

*The Jean Monnet Chair,  
the Office of the European Parliament &  
the Regional Representation of the European Commission*

*Invite to an outreach workshop*

## **Representative Democracy in Times of Crises: Challenges and Opportunities**

27.06.2022



The aim of the workshop is to discuss the impact of the pandemic as well as other crises on the work of national parliaments and the European Parliament. We will address questions concerning relations between the legislative and executive powers during times of crisis, inter-parliamentary cooperation, the role of digitisation in parliamentary work, and proposals for representative institutions' reforms developed during the Conference on the Future of Europe. Our debate will bring together parliamentarians and scholars pursuing research on the impact of crises in the work and competences of parliaments and parliamentary parties.

Venue: House of Europe in Wrocław, Ulica Widok 10

The event will be in EN and PL (simultaneous translation provided)

Registration for the event here: [epwroclaw@ep.europa.eu](mailto:epwroclaw@ep.europa.eu) (please, specify whether you wish to attend online or in person. **Only registered participants will receive a Zoom-link**)

Contact and questions: prof. Aleksandra Maatsch [aleksandra.maatsch@uwr.edu.pl](mailto:aleksandra.maatsch@uwr.edu.pl)

## Programme

09:15 – arrival of participants/online registration open

09:30 – Leszek Gaś & Aleksandra Maatsch - opening and a short welcome by organisers

### Practitioners' panel

09:45 – 11:15 MPs' and MEPs' debate

Agnieszka Pomaska (PO), Gdula Maciej (Lewica), Daniel Freund (MEP, EGA), Kazimierz M. Ujazdowski (KP-PSL), Christophe Arend (Renaissance)

*Parliamentary work during a crisis: challenges and opportunities*

Chair: Anna Pacześniak

11:15 – 11:30 coffee break

### Researchers' panel

11:30 –12:15 Ulrike Liebert *Keynote address and discussion*

*The future of European democracy: still the age of parliamentary centrality?*

Chair: Edgars Eihmanis

12:15 – 13:00 snack break

### Insights from ongoing research projects:

13:00 – 13:15 Sven T. Siefken *Adaption, Backsliding, Continuity. Findings from a Global Research Collaboration (Parliaments in Pandemic, PiP)*

13:15– 13:30 Petra Guasti *The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic in Central and Eastern Europe (Parliaments in Pandemic, PiP)*

13:30 – 13:45 Anna Nóvák, Barbara Grabowska-Moroz & Andrii Nekoliak *Pandemic legislative process in ECE states - common directions and diverse particularities? (Poland, Hungary & the Baltic States) (Pandemo)*

13:45 – 14:00 Anna Pacześniak *At least they don't disturb – the impact of crises on parliamentary opposition parties (Electoral defeat as a catalyst for change in European political parties)*

14:00 – 14:15 Edgars Eihmanis *Politics of national Recovery and Resilience Plans: social actor involvement in times of executive dominance (Special Issue, Pandemo & PiP researchers)*

14:15 – 14:30 Karolina Borońska-Hryniewiecka *Two sides of the same coin? Unraveling the potential of inter-parliamentary cooperation in the EU (InPaCo)*

14:30 – 15:00 closing discussion

Chair: Aleksandra Maatsch

## List of speakers:

**Arend, Christophe** was a member of the French parliament (2017-2022) from La République en Marche (*Renaissance*) representing the department of Moselle. In the years 2019-2022 he was also the President of the Bureau of the Franco-German Parliamentary Assembly (*Assemblée parlementaire franco-allemande*).

**Borońska-Hryniewiecka, Karolina** (dr hab.) is Assistant Professor at the Institute of Political Science, University of Wrocław and a member of the Jean Monnet Chair team. She is also a visiting fellow at (CESSP) Panthéon-Sorbonne. In the past, she was a Jean Monnet Fellow at the European University Institute (2012-2013), a lecturer at the Masaryk University (2013-2015), head of the EU programme at the Polish Institute of International Affairs (2016-2018) and a visiting fellow at (CEE) Sciences Po (2019-2020). Karolina's research interests lie at the intersection of EU and legislative studies with a special focus on the role of parliaments in EU affairs. Her works have appeared, inter alia, in *European Political Science Review*, *Politics and Governance*, *Journal of European Integration* and the *Journal of Legislative Studies*.

