

# The swinging of the pendulum? Centre-right parties in a post-migration crisis Europe

 @MigrPolCentre

**07 October 2019**

Sala Europa - Villa Schifanoia, Via Boccaccio 121 - Florence

Scientific Organisers:

**Andrew Geddes** | Chair in Migration Studies and Director, Migration Policy Centre (MPC), Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies (RSCAS), European University Institute (EUI)

**Leila Hadj Abdou** | Research Fellow, MPC, RSCAS, EUI

## Introduction

This workshop will explore how the European centre-right is handling immigration in the wake of the migration crisis: are we witnessing a radicalisation of claims, and a shift from more 'moderate', mainstream positions to more radical, 'hardline' positions on immigration? Papers presented in this workshop will analyse recent positional shifts on, and reconfigurations related to, immigration of the centre-right in Europe. Contributions will explore the assumption that the crisis has pulled the centre-right irrevocably towards a more restrictive position. The focus on immigration serves as a magnifying glass, for wider trends related to the challenges of liberal democracy, and the reaction of a key political actor to the inherent dilemma between democratic accountability and the protection of liberal rights. The workshop focuses on centre-right parties of countries in which immigration has been highly tangible in numbers and in political debate (Austria, Germany, Sweden, Italy, the United Kingdom and Hungary), and also provides a broader (contextual) debate on political conflicts and the impact of the migration crisis across Europe.



## **Programme**

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**7 October**

09.00 - 09.15 **Welcome**

**Andrew Geddes** | MPC, RSCAS, EUI

09.15 - 10.00 **Centre right parties in a post-migration crisis Europe**

**Andrew Geddes** | MPC, RSCAS, EUI

**Tim Bale** | Queen Mary University of London

**Leila Hadj Abdou** | MPC, RSCAS, EUI

10.00 - 10.45 **Politicising immigration in times of crisis**

**Hanspeter Kriesi** | Department of Political and Social Sciences, EUI

10.45 - 11.00 *Coffee break*

11.00 - 11.45 **Between Business and Nativism: How centre-right party strategies affect their electorate in post-industrial societies**

**Tarik Abu-Chadi** | University Zurich

**Markus Wagner** | University of Vienna, via skype

11.45 - 12.30 **“For whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.” The British Conservative Party and immigration, pre- and post-Brexit**

**Tim Bale** | Queen Mary University of London

12.30 - 13.30 *Lunch*

13.30 - 14.15 **Anti-migration campaigning: a new winning formula and a plan for action for the Austrian Conservative Party**

**Leila Hadj Abdou** | MPC, RSCAS, EUI

14.15 - 15.00 **The centre no longer holds: Salvini, the Lega and the remaking of the politics of immigration in Italy**

**Andrew Geddes** | MPC, RSCAS, EUI

**James Dennison** | MPC, RSCAS, EUI, via skype

- 15.00 - 15.15 *Coffee break*
- 15.15 - 16.00 **Orbán's political jackpot: immigration and the Hungarian electorate**  
**András Bíró-Nagy** | Hungarian Academy of Sciences
- 16.00 - 16.45 **The end of the Willkommenskultur? Germany's centre right and the politics of migration in turbulent times**  
**Isabelle Hertner** | King's College London, via skype
- 16.45 - 17.30 **Is the Swedish centre-right alliance falling apart on migration?**  
**Marie Demker** | University of Gothenburg, via skype
- 17.30 - 18.00 **Concluding discussion**

## **Speakers**

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<b>Tarik Abu-Chadi</b>	Assistant Professor, University Zurich
<b>András Bíró-Nagy</b>	Research Fellow, Hungarian Academy of Sciences
<b>Tim Bale</b>	Professor of Politics, Queen Mary University of London
<b>Marie Demker</b>	Professor, University of Gothenburg
<b>James Dennison</b>	Part-time Professor, Migration Policy Centre, Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, European University Institute
<b>Andrew Geddes</b>	Director & Chair in Migration Studies, Migration Policy Centre, Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, European University Institute
<b>Leila Hadj Abdou</b>	Research Fellow, Migration Policy Centre, Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, European University Institute
<b>Isabelle Hertner</b>	Senior Lecturer, King's College London
<b>Hanspeter Kriesi</b>	Stein Rokkan Chair of Comparative Politics, Department of Political and Social Sciences, EUI
<b>Markus Wagner</b>	Professor, University of Vienna