

The Irresistible Rise of Populist and Anti-establishment Parties?

Panel Chair:

Martin Brusis, Babeş-Bolyai University, mb@mnet-mail.de

The Panel will be proposed in the Section: The Illiberal Turn in Central and East European Politics (S71).

Abstract:

Unstable party systems in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) have enabled new populist and anti-establishment parties to intrude and broaden their electorates at the expense of established mainstream parties. However, illiberal policies in Hungary and Poland are pursued by established parties that have already led governments in previous periods. While some established parties have adopted populism to mobilize their voters and stay in power, some anti-establishment parties have attracted voters with public integrity agendas, avoiding the anti-pluralist stance of populism. The panel aims at analyzing the varying trajectories of populist and anti-establishment parties in CEE. How do they manage to enter party systems and build majorities? How vulnerable or resilient are individual party systems with regard to these newcomer parties? How do populist and anti-establishment parties reconfigure the political divides structuring party systems? How do these parties affect the notoriously weak party-voter alignments and the patterns of protest-voting in CEE? Single case studies and cross-national comparisons as well as qualitative or quantitative studies are invited for this panel.

Keywords: Populism, party systems, political parties, democracy

If you have a Paper you think might fit in this Panel, please contact the Panel Chair before 15 February with the following information:

- Title of the paper (no more than 20 words)
- Abstract of the paper (no more than 250 words)
- Author's (and if applicable co-author's) email address as registered in their MyECPR account
- 3 – 5 keywords