

Panel
New Authoritarianism and Universities:
The Impact of Contemporary Authoritarianism on Academia
&
The Future of Academic Freedom

New authoritarianism is a global phenomenon whose effects on human rights, law and order, world peace, economy and the environment are being discussed worldwide whereas its impacts on academia are less often reflected. Authoritarian impact on academia is characterized, firstly, by denying or modifying scientific knowledge and diminishing the autonomy of intellectuals; and secondly, by responding innovatively and effectively to risks of academic (and social) unrest, skillfully navigating the public opinion. Impacting intensely on science, education and academia, authoritarian regimes engage in creating their own ‘scientists’, ‘academics’ and ‘knowledges’ that are to help accomplish the ideological projects of the regime. In this context, this panel scrutinizes the impact of the rising new authoritarianism on universities from a comparative perspective by focusing on countries such as China, Turkey, Iran, and several Central and South-Eastern European countries (Hungary, Poland, Slovenia, Croatia and Serbia). Four distinguished guest speakers, Zeynep Kadirbeyoğlu, Milica Popovic, Ladan Rahbari, Marina Svensson, will discuss the impacts of contemporary authoritarianism on academia.

Time: June 21, 2022, 17.30-19.30

Place: Elise Richter Hall, University of Vienna, Universitätsring 1, 1010 Vienna.

Organized by: Ece Cihan Ertem & Barbara Schulte

The University of Vienna, Department of Education, Unit of International and Comparative Education

Please register by June 15 to ece.cihan.ertem@univie.ac.at

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Moderator: Ece Cihan Ertem, PhD/Department of Education, University of Vienna, Austria.

Panellists:

Assoc. Prof. Zeynep Kadirbeyoğlu/Department of Political Science and International Relations, Bogazici University, Turkey (on Turkey)

Milica Popovic, PhD/ OSUN Global Observatory on Academic Freedom, Central European University, Austria (on Central and South-Eastern Europe: Hungary, Poland, Slovenia, Croatia and Serbia)

Assist. Prof. Ladan Rahbari/Department of Sociology, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands (on Iran)

Prof. Marina Svensson/ Center for East and South-East Asian Studies, Lund University, Sweden (on China)