

Exploring democracy in the 21st century from the perspective of the past: Can the liberty of the ancients be combined with the liberty of the moderns?

EUI, Max Weber Programme – Badia Fiesolana



Festival d'Europa Photo Gallery

Type: Open to the general public

(upon registration)

Location: Seminar Room 2, Badia Fiesolana,

EUI, Florence

Date and Time: 2 May 2019, 10:30-13:30

Language: English

Organiser: Max Weber Programme, EUI

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In this panel, Max Weber Fellows from the Departments of History and Civilization and Political and Social Sciences, who are scholars of political theory and Intellectual history, ask what we can learn from the European tradition of democratic theory to think about the future of democracy in Europe. In particular, how far are our inherited democratic norms compatible with an EU committed to the norms of the single market and the four freedoms, on the one hand, and ever-closer political as well as economic integration, on the other?

As we shall see, most past thinkers have been critical of elements of one or other or both, suggesting that we must either rethink democracy or rethink the Union if we wish to combine the two. The panel develops chronologically through three linked steps:

On the Liberty of the Ancients

Eniola Anuoluwapo Soyemi, Max Weber Programme, Department of Political and Social Sciences Fellow: Aristotle

Jared Holley, Max Weber Programme, Department of History and Civilization Fellow: Rousseau

On the Liberties of the Moderns

Bruno Leibold, Max Weber Programme Department of Political and Social Sciences Fellow: Marx

Alessandro Bonvini, Max Weber Programme, Department of History and Civilization Fellow: Mazzini

On Combining the Liberties of the Ancients with that of the Moderns in the EU

Jens van 't Klooster, Max Weber Programme, Department of Political and Social Sciences Fellow: The Rawls-Van Parijs Debate

Chair: **Richard Bellamy**, Director of the Max Weber Programme, EUI

Contact: Francesca Grassini, Max Weber Programme, EUI

