

[Conference] Revitalizing democracy through participatory democratic innovations

**REVITALIZING
DEMOCRACY
THROUGH
PARTICIPATORY
DEMOCRATIC
INNOVATIONS**

16-18 May 2022

INSTITUTE FOR PHILOSOPHY AND SOCIAL THEORY

Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union

📅 16-18. May ⌚ 9:00am ♦ IFDT

Revitalizing democracy through participatory democratic innovations
ACT.WB Jean Monnet Network Final Conference
Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory, University of Belgrade

Speakers:

Giovanni Allegreti, Centre for Social Studies, Coimbra University
Roger Berkowitz, Hannah Arendt Center for Politics and Humanities, Bard College
Thamy Pogrebinschi, WZB Berlin Social Science Center
Florian Bieber, Centre for Southeast European Studies, University of Graz
Stefania Ravazzi, Department of Cultures, Politics and Society, University of Turin
Irena Fiket, Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory, University of Belgrade

A worrying trend of autocratization that has been spreading globally in recent years brought forward the newest wave of appeals for participatory and deliberative democracy as a remedy for the crisis. Besides, challenging the liberal conception of democracy from the perspective of participation beyond voting has become the backbone of the rising tension between traditional liberal understanding of democracy and the wave of more participatory and deliberative democratic thinking.

On the one hand, social movements continue to engage in participatory democratic innovations in their internal organization, and they spread these ideas within institutions. As self-reflexive actors, they experiment with new ideas of democracy that can become the basis for proposed changes in democratic governance, especially relevant in autocratized societies. They not only transform states through struggles for policy change, but also express a fundamental critique of conventional politics.

On the other hand, the growing lack of interest of the European societies' citizens in participating in political life through traditional instruments of representative democracy has caused a renewed concern of the EU and its member states for the promotion and encouragement of active citizenship. This has resulted in a process of democratic engineering inspired by the principles of the participatory and deliberative conceptions of democracy. Democratic experimentation along these lines, which can be observed in many EU countries, gave rise to the promotion and institutionalization of democratic innovations (public debates, neighborhood councils, citizens' juries, participatory budgets, etc.). We are currently also witnesses of the EU institutions' initiative to "reinvigorate democracy" at the EU level through participatory innovations organized within The Conference on the Future of Europe, launched in 2021 in Strasbourg.

The pace and scope of these developments call for a deeper understanding of internal dynamics of both, bottom up and top down democratic experimentation, their social and political impact, both as single case studies, and as parts of a greater cycle of social movement mobilizations and institutional experimentation in the WB region and in Europe.

Against this background, this Conference aims to strengthen a dialogue between conceptual perspectives, approaches and fields around deliberative and participatory forms of democratic innovations.

Conference Program Board

Irena Fiket, Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory, University of Belgrade, chair
Thamy Pogrebinschi, WZB Berlin Social Science Center
Roger Berkowitz, Hannah Arendt Center for Politics and Humanities, Bard College
Florian Bieber, Center for South East Europe, University of Graz
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Marko Savković, the Belgrade Fund for Political Excellence
Gazela Pudar Draško, Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory, University of Belgrade
Čedomir Markov, Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory, University of Belgrade

Organization of the conference

The conference is organized by the Laboratory for Active Citizenship of the Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory in Belgrade. The conference is organized in the framework of the Jean Monnet Network project „Active Citizenship in the Western Balkans Promoting and Advancing Innovative Democratic Practices in the Western Balkans“, and cofunded by Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union.

Follow the conference online on our Facebook page – "Institut za filozofiju i društvenu teoriju"

Conference program

30

Mar

[POSTPONED] ŽIŽEK, RUDA, HAMZA – READING HEGEL (CRITICLAB)**03**

Apr

[WORKSHOP] CAN METAPHYSICS BREAK BRICKS? (CRITICLAB)**04**

Apr

[LECTURE] MARXIST THEORIES OF DEPENDENCY AND UNEVEN DEVELOPMENT IN THE BALKANS UNTIL THE LATE 1920S (YUGOLAB/CRITICLAB)**06**

Apr

[LECTURE] ANDREAS KAMINSKI – THE OBSOLESCENCE OF OUR CONCEPTS: HUMAN-MACHINE INTERACTION IN THE CONTEXT OF AI (DIGILAB)**07**

Apr

[MOVIE TALK] FILIP MARTINOVIĆ – TELENOVELA GREYSKALE IN COLOR (PERSPECTLAB)**07**

Apr

[LECTURE] CAN METAPHYSICS BREAK BRICKS? (CRITICLAB)**13**

Apr

[LECTURE] MILICA LAZIĆ – CRISIS IN SCIENCE: THE USE AND MISUSE OF SCIENTOMETRICS (CRITICLAB)**20**

Apr

[LECTURE] TANJA PETROVIĆ – SLOVENIAN ALTERNATIVE SCENE IN THE 1980S: EFFECTS OF AMBIGUITY (YUGOLAB)**27**

Apr

[LECTURE] CONNECTED LEARNER, AUGMENTED LEARNER, UNPLUGGED LEARNER: SEAMLESSNESS OF EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE AND ITS INTERRUPTIONS (DIGILAB & EDULAB)**17**

May

[LECTURE] BRUNO GRANSCHKE (KARLSRUHE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY), TBA (DIGILAB)

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March 8, 2023

16 May 2022

Venue: Institute for
Philosophy and Social
Theory, I floor

9.00 – 9.15 Opening

Gazela Pudar Draško
Director of the Institute for Philosophy and Social
Theory

Irena Fiket
Academic Coordinator of the Jean Monnet Network
ACT.WB, Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory

9.30 – 11.00 Roundtable: Participatory
Democratic Innovations in
Southeastern Europe

Vujo Ilić
Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory

Karlo Kralj
Scuola Normale Superiore in Florence

Damir Kapidžić
Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Sarajevo

Jelena Vasiljević
Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory

11.00 – 11.15 Coffee Break

11.15 – 13.15 I Thematic Panel:
Institutional Models of Participatory
Democratic Innovations

Panel chair: Irena Fiket

Ana Matan and Davorka Vidović
Participatory Budgeting in Croatia between Sub-
local Democracy and Digital innovations

Ines Stasa
Deliberative Democracy in the Post-communist
Albania

Eszter Kovács Szitkay
Primaries and Citizens' Assemblies: Case Studies
from Hungary

Gilles Pradeau
Participatory Budgeting at Supramunicipal level
in France – Real Innovation or Lip Service?

