

IPSA 26th World Congress of Political Science

26° Congresso Mundial de Ciência Política

10-15 | 07 | 2021

PANEL

Democracy's Resilience in the Post-communist EU Member States: Citizens, National Institutions, and the Role of the EU

Convenor

[Dr. Paulina Pospieszna](#)

Panel Code

RC34.04

Type

Closed Panel

Language

English

Chair

[Dr. Miroslav Mares](#)

Co-chair

[Prof. Renata Mienkowska Norkiene](#)

Discussants

[Dr. Elzbieta Korolczuk](#)

Description

The goal of this panel is to bring together research that considers some of the opportunities for democracy in difficult times for liberal democracy. Specifically, the aim is to contribute to the debate raised by scholars and practitioners on what can make liberal democracy resilient in the post-communist EU member states. One of the factors contributing to the persistence of the democracy are resilient institutions, such as courts that have been crucial in limiting attempts by executive authorities to increase their power by manipulating the constitution, as well as parliaments that can also curtail attempts to excessively expand executive power and thus limiting or counteracting democratic backsliding. However, in some countries independent institutions, such as parliaments, judiciaries and prosecutors, which can provide checks and balances to the ruling political elites, turned out not to be resilient anymore. Another important factor are resilient citizens. Citizen engagement and the presence of a strong civil society are critical to democracy's resilience. Scholars find that if citizens are strongly committed to democracy, it will persist as a permanent, essential and ideal political system. Finally, the EU can play an important role in protecting democracy and the rule of law, by confronting the legitimacy of national governments with the legal discipline of supranational guarantees. Within this panel, scholars will investigate democracy's resilience to backsliding among post-communist EU member states by exploring changing nature of political representation; citizen engagement, as well as the role of external actors.

Session

[RC34 Quality of Democracy](#)

Papers

Deparliamentarisation of national European policy in Poland – the rule of law mechanism case

Author: **Dr. Michał Dulak**

Multiple Pathways of Democracy and the Rule of Law: Analyzing Institutional Settings and Actor Decisions as their Signposts

Author: **Mr. Lukas Lemm**

State against Civil Society and Civil Society against State Again? A condition of the Third Sector in Poland

Author: **Dr. Paulina Pospieszna**

Co-Author(s): **Prof. Dorota Pietrzyk-Reeves**

The Role of Civil Society in Democratic Backsliding: the case of Poland and Hungary

Author: **Prof. Dorota Pietrzyk-Reeves**

The Role of Right-Wing Civil Society Organizations in the Creation of Local Political Cultures and Ideologies. The Case of Poland (2005–2015)

Author: **Dr. Marcin Slarzynski**

Schedule

Schedule

12-07-2021 10:00 UTC (1 hour 45 minutes) "A"