

# *Rule of Law in Europe: Threats and Resilience*

## WORKSHOP PROGRAM

April 19-20, 2018  
McGill University  
Jean Monnet Centre Montréal



## ***Rule of Law in Europe: Threats and Resilience***

The rule of law, which is a fundamental value of the European Union, is increasingly tested and contested across Europe. In Hungary, Orban's self-proclaimed "illiberal" turn has included the decimation of the Constitutional Court's power and jurisdiction and the increased use of the law to undermine real and perceived opponents. In Poland, the PiS government and the opposition have clashed over Constitutional Tribunal appointments and sweeping government-proposed judicial reforms have triggered massive protests. In Romania, politicians have tried to curtail the jurisdiction of the increasingly active and powerful Anticorruption Directorate with surreptitiously passed amendments to the Criminal Code, thus also triggering massive social mobilization.

The workshop will bring together a diverse group of scholars - senior scholars, junior faculty, and promising graduate students - for a discussion of the intersection of law and politics in Europe.

REGISTRATION IS MANDATORY.

All attendees are expected to have read all papers.  
Please email Elizabeth Chrun at [elizabeth.chrun@umontreal.ca](mailto:elizabeth.chrun@umontreal.ca) for more details.

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## **PROGRAM**

### **APRIL 20**

*The workshop will be held in the seminar room at 3438 McTavish Street at McGill University.*

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| 8:45 a.m.        | Welcome and introductory remarks   |
| 9:00-9:50 a.m.   | <b>"Post-Accession Backslidings: Methodological and Analytical Dimensions"</b><br>Venelin I. Ganev, Miami University of Ohio<br>Discussant: Zsuzsa Csergo, Queens University                 |
| 10:00-10:50 a.m. | <b>"Authoritarian Backsliding"</b><br>Monika Nalepa, University of Chicago<br>Discussant: Krzysztof Pelc, McGill University  |
| 11:00-11:50 a.m. | <b>"The Judiciary as a Bedrock in the Single Pyramid Architecture of Power in Hungary and Macedonia"</b><br>Ognen Vangelov, Queens University<br>Discussant: Maria Popova, McGill University |



12:00-12:50 p.m.

**“Weaponized Legalism”**

Maria Popova, McGill University  
Discussant: Juan Wang, McGill University

2:35-3:25 p.m.

**“Romania’s Transition and European Integration:  
The Curious History of a Kleptocratic Democracy”**

Andrea Wagner, MacEwan University  
Discussant: Costin Ciobanu, McGill University

3:30-4:20 p.m.

**“The Rise and Fall (and Rise) of Romania’s National Anticorruption Directorate”**

Elizabeth Chrun, University of Washington  
Discussant: Manuel Balan, McGill University

4:30-5:20 p.m.

**“The EU’s authoritarian equilibrium:  
From Democratic Deficit to Autocracy Surplus”**

Dan Kelemen, Rutgers University  
Discussant: Juliet Johnson, McGill University