**Eihmanis, Edgars** (PhD) is a post-doctoral researcher and a member of the Jean Monnet Chair team at the at Willy Brandt Centre for German and European Studies at the University of Wrocław, a researcher/lecturer at the Skytte Institute of Political Studies at the University of Tartu and an external affiliate researcher at the Amsterdam Centre of European Studies at the University of Amsterdam. Edgars holds two master's degrees from the University of Amsterdam and a PhD from the European University Institute. Edgars' current research interests are two-fold. First, Edgars studies EU economic governance, and specifically, the governance of the European Semester and the Recovery and Resilience Facility. In addition to that, Edgars works on the political economy of Central and East European "dependent market economies", specifically, banking, taxation and minimum wages.

**Freund, Daniel** is a German politician and a member of the European Parliament representing the Greens/European Free Alliance. He holds university degree in political science, economics and law. From 2014 to 2019 he worked at the Brussels' office of Transparency International.

**Gaś, Leszek** Head of Office, European Parliament Office in Wrocław. Philologist, editor, lecturer and public speaker. Enthusiast of architecture (also the postmodern one) fascinated with psychology of politics and anthropology of power.

**Gdula, Maciej** (PhD) is a sociologist, politician and publicist associated with "Krytyka Polityczna", an academic teacher at the University of Warsaw, from 2019 a member of the Polish Parliament (the Left). In 2017, he coordinated field research in one of the county towns in Mazovia, which resulted in the report "Good change in Miastko. Neoauthoritarianism in Polish politics from the perspective of a small town" considered to be the first diagnosis of the Law and Justice's victory in the 2015 parliamentary elections. Academically, he works on social theory and social classes.

**Grabowska-Moroz, Barbara** (PhD) research fellow at CEU Democracy Institute (Budapest, Hungary), post-doctoral research fellow at University of Wrocław. In 2018-2021 she was a postdoc researcher in the RECONNECT project (University of Groningen, the Netherlands). In 2010-2018 she worked as a lawyer and a project coordinator in the Helsinki

Foundation for Human Rights (Warsaw, Poland). Her research concentrates on rule of law and human rights, but also covers issues such as surveillance, civil society and women's rights.

**Guasti, Petra** is an Associate Professor of Democratic Theory at the Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University in Prague, whose research focuses on the reconfiguration of the political landscape and revolves around three themes – populism, democratisation, and representation. More specifically, she is concerned with the growing tension within the system of representative democracy in respect to its legitimacy. Her main interests are the study of structures, actors and processes that enable more participation of citizens, leading to more inclusiveness of representative democracy. She has an ongoing interest in civil society and human rights.

**Liebert, Ulrike** (Prof. Dr.) is alumna of the European University Institute and currently a visiting fellow at the EU's School of Transnational Governance. As a comparative political and social scientist she has been teaching at the Universities of Barcelona, Heidelberg, Mannheim, Cornell University and Bremen. At the latter she directed the Jean Monnet Centre for European -Studies (2000 - 2016). Her research engages extensively with issues of democracy, past, present and future, relating to democratic transition and consolidation, crisis and innovation in multilayered, transnational and global perspectives. Monographs and joint book publications of hers include "Parliament and Democratic Consolidation in Southern Europe" (1990); "Modelle demokratischer Konsolidierung: Parlamente und organisierte Interessen in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland, Italien und Spanien (1948 - 1990)" (1995); "Verfassungsexperiment. Europa auf dem Weg zur transnationalen Demokratie?" (2003); "The New Politics of European Civil Society" (2011); "Multilayered Representation in the European Union. Parliaments, Courts and the Public Sphere" (2012); "Democratising the EU from Below? Citizenship, Civil Society and the Public Sphere" (2013; 2018); "Europa erneuern! Eine realistische Vision für das 21. Jahrhundert" (2019).

**Maatsch, Aleksandra** is the Jean Monnet Chairholder in European Politics at the Willy Brandt Centre for German and European Studies, University of Wrocław. After completing her studies at the Central European University in Budapest (CEU), Aleksandra Maatsch acquired her PhD in political science from the University of Bremen in Germany (2011). She then worked at the Institute of Public Affairs (IPP-CSIC) in Madrid, at the University of Cambridge, the Max Planck Institute in Cologne and at the University of Cologne (interim Chair of European and Multilevel Politics). She specializes in comparative European politics and legislative studies. Her research has been published in various journals such as *West European Politics*, the *Journal of Common Market Studies* and the *Journal of European Public Policy*.

