

Friday | September 22

9.30 am - 11.00 am

**MASS MEDIA AND POPULISM**

Moderation: Sara Minelli (Kiel University)  
Paula Diehl (Kiel University):  
Politainment, Hyperreality, and Populism  
Christian Schwarzenegger (University of Bremen):  
The Memefication of Populism? Commentary,  
Contestation, and Camouflage in Digital Meme  
Cultures

11.00 am - 11.30 am

**COFFEE BREAK**

11.30 am - 12.15 pm

**CULTURAL PRACTICES OF  
RIGHT-WING POPULISM**

Moderation: Sara Minelli (Kiel University)  
Giorgia Bulli (University of Florence):  
Populism, Political Culture and What Is Left from  
Traditional Affiliations: Examples from the Italian  
Context

12.15 pm - 12.30 pm

**WRAP UP**

**INTERNATIONAL POPULISM  
RESEARCH NETWORK**

IN COOPERATION WITH

**Hermann Ehlers Stiftung**

Standing Group "Politics and Culture"  
Standing Group "Constructivist Theories of Politics"  
Thematic Network "Populism"  
German Political Science Association (DVPW)

Internationales Netzwerk für Populismusforschung  
Institut für Sozialwissenschaften/Politikwissenschaft  
Olshausenstraße 40  
24118 Kiel



Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel

Hermann Ehlers Stiftung e. V.  
Gerhard-Stoltenberg-Haus  
Niemannsweg 78  
24105 Kiel



POLITICS · POPULISM · CULTURE

**THE  
POLITICS  
OF  
POPULIST  
CULTURE**

**CONFERENCE**

INTERNATIONAL POPULISM RESEARCH NETWORK  
KIEL UNIVERSITY  
IN COOPERATION WITH HERMANN EHLERS STIFTUNG

SEPTEMBER 20-22, 2023

LOCATION:

GERHARD-STOLTENBERG-HAUS,  
NIEMANNSWEG 78, 24105 KIEL

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VISIT OUR WEBSITE



2.00 pm – 2.30 pm

**WELCOME**

International Populism Research Network  
Hermann Ehlers Stiftung

2.30 pm – 4.00 pm

**POPULISM AND POP CULTURE**

Moderation: Birgit Sauer (University of Vienna)

Anna Schober (University of Klagenfurt):  
Populism: Adopting Popular Tactics from the  
Performing Arts and Engaging Meaning and  
Emotion

John Street (University of East Anglia):  
Folk, Nation, People: Constitutions of Collective  
Political Identity in Protest Songs

4.00 pm – 4.30 pm

**COFFEE BREAK**

4.30 pm – 6.00 pm

**GLOBAL STRUGGLES ABOUT THE POPULAR**

Moderation: Birgit Sauer (University of Vienna)

Carlos de la Torre (University of Florida):  
The Poor, the Plebeian, and the Populist

Wolfram Schaffar (University of Passau):  
Idols, Fandoms, and Skinship: The K-Pop-ization  
of Politics in Asia

6.30 pm – 7.30 pm

**BOOK PRESENTATION**

[THE COMPLEXITY OF POPULISM](#)

Edited by Paula Diehl and Brigitte Bargetz.  
Routledge, 2023

Moderation:  
Oscar Mazzoleni (University of Lausanne)

Brigitte Bargetz (Kiel University/WU Vienna)  
Giorgia Bulli (University of Florence)  
Carlos de la Torre (University of Florida)  
Paula Diehl (Kiel University)  
Birgit Sauer (University of Vienna)

9.30 am – 11.00 am

**VISUAL POLITICS OF POPULISM**

Moderation: Axel Heck (Kiel University)

Thari Jungen (Kunsthochschule Mainz):  
On Aesthetic-Political Strategies of Image Protests

Jutta Hergenhan (University of Giessen):  
'La présidente' – Imagining a Populist as President  
of the French Republic

11.00 am – 11.30 am

**COFFEE BREAK**

11.30 am – 12.15 pm

**EMOTIONS, POLITICS, AND THE POPULAR**

Moderation: Axel Heck (Kiel University)

Brigitte Bargetz (Kiel University/WU Vienna):  
Yes, It's F\*\*\* Political: Concern for the Self,  
Common Touch, and Popular Culture

12.15 pm – 2.00 pm

**LUNCH BREAK**

2.00 pm – 3.30 pm

**POPULIST RHETORIC AND COMMUNICATION**

Moderation: Nina Elena Eggert (Universities of  
Hamburg/Bremen)

Emilia Palonen (University of Helsinki):  
Populist Logic and the Politics in Popular Cultural  
Communication: What is in the Form?

Giuseppe Ballacci (University of Minho):  
Are Populism and Demagoguery the Same, After  
All? Coming Back on Populism, Ideology, Style,  
and a Vexed Question

3.30 pm – 4.00 pm

**COFFEE BREAK**

4.00 pm – 5.30 pm

**POPULIST PERFORMATIVITY**

Moderation: Nina Elena Eggert (Universities of  
Hamburg/Bremen)

Petra Meier (University of Antwerp)/Eline Severs  
(Vrije Universiteit Brussel):  
Politicians' Latitude to Undo Gender: Exploring  
the Interplay between Populist and Gendered  
Performances in Political Representation

Lena Weige (Kiel University):  
Performing Populism: What Makes a Political  
Performance Populist?

6.00 pm – 7.00 pm

**NEW BOOKS IN ONE HOUR**

Moderation: Paula Diehl (Kiel University)

Giuseppe Ballacci (University of Minho):  
Populism, Demagoguery and Rhetoric in  
Historical Perspective. Oxford University Press,  
forthcoming (edited with Rob Goodman)

Cecilia Biancalana (University of Turin):  
[Political Parties and the Challenge of  
Disintermediation: Rhetoric and Practices of  
Organisational Change in Italy](#), Nomos, 2022

Carlos de la Torre (University of Florida):  
[Populism and Key Concepts in Social and Political  
Theory](#), Brill, 2023 (edited with Oscar Mazzoleni)

Oscar Mazzoleni (University of Lausanne):  
National Populism and Borders: [The Politicisation  
of Cross-border Mobilisations in Europe](#), Elgar,  
2023 (edited with Cecilia Biancalana, Andrea  
Pilotti, Laurent Bernhard, Grégoire Yerly,  
Lukas Lauener)