Panel 3.10 Populism and Nationalism: Overlaps and Interplays

Populism is a ubiquitous catchword in present-day politics, but many of the dynamics described as populist bear a deep resemblance to those traditionally associated with nationalism. Can contemporary populism be interpreted as just a (more or less updated) variety of nationalism? Or is populism redefining what nationalism means in the 21st century? Are some types of nations more prone to populism, and are certain types of populism more conducive to nationalism? How do these cleavages interact with the traditional Left-Right divide? Can cosmopolitanism be populist? What should be made of the “populist international”? And, within political science, what can scholars of populism learn from nationalism studies, and vice versa?

The panel solicits contributions belonging to the emerging scholarship on the different varieties of populism, in light of recent electoral advances by anti-system parties in Italy, Europe, and beyond.

Potential topics include (but are not limited to) the impact of nationalism and populism on the functioning of the European Union; populism and sub-nationalism (Scotland, Catalonia, etc.); populism and immigration, xenophobia, and welfare chauvinism; populism and international trade agreements; populism and the politics of environmental, food safety, and architectural conservation standards; politics of identity and redefinitions of "the People"; politics of memory and memorialization, and their contestation; domestic politics and "foreign meddling”; populist and nationalist electorates; populist and nationalist tropes in the discourse of political actors.

Different methodological approaches, both qualitative and quantitative, theoretical and empirical, are welcome, as well as different case studies, small-N or large-N comparisons, whether attempting to single out broad comparative trends or to explore the specificity of particular outliers.

Chairs: Andrea Pareschi