**Nekliak, Andrii** is a doctoral candidate in political science at the University of Tartu (Estonia). His PhD thesis is titled *'Memory Laws' and the Patterns of Collective Memory Regulation in Poland and Ukraine in 1989-2020: A Comparative Analysis*. Andrii has published a book chapter on language politics in Ukraine in an edited volume with Palgrave Macmillan. He also has a forthcoming article on the politics of Ukraine's Constitutional Court in *Review of Central and East European Law*.

**Novák, Anna** is a PhD student at the Doctoral School of International Relations and Political Science, Corvinus University in Budapest. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Political

Science and Psychology as well as an MA in Psychology. Her work focuses on the field of political psychology, political representation and the psychological logic behind it.

**Pacześniak, Anna** is a Professor of Political Science at the University of Wrocław and a member of the Jean Monnet Chair team specializing in European and Polish politics as well as comparative political party analysis. From 2011 to 2018 she worked as a lecturer at the Free University of Brussels. From 2016–2017 Anna Pacześniak was a fellow at Wallonia-Brussels International. She has conducted various research projects in Poland and abroad, for instance “Européanisation des partis politiques - méthodes d’étude” (France). Anna Pacześniak has published extensively in the area of political parties, the most recent publications being “Electoral Defeat and Party Change: From Makeover to Retouching” (Palgrave 2022), “Party organization and communication in Poland” (Palgrave 2021) and “Comprendre la Pologne. Société, politique et institutions” (Paris 2016).

**Pomaska, Agnieszka** is a political scientist, member of the Polish Parliament since 2009, Chairwoman of the Civic Platform in Gdansk from 2010 to 2021, Chairwoman of the Parliamentary Commission for the European Union from 2011 to 2015. She is also the Vice President of the EPP Women (European People’s Party).

**Siefken, Sven T.** is a political scientist at the Institute for Parliamentary Research (IParl) in Berlin. He is visiting professor at Colorado College, USA, and Privatdozent at the University of Halle, Germany. Siefken is Vice Chair of the IPSA Research Committee of Legislative Specialists (RCO8) and editor of the German Journal of Parliamentary Affairs (Zeitschrift für Parlamentsfragen). He recently co-edited a book on Parliamentary Committees in the Policy Process with Hilmar Rommetvedt. His current work investigates coalition politics, parliamentary committees, and the future of democratic representation. He has been the lead organizer of the RCLS collaboration on "parliaments in the pandemic".

**Ujazdowski, Kazimierz Michał** is a member of the Polish Parliament Upper Chamber (Senat) representing the Polish Coalition (KP-PSL). From 2014 to 2019 he was a Member of the European Parliament. He also served as a Member of the Polish Parliament’s Lower Chamber (Sejm) in the first, third, fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh term. He is a law Professor at the University of Łódź and the director of the European Centre for Constitutional Studies.

### **Further information about our research projects:**

**Parliaments in the Pandemic (PiP)** is a collaboration organized by the Research Committee of Legislative Specialists (RCLS) of the International Political Science Association. It investigates how the pandemic has affected parliaments around the globe based on an expert panel design. More information here: <https://ipsa-rcls.org/pip/>. Twitter: @ParliamentsP.

**Democracy in Pandemic Times (Pandemo)** aims to examine how the pandemic has affected representative democracy both at the national and European level, and how these dynamics compare with the previous – global financial crisis and sovereign debt – crises. More information here: <https://www.pandemo.eu>



**Two sides of the same coin: Unraveling the potential of interparliamentary cooperation in the EU (InPaCo)** is a project funded by an OPUS grant from the National Science Centre (2022-2025) which aims to explore the potential for cooperation between the European Parliament and national parliaments in the context of the Conference on the Future of Europe and EU reforms.

**Contact JMC Team:**

Jean Monnet Chair “Representative Democracy in Crisis Mode, ReDemo ”

Our webpage : <https://www.redemo.eu>

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