that the problem with many groups we label as populist may be nativism and nationalism.*

Core Readings:

- Mudde, C. and Rovira Kaltwasser, C. (2013). 'Exclusionary vs. Inclusionary Populism: Comparing Contemporary Europe and Latin America', *Government and Opposition*, 48(2), pp. 147-174. Available at: https://soeg.kb.dk/permalink/45KBDK_KGL/1f0go08/cdi_proquest_journals_1549330098

- Moffitt, B. (2018). 'The Populism/Anti-Populism Divide in Western Europe', *Democratic Theory*, 5(2) pp. 1-16. Available at:
https://soeg.kb.dk/permalink/45KBDK_KGL/1f0go08/cdi_crossref_primary_10_3167_dt_2018_050202

16.00-17.00: Break

17.00-19.00: Joint session - Europe in 'polycrisis'

Place: link available on TEAMS→ 0.Global summer school channel

Lecturer: Amelie Kutter

Description: *For the past two decades, the European Union and the wider Europe have been struggling with a series of cascading calamities. These have surfaced as financial crisis, migration policy crisis, pandemic, and war; but they have also revealed unease with existing political institutions and globalisation. In this context, the term 'polycrisis' has emerged as a poignant description. But what does it actually mean, other than making an overwhelming sentiment of simultaneous risks and challenges explicit? This session introduces theories of multiple crisis, including Koselleck's semantic models, Gramsci's 'organic crisis' and Polanyi's 'double movement'. They can help to understand the current European conundrum and the reconfiguration of the 'political compact', which had underpinned European integration since the end of the Second World War.*

Core Readings:

- Rosamond, B. (2017). The Political Economy Context of EU Crises. In D. Dinan, N. Nugent, & W. E. Paterson (Eds.), *European Union in Crisis* (pp. 33-53). London: Palgrave Macmillan. Available on [TEAMS → 0. Global summer school channel → files → Joint sessions](#)
- Henig, D., and Knight, D. M. (2023). 'Polycrisis: Prompts for an emerging worldview', *Anthropology today*, 39(2), pp. 3-6. Available at:
https://soeg.kb.dk/permalink/45KBDK_KGL/1f0go08/cdi_proquest_journals_2793421530



Wednesday 13th August (9.15-19.00)

9.15-13.00: Field Trip and Simulation game

Directions: [Stuðiestræde 24, 1455 København](#)

Description: *In this simulation game, you will take on the role as representatives from different EU Member States who are meeting in Brussels to negotiate a new EU budget and a common EU migration and asylum policy. A lot is at stake, and you will have to navigate in a challenging landscape of overlapping and competing interests. Will you, as representatives, succeed in reaching consensus on concrete agreements? The simulation game is hosted and facilitated by [the Democracy in Europe Organisation \(DEO\)](#), a Danish member-based civil society organisation that works to strengthen civic education about the European Union in Denmark and across Europe. They do so through publications, public debates, development of educational material, facilitating educational activities and study trips.*

13.00-14.00: Lunch

Lunch will be provided at DEO office at 13.00

14.00-16.00: Long Break

Please be sure to come back at RUC campus in Trekroner by 16.00 for the afternoon session

16.00-17.00: Afternoon session - Reflections on the simulation game

Place: RUC, 40.2.25

Lecturer: Francesco Campo

Description: *In this session, we will discuss the simulation game and the visit to the DEO. This visit will also serve as a starting point for exploring the role of educational organizations in promoting European values. Can civil society actors contribute to this effort? What are the potential strengths and limitations of their involvement?*

17.00-19.00: Joint session - Mass Migration of Refugees and Externalisation of Migration and Asylum Policies in the EU

Place: link available on TEAMS→ 0.Global summer school channel

Lecturer: Ayhan Kaya

Description: *This lecture aims to give a general account of the state of human mobility from the Middle East since the eruption of the Civil War in Syria in 2011, including how the mass migration of Syrian refugees unfolded in Turkey and Europe over the last migration, and how the EU operationalised its externalisation of migration and asylum policies through the 2016 EU-Turkey Refugee Deal.*

Core Readings:



Co-funded by
the European Union

- Kaya, A. (2023). 'Influence of Populism on the European Migration Agenda', in IEMed, *Mediterranean Yearbook 2023*, pp. 322–327. Available at: <https://www.iemed.org/publication/influence-of-populism-on-the-european-migration-agenda/>
- Kaya, A. (2023). 'The World's Leading Refugee Host, Turkey Has a Complex Migration History', *Migration Policy Institute*, 1 November. Available at: <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/article/turkey-migration-history>



