

IAPSS

The International Association
For Political Science Students

IAPSS Annual Research Seminar/Academic Convention 2026
'Democracy, Democratization and Democratic Backsliding'



International Association for Political Science Students
Association Internationale des Étudiants en Sciences Politiques

IAPSS Annual Research Seminar/Academic Convention 2026 'Democracy, Democratization and Democratic Backsliding'

Letter on behalf of IAPSS

On behalf of the International Association for Political Science Students (IAPSS), we are pleased to invite all scholars and students of Political Science, and practitioners to the Annual Research Seminar/Academic Convention 2026 on 'Democracy, Democratization and Democratic Backsliding.'

At a moment when democracy remains a dominant global aspiration yet faces unprecedented strain, this Academic Convention seeks to provide a critical space for reflection, debate, and scholarly exchange. The 2026 Academic Convention is designed to foster multidisciplinary dialogue on these pressing issues. Through expert-led panel discussion on the theme, presentation by IAPSS working groups, crisis simulation, and invited lectures by leading scholars, participants will engage with the conceptual, empirical, and policy dimensions of democratic change.

The Academic Convention opens itself to paper submissions from researchers, with 139 abstracts, from thirty-nine countries and all inhabited continents, showcasing the pertinence and proximity of democracy and academic efforts to resolute its challenges.

We warmly encourage you to contribute to this global conversation and join us in advancing rigorous, inclusive, and forward-looking scholarship on the future of democracy.

With warm welcome,
Organizing Committee,
IAPSS Annual Seminar/Academic Convention 2026
'Democracy, Democratization and Democratic Backsliding,'



International Association for Political Science Students
Association Internationale des Étudiants en Sciences Politiques

IAPSS Annual Research Seminar/Academic Convention 2026 'Democracy, Democratization and Democratic Backsliding'

About IAPSS

The International Association for Political Science Students (IAPSS) is a platform for [political science](#) students and students interested in political science issues. The association is international, politically independent, non-profit, and student-run.

IAPSS helps political science students to develop intellectually and professionally through a variety of events and projects. IAPSS conferences like [World Congress](#) and [Academic Convention](#) are a venue for students from all over the world to exchange their knowledge and network; the [Winter School](#) and a [Summer School](#) serve as intensive seminars, while [Study Trips](#) grant first-hand insight into the life of political institutions. IAPSS members also run academic and opinion publications ([Politikon](#) – the IAPSS Journal of Political Science, [Encuentro Latinoamericano](#) – Revista de Ciencia Política, [A Different View](#) – the IAPSS online blog).

About the Event

The Annual Research Seminar/Academic Convention 2026, themed “**Democracy, Democratization, and Democratic Backsliding,**” brings together emerging scholars and practitioners for a dynamic exploration of the most pressing challenges confronting democratic systems today. The convention will host expert-led panels, working groups, and a think tank simulation, invited guest lectures by renowned researchers as who have contributed to the understanding of the selected theme, student roundtables, as well as presentations by IAPSS Student Research Committees, and affiliate publication; fostering an interactive environment for analytical engagement and collaborative problem-solving. Selected papers will be considered for publication in IAPSS’s peer-reviewed journals *Encuentro Latinoamericano* and *Politikon*, with



International Association for Political Science Students
Association Internationale des Étudiants en Sciences Politiques

IAPSS Annual Research Seminar/Academic Convention 2026 'Democracy, Democratization and Democratic Backsliding'

additional invited contributions featured on the IAPSS blog, *A Different View (ADV)*.

The event therefore aims to (a) foster multidisciplinary dialogue on contemporary democratic challenges; (b) generate nuanced, evidence-based analyses of democratization and backsliding; (c) explore innovative policy and civic responses to strengthen democratic resilience; and (d) build and expand the global research network of young political scientists.

Concept Note

In the early 21st century, the global democratic landscape has become a profound paradox. While democracy remains a dominant aspirational political model, its foundations are under severe strain. The triumphalist "End of History" narrative has been replaced by an era of uncertainty, characterized by both the persistent demand for democratic governance and the alarming rise of democratic backsliding, and also characterised by the VUCA (Volatile, Uncertain, Complex, and ambiguous) world. This IAPSS Research Seminar, therefore titled as: "Democracy, Democratizing, and Democratic Backsliding," seeks to critically interrogate this paradox. It aims to move beyond simplistic diagnoses and explore the complex, interconnected processes that define the current state of democracy worldwide.

Further, the third wave of democratization has crested, and a "third wave of autocratization" is now underway. Established democracies are witnessing the erosion of institutional norms, the rise of illiberal populism, and the deliberate weakening of checks and balances. Simultaneously, processes of democratization in transitional states have often stalled, hybridized, or reversed. This seminar is envisioned to focus



International Association for Political Science Students
Association Internationale des Étudiants en Sciences Politiques

IAPSS Annual Research Seminar/Academic Convention 2026 'Democracy, Democratization and Democratic Backsliding'

often stalled, hybridized, or reversed. This seminar is envisioned to focus on the necessity to dissect these concurrent trends of Democracy. It posits that understanding backsliding is impossible without a nuanced appreciation of the ongoing, contested processes of democratization, and vice versa. By examining these phenomena together, we can develop a more dynamic and comprehensive understanding of the global struggle for popular sovereignty.

