

Zsuzsanna Végh

The Radical Right in the European Union

6/9 ECTS

Moduls: Vergleichende Sozialwissenschaften: Vertiefung // Modul III.1.: Recht und Politik im nationalen Kontext (Vertiefung) // Europe/s – History, Culture, Politics

Tuesday, 9.15-10.45

In-person seminar

Radical right parties have increased their support across Europe over the past decades gaining increasing parliamentary representation, participating in governing coalitions, and influencing their political environment. Capitalizing on recurrent crisis moments, their Eurosceptic voice is increasingly heard in the realms of the European Union, where they have also expanded their cooperation. These developments raise a variety of questions: What role do radical right parties play in national and European politics? What is behind the current rise? What are the chances of transnational cooperation? This seminar seeks to answer these questions. It introduces core concepts of radical right research and discusses the core elements of radical right ideology. Focusing primarily on the radical right in its manifestation as parties, the course provides an overview about the radical right's development in both Western and Eastern Europe, discussing their differences and similarities. Taking note of the demand side of politics, it covers reasons behind the electoral success of radical right parties. It explores under what conditions and what type of impact radical right parties succeeded to have on nation and EU-level politics and whether the cooperation of the 'nationalist international' is viable.

Literature: Mudde, Cas 2007. *Populist Radical Right Parties in Europe*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; Rydgren, Jens (ed.) 2018. *The Oxford Handbook of the Radical Right*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. The complete list of literature will be made available at the start of the course.

Learning outcomes: The seminar will familiarize students with key concepts of radical right research. It will provide them with an overview about the positions, role, cooperation and impact of radical right parties in European and EU politics both on the national and the European level. Active participation in the course will strengthen students' critical thinking, their analytical and academic writing skills.

Language requirement: The language of the seminar is English. Students are expected to read assigned texts, participate in class discussions and complete writing assignments, therefore very good command of both written and spoken English is necessary to take this course.

Requirements: For 6 ECTS: regular attendance and class participation (30%); proposal (10%); research paper (60%). For 9 ECTS: regular attendance and class participation (20%); short written assignments (2x10%); proposal (10%); research paper (50%).