

Populism and Constitutionalism

The *German Law Journal*, Cambridge University Press, and the London School of Economics have teamed up and are proud to organise a conference on ‘Populism and Constitutionalism’, taking place in London in April 2019.

The recent years has seen a quick rise of populist political narratives and parties throughout the world – with a concomitant rise in attention for the phenomenon by politicians, policy-makers, and academics. This conference focuses on the interaction between populism and constitutionalism. It asks what populism ‘is’, categorises its different articulations and flavours, and asks to what extent populism can be accommodated (or not) by the framework of constitutionalism that has typified modern politics in Europe and beyond. How does constitutionalism – with its commitment to the rule of law, democracy, and free speech – understand populist politics? Can constitutionalism constrain populist politics, or is it partly to blame for its rise? How do (dis)information, voter behaviour and social movements operate within the structures of constitutionalism? Does populism have the potential to transform modern-day political structures? And if so, in what way?

These are not easy questions, and it is the conviction of the organisers that the best way to tackle difficult questions is by looking at them from different perspectives. The conference will do so by allowing the discussion to take place between different actors. The keynote address will be held by Prof. Nicola Lacey CBE, who will be speaking on ‘Populism and the Rule of Law’.

The morning sessions of the conference will be devoted to understand how populism operates – how it has emerged historically, how it can be explained in anthropological terms, and how (if) populism can be defined. We will also look at the way in which political economy, mass media, and social movements have been used to express, or, conversely, challenge the rise of populism.

The afternoon session of the conference is devoted to a more precise legal discussion of the interaction between constitutionalism and populism. The *German Law Journal* is proud to present an unprecedented ‘double special issue’ on the topic, due to come out in May 2019. We have invited the editors of these two issues – which will define scholarship in the area for years to come – to offer their insights. To what extent does populism challenge the very basis of constitutionalism? Can it be accommodated?

The final part of the conference is devoted to a celebration. This conference marks not just the start of the cooperation between the *German Law Journal* and Cambridge University Press, but also the 20th anniversary of the *German Law Journal* – a project that was dreamt up by two friends, and now has become one of the most influential journals in German, International, Comparative and European Law. Time to reminisce about the project, and discuss how the world has changed since 1999.



Conference program

Thursday 25th April:

17.30 – 19.00 Keynote Address by Prof Nicola Lacey CBE (LSE), ‘Populism and the Rule of Law’

(PAN.G.01 – Pankhurst House, LSE)

19.00 – Drinks Reception

(LSESU Weston Cafe, Saw Swee Hock Student Centre, LSE)

20.30 – Conference Dinner

Friday 26th April:

(The Shaw Library, 6th floor, Old Building, LSE)

09.15 – 09.30 Coffee & registration.

09.30 – 10:45 Explaining Populism

- Anton Jäger (Cambridge) ‘Ulysses Untied: Populism and Constitutionalism in the Age of Liberal Consensus’
- Dr. Paul Blokker (Charles University, Prague), ‘Varieties of Populism’
- *Chair: Dr. Nora Markard (Hamburg University)*

10:45 – 11:15 Coffee Break

11:15 – 12:30 Populism in action

- Dr. Eva Polonska-Kimunguyi (LSE Media), ‘Political Communication, Social Media, and Identity Politics’
- Dr. Insa Koch (LSE Law), ‘Towards an Anthropology of Populism’
- *Chair: Dr. David Kosař (Masaryk University)*

12:30 Lunch

13:15 – 14.30: Populism and Constitutionalism

- Dr. Oran Doyle (Trinity), ‘Populist Constitutionalism and Constituent Power’
- Prof. Gábor Halmai (EUI), ‘Populism, Authoritarianism, and Constitutionalism’
- *Chair: Dr. Michèle Finck (MPI Munich)*

14.30 – 15:45 Law and the Limits of Populism?

- Prof. Bojan Bugaric (Sheffield), ‘The Role of Law in Limiting Populism’
- Prof. Eleanor Spaventa (Bocconi), ‘Populism and Constitutional Identity’
- *Chair: Dr. Maria Varaki (King’s College, London)*

15.45 Coffee Break

16.15 - 17.00 Celebrating 20 years of the GLJ with Russell Miller and Peer Zumbansen

LSE Accessibility Map



Key

- LSE Building
- LSE Building Development
- Information
- No Access
- Gender/Neutral accessible toilets
- Male only accessible toilets
- Disabled Parking
- Cycle Hire Station
- Disabled Access
- Lift
- Accessible Toilets
- Accessible Toilets
- Accessible Toilets

All buildings have wheelchair access and lifts, except SLF, 50L, 95A, KGS, KSW, PQR, and SHF.
*KSW 20 Kingsway (Language Centre only)
 *PQR 1 Portmouth Street (Shop only)

Disabled Access
 After 6.30pm, please call Security Control on **020 7955 6200** ensure that any disabled access doors are open. For access to 20 Kingsway, please call security staff on **020 7955 6200** up the portable ramp in the entrance foyer.

