

Section 3 – Politica comparata

Panel 5. Real Populism: Ideological, Strategical, Stylish... Governative?

Chairs: Roberto De Rosa, Dario Quattromani

Still the main and most prominent aspects of the populist phenomenon remain those enlightened by Cas Mudde: populism as ideology, political strategy, and discursive style are considered useful variables to analyse this phenomenon at various levels.

From being an endogenous threat to liberal democracies, populism has broadened its consensus and has become a credible government alternative in many European countries.

The world economic crisis has significantly influenced electors and parties' political programs worldwide, producing significant changes in well-structured national political systems: with the rise of unexpected coalitional governments in some countries and the collapse of ruling parties in some others, it is now possible looking at unprecedented varieties of political landscapes.

We have witnessed the rise of new political movements and the significant growth of small and niche parties, on both sides of the political spectrum, and so the classical categorization of European populism, generally referring to right-wing political forces, has become wider, and this leads to necessary re-definition of its borders: radical right-wing, Eurosceptical and populist parties are not the same, though sharing a few commonalities.

Furthermore, the ongoing state of US politics invites significant considerations about a global populist trend affecting northern America, too.

In order to (de- or re-)conceptualize its contemporary evolution, this panel aims at collecting both continental and intercontinental comparative case studies attempting to:

- Redefine European populism in a continental-wide perspective;
- Define a landscape of populism as Ideology;
- Analyse populism as a strategy and provided with a peculiar language;
- Investigate populism as a Style;
- Examine the performance of governing populist forces.

A particular attention will be given to case studies which, alongside of theoretical reflection, do emphasize concrete empirical contributions, as well as contributions investigating the contemporary language of populism.

The panel will be constituted on invitation, and the papers submitted will be then selected and collected in a dedicated publication to publish within a year.

The working language of this panel is English, but even papers in Italian will be accepted.