

Centre for Applied Philosophy Politics and Ethics
University of Brighton

Third International Interdisciplinary Conference

What's the Big Deal about Democracy?

8 – 10 September 2008

Conference programme

Monday

Registration with tea/coffee on arrival: 10.30-11.30

Introduction: 11.45 – 12.15 Sallis Benney Theatre

Lunch 12.15 – 1

First Session: 1pm – 3pm

Room One: Gideon Calder
CRD University of Wales, UK
(Selina Sadat) **Voices and decisions in the deliberative process**

Dean Machin
University of Bristol, UK
A problem with justifying democracy on epistemic grounds

Harald Borgebund
University of York, UK
Liberalism and the value of democracy: intrinsic or instrumental?

Room Two: Paul Lucardie
GP BR University of Groningen, The Netherlands
(Chair TBC) **Democracy: an excellent idea? An exercise in political imagination**

Anton Petrenko
Okanagan College, Canada
On moral foundations of democratic political organisation

Bernard Jackson
Washington and Lee University, USA
Democracy and its discontents

Tea/Coffee: 3 – 3.30

Second Session: 3.30 – 5

Room One: Emilia Brodencova
CRD Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium
(Ian Bryan) **Democracy terrorized or unmasked? On terror and blues, hangovers and headaches of democracy**

Tarik Kochi
Queens University Belfast, Northern Ireland
Democracy, violence and the international order

Room Two: Isabell David
GP BR Technical University of Lisbon, Portugal
(John McSweeney) **Rethinking liberal democracy. The decline of politics and its consequences**

Aaron Winter
University of Abertay, Dundee, UK
Looking Outward: Domestic protest and the representation of democracy in America

Tuesday

Tea/Coffee on arrival

First Session: 9.30 – 11

Room One: Ayelet Harel-Shalev
CETLD Ben-Gurion University, Israel
(Anton Petrenko) **“Performing” democracy in deeply divided societies – India and Israel as case studies**

Ian Bryan and Peter Langford
Lancaster University and Edge Hill University, UK
Representative democracy and immigration: the effect of the exclusion of non-nationals

Room Two: Javier Franzé
GP BR Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain
(Tarik Kochi) **Democracy: fight for meaning or human rights as a universal truth? Strauss’ controversy with Schmitt and Weber**

John McSweeney
Independent scholar
Giving politics an edge: Rancière and the anarchic principle of democracy

Tea/Coffee: 11-11.30

Second Session: 11.30 – 1

Room One: Steven Whitfield
CETLD Independent scholar
(Aaron Winter) **Voting away our power?**

Hanno Birken-Bertsch
Independent scholar
The intangibility of democracy

Room Two: Daniel Hausknost
GP BR Keele University, UK
(Cezary Jósef Olbromski) **Liberal democracy and the limits to change: legitimacy, opacity and neutrality**

Jurgen de Wispelaere
Trinity College Dublin, Ireland
And never the twain shall meet? Universal voting rights and democratic competence

Lunch: 1 – 2.15

Third Session: 2.15 –4.15

Room One: Lilian Moncrieff
CETLD University of Glasgow, UK
(Catherine West-Newman) **Thank you for holding, your participation is very valuable to us**

Allen N. Fairfax
Marrimack College, USA
Alinsky-style organising as an alternative practice of democracy

Room Two: Ismail Ibrahim and Aruna Bhagwan
GP BR Leicester Northwest Community Forum, UK
(Jurgen de Wispelaere) **Public goods, local leadership and community well-being:
The case of Leicester North-West Community Forum**

Christopher Jay
UCL, UK
Making truth safe from democracy

Wim de Jong
Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen, The Netherlands
Democratizing democracy (1966 – 1983)

Room Three: Ruma Guha
CRD B.K.C College, University of Calcutta, India
(Bernard Jackson) **The democratic deficit of liberal democratic states**

Tim Houwen
Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen, The Netherlands
Populist democracy

Jasdev Rai
Sikh Human Rights Group, UK
Best of the worst? So who are the worsts?

Tea/Coffee: 4.15 - 4.30

Keynote address: Haidar Eid
4.30-5.30 Al-Aqsa University, Gaza, Palestine
Sallis Benney **The realities of democracy today**

Conference drinks and buffet dinner
6.30/7pm The Victory Inn, 6 Duke Lane, Brighton

Wednesday

Tea/Coffee on arrival

First Session: 9.30 - 11

Room One: Cezary Jósef Olbromski
CETLD University of Maria Curie-Sklodowska in Lublin, Poland
(Ruma Guha) **Collective (post?) democracy: intentional legitimisation of the de-political power**

Catherine Lane West-Newman
University of Auckland, New Zealand
Democracy and emotions: uneasy connections?

Room Two: Alison Assiter
GP BR University of the West of England
(Evert van der **Rights, democracy, madness and evil**
Zweerde)

Christos Boukalas
Lancaster University
Government by experts: Counterterrorism intelligence and the cancellation of democracy

Room Three: Jide Ojo
CRD Centre for Applied Philosophy and Strategic Thinking, Nigeria
(Frank Ravitch) **Democratisation in Africa: imperatives of cultural integration**

Maria Kyriakidou
American College of Thessaloniki, Greece
Lessons from an unsuccessful alternative to democratic experiment: the study of an idiosyncratic Greek eco-feminism

Tea/Coffee: 11 – 11.30

Second Session: 11.30 – 1

Room One: Evert van der Zweerde
CETLD Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen, The Netherlands
(Chair TBC) **Check the balance! Reflections on democracy as a paradoxical process**

Frank Ravitch
Michigan State University College of Law, USA
The hermeneutics of liberal democracies and natural rights discourse

Room Two: Paul Reynolds
GP BR Edge Hill University, UK
(Chair TBC) **The vagaries of democracy: meritocracy, mediocracy or mass rule?**

Mark McGovern
Edge Hill University, UK
Peace, civilisation and good governance? Democracy, terrorism and transitional justice in Afghanistan

Lunch: 1 – 2.15

Third Session: 2.15-3.45

Room One: Pelin Ayan
CETLD Bilkent University, Turkey
(Paul Reynolds) **The effects of intra-party democracy revisited – the case of Turkey**

Cyril-Mary Pius Olatunji
University of Zululand, South Africa
Democracy in Africa and Africa in democracy: a critical notice

Room Two: Sotiris Themistokelous
GP BR Birkbeck College, University of London, UK
(Chair TBC) **Global governance and liberal democratic nation-states: from national to liberal identity construction**

Makoto Suzuki
Nanzan University Institute for Social Ethics, Japan
Does democracy have a unique right to rule? A critique of Thomas Christiano's democratic conception of legitimate political authority

Tea/Coffee: 3.45 – 4.15

Plenary: 4.15 – 5 Sallis Benney Theatre