Access Guides to LSE Buildings
 Accessible have provided detailed access guides to the LSE campus and nearby key locations. These access guides, and route maps, are now **available online**.

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| 95A Aldwych House
Aldwych
Wheelchair access, lifts | LAK Lakatos Building
Portsmouth Street
Wheelchair access, lifts
Accessible Toilets:
Ground floor |
| ALD Aldwych House
Aldwych
Wheelchair access, lifts | PEA Peacock Theatre
Portsmouth Street
Wheelchair access, lifts
Accessible Toilets:
All floors |
| CLM Clement House
Aldwych
Wheelchair access, lifts
Accessible Toilets:
Floors: B, 3, 4, 6
Male Accessible toilet:
Floor 2 | PEL Peacock-Lawrence House
Clement's Inn
Wheelchair access, lifts
Accessible Toilets:
Floors: 4, 6, 8, 10 |
| COL Columbia House
Aldwych
Wheelchair access, lifts
Accessible Toilets:
Ground floor | POR 1 Portsmouth Street
Wheelchair access, lifts |
| CON Connaught House
Aldwych
Wheelchair access, lifts
Accessible Toilets:
Floors: 1, 3, 5, 7 | QUE Queens House
Lincoln's Inn Fields
Wheelchair access, lifts
Accessible Toilets:
Female floor 3, male floor 4 |
| COU Cowdry House
Portugal Street
Wheelchair access, lifts | SAR Sardinia House
Sardinia Street
Wheelchair access, lifts |
| FAW Fawcett House
(Access via PM)
Clement's Inn
Wheelchair access, lifts
Accessible Toilets:
Floors: 6, 10
Male Accessible toilet:
Floor 3 | SAW Saw Swee Hock Student Centre
Sherfield Street
Wheelchair access, lifts
Accessible Toilets:
Floors: B, G, 1-5 |
| KGS Kings Chambers
Portugal Street
Wheelchair access, lifts | SHF Sheffield Street
Clare Market
Wheelchair access, lifts:
Floors: 1, 2, 4
Male and Female
Accessible Toilets:
Floor 1 |
| IKW 1 Kingsway
Wheelchair access, lifts | STC St Clement's
Clare Market
Wheelchair access, lifts:
Floors: 1, 2, 4
Male and Female
Accessible Toilets:
Floor 1 |
| KSW 20 Kingsway
Wheelchair access, lifts | OLD Old Building
Houghton Street
Wheelchair access, lifts
Accessible Toilets:
Floors: B, G, 1, 2, 4 |
| LRB Lionel Robbins Building, Library and The Women's Library
Wheelchair access, lifts
Accessible Toilets:
All floors | PAN Parkhurst House
Clement's Inn
Wheelchair access, lifts
Accessible Toilets:
Floors: 1-11 |
| 35L 35 Lincoln's Inn Fields
Aldwych
Wheelchair access, lifts | PAR Parish Hall
Sherfield Street
Wheelchair access, lifts |
| 50L 50 Lincoln's Inn Fields
Aldwych
Wheelchair access, lifts | |
| 32L 32 Lincoln's Inn Fields
Wheelchair access, lifts
Accessible Toilets:
Floors: B, LG, G, 1, 2, 4 | |
| 5LF 5 Lincoln's Inn Fields
Portsmouth Street
Wheelchair access, lifts | |
| 50L 50 Lincoln's Inn Fields
Aldwych
Wheelchair access, lifts | |

Useful Locations

- Student Services Centre
Ground floor, Old Building
- Graham Wallis Room
OLD 2.25, Old Building
- Alumni Theatre
Lower ground floor, New Academic Building
- Hong Kong Theatre
Ground floor, Clement House
- Old Theatre
Ground floor, Old Building
- Shaw Library
Shaw floor, Old Building
- Shaw's Zayed Theatre
Lower ground floor, New Academic Building
- That Theatre
Lower ground floor, New Academic Building
- The Wolfson Theatre
Lower ground floor, New Academic Building
- The Women's Library
Third floor, Lionel Robbins Library
- The Venue
Basement, SAW
- Vera Ansley Room
Between ground and first floor, Old Building
(Step free access is not available to this venue)

Cafes, Bars and Restaurants

- 3 Tons
Ground floor, SAW
- Bean Counter
Basement, 32 Lincoln's Inn Fields
- Cafe 54
Ground floor, New Academic Building
- Daily Grind
Reception, Parkhurst/Tarwell House
- Deming Learning Cafe
First floor, SAW
- Fourth Floor Restaurant
Old Building
- George IV Pub
Portugal Street
- LSE Garrick
Ground floor, Columbia House
- Plaza Cafe
John Walker's Plaza
- Senior Common Room and Dining Room
Fifth floor, Old Building
- Shaw Cafe
Ground floor, New Academic Building
- Student Common Room
Ground floor, King's Chambers
- Weston Cafe
Shaw floor, SAW