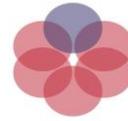




HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
EST. 1837



the MEDICI
ARCHIVE
PROJECT

Schedule

Comparative Political Theory Workshop 2022

Venue: Kostis Palamas Building,
Academias 48 & Sina Str, Athens, Greece

“Authoritarianism in the Eurasian
Context: From Antiquity to the Present”

After the end of the Cold War, an optimistic view about the future of democracy and freedom prevailed in both public and academic discourses. A few years later, however, a dominant view had arisen that democracy is under fire. Intellectuals, politicians, and citizens agree that a growing crisis of representation threatens to erode contemporary republics and that democracy is at risk all over the globe. Meanwhile, especially during the recent pandemic, there has been a growing acceptance of non-democratic forms of government, based on their efficacy in tackling emergency situations. For the first time after WW1, the competition between democracy and authoritarianism is in doubt. The aim of this workshop is to bring together scholars to discuss the emerging acceptance of authoritarianism in the contemporary world and to reflect upon and derive insights from the rich historical experience and the depth of sources produced by Eurasian cultures from antiquity to the present.

Wednesday 13/4

First session: 10:00 – 11:30

*Leadership as Craftsmanship in
European and Islamic Political Thought*

Vasileios Syros, Director of the Early
Modern Greek Culture Program, The
Medici Archive Project (Florence)

*Absolutism and Political Obligation: The
Case of Hobbes*

Constantinos Balatsos, University of
Crete

*The Problem of Authority and
Leadership in Liberalism from Adam
Smith Onwards*

Spyridon Tegos, Ass. Professor,
University of Crete

Discussion

Break 11:30-12:00

Second session: 12:00-13:30

Authoritarianism-by-neglect: Sun Yat-sen, Liang Qichao and Liang Shuming

Pieter Boele van Hensbroek, Assoc. Professor, University of Groningen

Anti-hypnosis, Conformism and Authoritarianism: The Role of Education in the 21st Century

Lampros Papagiannis, Ass. Professor, Guangdong University of Foreign Studies

Thucydides, Han Fei Tzu and Machiavelli on Authoritarianism

Georgios Steiris, Assoc. Professor, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Discussion

Lunch

Thursday 14/4

Third session: 10:00-11:30

The Triumph of Liberty, the Loss of Freedom: Democracy and Republicanism Beyond Western Liberalism

Michael Theodosiadis, Public Relations & Communications Manager, Early Modern Greek Culture Program, The Medici Archive Project (Florence)

Coray in the Abbé Grégoire's Utopian Republic

Constantin Irodotou, Adjunct Lecturer, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Reversing the Gaze of Comparative Political Theory: Decolonial Promise or Pitfall?

Ralph Weber, Professor, Universität Basel

Vladimir Soloviev's idea of Christian politics. Utopian or realistic Approach against the Russian autocracy of the 19th century?'

Evi Zacharia, Radboud University – Nijmegen

Discussion

Break 11:30-12:00

Fourth session: 12:00-13:30

Albert Camus' Critique of Authoritarianism in his Essay "The Rebel" and in his Political Writings

Yannis Prelourentzos, Professor, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Liberal Principles - Authoritarian Measures: The Case of the COVID-19 Pandemic

Georgios N. Politis, Assoc. Professor, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Aspects of Control Societies in Antiquity and Modern Era: Inclusion, State of Exception, Totalitarianism

Andreas Tifas, University of Nicosia

Discussion

Lunch