Thursday 14th August (10.30-19.00)

RUC, 40.2.25

10.30-11.00: Wrap-up of the third day

Place: RUC, 40.2.25

11.00-13.00: Morning session - Populism and regionalism beyond Europe

Lecturers: Erica Edwards and Sorina Soare

Description: *This session expands the analysis of populism and regionalism beyond the European context. While much of the scholarly and media attention has focused on Europe and North America, this class highlights the global diversity of populist phenomena and regional political dynamics. Special emphasis is placed on Latin America, where populism has deep historical roots and has taken various forms, left and right, institutional and disruptive. The session explores: how populism varies across time, region, and regime type; the rhetorical tools populist leaders use (emotions, identity, anti-elitism); the interaction between party leadership, institutions, and regional governance structures. A focused case study on Venezuela, examining how party leadership and charismatic authority shape populist regimes.*

Core readings:

- De La Torre, C. (2016). 'Left-wing populism: Inclusion and authoritarianism in Venezuela, Bolivia, and Ecuador', *The Brown Journal of World Affairs*, 23(1), pp. 61-76. Available at:
 - https://soeg.kb.dk/permalink/45KBDK_KGL/1f0go08/cdi_jstor_primary_26534710
 - Alternative link:
https://soeg.kb.dk/permalink/45KBDK_KGL/1f0go08/cdi_proquest_miscellaneous_1863172018
- Kestler, T. (2022). 'Radical, Nativist, Authoritarian—or All of These? Assessing Recent Cases of Right-wing Populism in Latin America', *Journal of Politics in Latin America*, 14(3), pp. 289-310. Available at: https://soeg.kb.dk/permalink/45KBDK_KGL/1f0go08/cdi_doaj_primary_oai_doaj_org_article_eeb7fcf083b345f6a7a10bf067d9416e

13.00-14.00: Lunch

14.00-16.00: Afternoon session - Transnationalism, Euroscepticism and populism

Lecturers: Erica Edwards, Sorina Soare, Francesco Campo

Description: *This session examines how populism and Euroscepticism extend beyond national borders, gaining momentum through international, supranational and transnational cooperation among political actors, civil society organisations, media networks, and ideological platforms. While often rooted in nationalist rhetoric, many populist movements actively participate in networks, forming alliances, endorsing one another in elections, and sharing strategies to influence policy debates, shape public opinion, and drive institutional reform. The session explores the distinctions between international, supranational, and transnational cooperation, as well as the growing interconnectedness among populist actors, including parties, leaders, influencers, think tanks, and civil society organisations. It draws on real-world examples such as the CPAC conference, transnational lobbying efforts, and cross-border populist mobilisation.*

Core Readings:



- Aslanidis, P. (2017) 'Populism and Social Movements', in Rovira Kaltwasser, C., et al. (eds.) The Oxford Handbook of Populism, Oxford, United Kingdom: Oxford University Press, <https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780198803560.013.23> , available at: https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&ved=2ahUKEwjU-P-146OAxUyPxAlHYhOG-8QFnoECBgQAQ&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.researchgate.net%2Fprofile%2FParis-Aslanidis%2Fpublication%2F322406114_Aslanidis_Paris_2017_Populism_and_Social_Movements_scan%2Fdata%2F5a57dea3aca2726376b70d3b%2FAslanidis-Paris-2017-Populism-and-Social-Movements-scan.pdf%3Forigin%3Dpublication_list&usg=AOvVaw2J8tw_mPq0wvtJGHP1fpN2&opi=89978449
- Jakobson, M. L., Saarts, T., and Kalev, L. (2020). 'Radical Right Across Borders?: The case of EKRE's Finnish branch', in T. Kernalegenn & E. van Haute (eds.) Political Parties Abroad: A New Arena for Party Politics. Abingdon, UK: Routledge, pp. 21-38. Available at: https://soeg.kb.dk/permalink/45KBDK_KGL/1f0go08/cdi_informaworld_taylorfrancisbooks_10_4324_9781003015086_3_version2

16.00-17.00: Break

17.00-19.00: Joint session - Whose Values? A Postcolonial Look at the EU and the Global South