Paola Pierri, Hanne Bastiaensen and
Max Stearns
An Empirical Reflection on Experiments with and
for Democracy

13.15 – 14.15 Lunch

14.15 – 15.45 Panel Discussion: Social
Movements and Political Trust –
Lessons to be Learnt

Introduction by Irena Fiket and
Gazela Pudar Draško

Dirk Lorenz
Delegation of European Union to Serbia

Vukosava Crnjanski
CRTA

Vedran Džihic
Centre for Advanced Studies Southeast Europe,
University of Rijeka/oip

Rastislav Dinić
Faculty of Philosophy, University of Niš

Ivana Anđelković
The Roof over our Head

16 May 2022

19.00 – 21.00 Panel Discussion: How
Participatory Politics Can Go in SEE?
Venue: Dorćol Platz

Moderation: Irena Fiket

Ana Matan, Možemo

Biljana Đorđević, Moramo

Florian Bieber, Centre for Southeast European
Studies, University of Graz

Nenad Markovikj, Faculty of Law, Ss. Cyril and
Methodius University in Skopje

Gabor Toka, Central European University

17 Maj 2022

Venue: Institute for
Philosophy and Social Theory,
IV floor



9.30 – 11.00 OSUN Working
Group on Participatory
Democratic Innovations and
Sortition Closed meeting

10.00 – 11.00 Open Discussion with
Coffee and Cookies: How is to be Activist
Researcher - Methodological Issues of
Researching Activism?

11.00 – 12.30 Roundtable: Revitalizing
Democracy through Participatory
Democratic Innovations

Roger Berkowitz
Hannah Arendt Center for Politics and Humanities,
Bard College

Thamy Pogrebinski
WZB Berlin Social Science Center

Giovanni Allegretti
Centre for Social Studies, Coimbra University

Stefania Ravazzi
Department of Cultures, Politics and Society,
University of Turin

12.30 – 13.30 Lunch

13.30 – 15.15 II Thematic Panel:
Institutional Models of Participatory
Democratic Innovations

Panel chair: Gazela Pudar Draško

Mladen Ostojić

Yugoslav Self-Management as an Example of
Participatory Urban Governance? The Local
Communities in Belgrade in the 1980s

Ivana Damjanović
Forgotten Lessons – Socialist Self-government as
Democratic Innovation

Jovana Timotijević and Iva Čukić
Participatory Forums as the Enactment of the Right
to the City - Building a Model for Institutional
Democratization of Urban Planning

Nina De Smedt, Kristof Steyvers, Tessa Haesevoets
and Bram Wauters

The Impact of Participatory Designs on Local
Councilors' Attitudes

Andrija Šoć

Participation, Responsiveness, Interaction – The
Benefits of Epistemic Checks-and-Balances for the
Revitalization of Democratic Institutions

15.15 – 17.30 Belgrade Activists City Tour
led by Sara Nikolić and Dušanka Milosavljević,
Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory

18 May 2022

Venue: Institute for
Philosophy and Social
Theory, IV floor

09.30 – 11.30 III Thematic Panel:
Social Movements Mobilization and
Democracy

Panel chair: Valida Repovac Nikšić

Bojan Baća

Enacting Resistance, Performing Citizenship
– Trajectories of Political Subjectification in
Postsocialist Montenegro

Salome Dundua and Tamar Karaia
Beyond protest – How Urban Social Movement
Succeeded in Tbilisi

Nathan Siegrist

Heterotopia and Struggles for Urban Grassroots
Democracy - the Case of Metelkova

Benjamin Duke

Art for Art's Democracy's Sake: Revitalizing
Democracy - Travelling Theatre Social
Movement Group Innovation

Irena Fiket, Jelena Vasiljević and Gazela
Pudar Draško

Social Movements and Internal Democracy

11.30 – 12.00 Coffee Break and Snacks

12.00 – 12.45 Participatory Democracy
Tools of Council of Europe

12.45 – 14.00 IV Thematic Panel: Civil
Society and Citizens in Struggle for
Democracy

Panel chair: Nenad Markovikj

Sérgio Barbosa

Can (Digital) Deliberation Take Place on
WhatsApp?

Biljana Đorđević

It is through Representation that Collective
Political Subjects are Created? Dilemmas of
Participation and Representation in Political
Activism

Juliana Ajdini and Erika Bejko

Contests of Development of Civil society - the
Case of Kukës region, Albania

Mohsen Abbaszadeh Marzbali

Democratic Theory after the Populist Challenge -
The Dilemma of 'Popular Sovereignty'

19-20 May 2022

Academy of Participatory Democracy in cooperation with the Council of Europe

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REVITALIZING DEMOCRACY THROUGH PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRATIC INNOVATIONS

**ACT.WB JEAN MONNET
NETWORK FINAL CONFERENCE**

**INSTITUTE FOR PHILOSOPHY
AND SOCIAL THEORY,
UNIVERSITY OF BELGRADE**

16-18 MAY 2022