Place: link available on TEAMS→ 0.Global summer school channel

Lecturer: Nina Sajić

Description: *The European Union often presents its values—democracy, human rights, the rule of law—as universal. But if we take a step back and look at things from the perspective of the Global South, and especially regions like Latin America, we start to see a more complicated picture. In this talk, I'll explore how the EU's value system is still shaped by its colonial legacy and by assumptions that don't always resonate outside of Europe. I'll also reflect on what happens when the EU promotes its norms globally—often with good intentions—but in ways that can come across as prescriptive or even patronizing. This isn't about rejecting those values altogether, but about asking some hard questions: Who defines these values? Whose history and experience are they based on? And what alternative visions—rooted in anti-colonial struggles, social justice, and plural ways of thinking—are emerging from Latin America and the broader Global South?*

Core readings:

- Chopin, T. (2025, April). *To what extent are European values universal?* (Policy Paper No. 285). Jacques Delors Institute. Available at: https://institutdelors.eu/content/uploads/2025/04/PP285_To-what-extent-are-European-values-universal_Chopin_EN.pdf
- Weymans, W. (2023). A critical history of the use of 'European values'. In R. Polak & P. Rohs (Eds.), *Values - politics - religion: The European Values Study* (pp. 95-123). Springer. Available at: [Values – Politics – Religion: The European Values Study: In-depth Analysis – Interdisciplinary Perspectives – Future Prospects - Royal Danish Library](https://www.royal-danish-library.com/Value-Politics-Religion-The-European-Values-Study-In-depth-Analysis-Interdisciplinary-Perspectives-Future-Prospects-Royal-Danish-Library)



Friday 15th August (10.30-19.00)

RUC, 40.2.25

10.30-11.00: Wrap-up of the fourth day

11.00-13.00: Morning session - Responding to Populism at home and abroad

Lecturers: Francesco Campo, Angela Bourne

Description: *This session examines strategies for opposing populist parties in Europe, addressing whether their presence in politics should be tolerated and what opposition tactics are most effective. It introduces key theoretical debates, including the potential threat populism poses to liberal democracy and the dilemma of tolerance versus intolerance. The empirical component explores how public authorities, political parties, and civil society respond to populists, using both tolerant and intolerant methods. Students will then work in groups to analyze case studies of one actor type, debating whether that actor should tolerate the populist party and the likely consequences. The session concludes with a plenary discussion and reflection on the most effective approaches.*

Core Readings:

- Bourne, A. (2024). 'Introduction: Populism and Democratic Defence in Europe', in *Democratic Defence as Normal Politics*. Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 1–26. Available at: https://soeg.kb.dk/permalink/45KBDK_KGL/1f0go08/cdi_springer_books_10_1007_978_3_031_60483_6_1
- Malkopoulou, A., and Moffitt, B. (2023). 'How Not to Respond to Populism', *Comparative European Politics*, 21(6), pp. 848–865. Available at: https://soeg.kb.dk/permalink/45KBDK_KGL/1f0go08/cdi_webofscience_primary_000946056200001CitationCount

13.00-16.00: Summer school BBQ

16.00-17.00: Afternoon session - Wrap of the summer school

Lecturers: Angela Bourne, Francesco Campo, Amelie Kutter, Erica Edwards

Description: *In this session we will debate the internal contestation of EU Values, drawing on what we have learned from the previous sessions. In the first part, students will be asked to form groups and prepare a presentation on one of the core debates discussed in the course. This will be followed by a plenary session, where students present their arguments and defend them against alternative positions suggested by the audience.*

17.00-19.00: Joint session - Democratic Backsliding and rule of law crisis in the EU

Place: RUC, 40.2.25

Lecturer: Angela Bourne



Description: *The EU's self-identification as a community of liberal democratic states has been shaken in recent years by democratic backsliding in several member states. This lecture explores the impact of democratic backsliding on the EU, and EU efforts to respond to it. It begins with a discussion of democratic backsliding in the EU, and the gradual development of an EU rule of law toolbox. Core questions include whether the EU is an appropriate body to respond to domestic political processes, the challenges involved in formulating an EU response, and how the effectiveness of EU responses can be evaluated.*

Core Readings:

- Coman, R and Buzogány, A (2024). 'The European Union's Response to the Rule of Law Crisis and the Making of the New Conditionality Regime', *Journal of Common Market Studies*, 62(1), pp. 102-112. Available at: https://soeg.kb.dk/permalink/45KBDK_KGL/1f0go08/cdi_proquest_journals_3143031750
- Blauburger, M. and Sedelmeier, U. (2024). 'Sanctioning democratic backsliding in the European Union: transnational salience, negative intergovernmental spillover, and policy change', *Journal of European Public Policy*, 32(2), pp.364-391. Available at: https://soeg.kb.dk/permalink/45KBDK_KGL/1f0go08/cdi_proquest_journals_3156768375