Key Themes

The seminar will be structured around three core, interlinked themes:

- (1) **Conceptualizing and Diagnosing Democratic Backsliding:** How do we define and measure democratic backsliding? Is it a slow, incremental erosion or a rapid, constitutional coup? This theme will explore the role of elected incumbents in undermining democracy, the tactics used (e.g., executive aggrandizement, strategic election manipulation, disinformation), and the challenges of early detection and response.
- (2) **(Re)Democratizing in an Age of Cynicism:** In contexts of backsliding or authoritarian persistence, what are the pathways to (re)democratization? This theme will investigate the resilience of civil society, the role of social movements and protest, the challenges of constitutional and institutional reform, and the potential for democratic renewal from within compromised systems.
- (3) **The Transnational Dynamics of Democratic Flux:** Democracy is no longer a purely domestic affair. This theme will analyze the international dimensions, including the role of authoritarian diffusion and "sharp power," the effectiveness (or ineffectiveness) of international democracy promotion, and the impact of global challenges like climate change, pandemics, and economic inequality on democratic stability.



International Association for Political Science Students
Association Internationale des Étudiants en Sciences Politiques

IAPSS Annual Research Seminar/Academic Convention 2026 'Democracy, Democratization and Democratic Backsliding'

SCHEDULE OF PROGRAM

25 January, 2026 at 1:30 PM GMT / 7 PM IST / 8:30 AM EST
Join using this [link](#).

Inaugural Ceremony

Keynote Lectures

26 January, 2026 at 4:30 AM GMT / 10 AM IST / 25 January 2026 11:30 PM EST
Join using this [link](#).

"Democracy and Its Discontents"
Prof. Sumit Ganguly, Stanford University

26 January, 2026 at 2 PM GMT / 7:30 PM IST / 9 AM EST
Join using this [link](#).

"Renewing democracy: Lessons from India in historical, comparative and global perspective?"

Prof. Indrajit Ray, University of York

27 January, 2026 at 2 PM GMT / 7:30 PM IST / 9 AM EST
Join using this [link](#).

"Between What Is and What Ought to Be: Reflections on Democracy"
Dr. Myroslava Mainina, GIZ Ukraine



International Association for Political Science Students
Association Internationale des Étudiants en Sciences Politiques

IAPSS Annual Research Seminar/Academic Convention 2026 'Democracy, Democratization and Democratic Backsliding'

Student Events

25 January, 2026 at 2 PM GMT / 7:30 PM IST / 9 AM EST
Join using this [link](#).

Inter-SRC Panel Discussion on 'Democracy, Democratization and Democratic Backsliding,' chaired by Soumya Tiwari, Deputy Head of Academics, IAPSS

28 January, 2026 at 2 PM GMT / 7:30 PM IST / 9 AM EST
Join using this [link](#).

IAPSS Think Tank 'Crisis Observatory' Simulation, chaired by Muhammad Anugrah Utama, IAPSS Think Tank Coordinator and Allen David Simon, Academic Projects Coordinator

29 January, 2026 at 3:30 PM GMT / 9 PM IST / 10:30 AM EST
Join using this [link](#).

Closing Ceremony and Valedictory



International Association for Political Science Students
Association Internationale des Étudiants en Sciences Politiques

IAPSS Annual Research Seminar/Academic Convention 2026 'Democracy, Democratization and Democratic Backsliding'

Paper Presentation Panels*

Day 1: Session 1

25 January 2026 at 3:30 PM GMT / 9 PM IST / 10:30 AM EST

Join using this [link](#).

South Asian Spring: Comparative Democratic Experiences of the Region

Panel Chair: Alisha Khan, Chair, Comparative Politics-SRC

Discussant: Saareena Asrar, Editor-in-Chief, *A Different View*

'Democratic Backsliding or Renewal? Comparing post-uprisings Institutional Trajectories of Bangladesh (2024) and Nepal (2025)' by Supratim Halder, University of Calcutta

'Electoral Democracy without Democratic Governance: Democratic Backsliding in Bangladesh in Comparative South Asian Perspective' by Md.Shakin Mulla, University of Delhi

'From Liberation to Digital Resistance: Youth Movements and the idea of Re-democratisation in Nationalist South Asia' by Atrayee Sinha, University of Hyderabad, India

'Sri Lanka's Democratic Backsliding and Revival: The Aragalaya Protests and the Path to Reform' by Pitipanage Sachini Nisanga, University of Colombo

'The Revolution Will Be Live Streamed: Recent Trends of Democratisation in South Asia' by Srishtistuti Roy, University of North Bengal

'Future of Democracy: Perspective of Young Pakistani Students' by Maryam Zohra, Quaid I Azam University, Islamabad

* This is a provisional schedule; a final list of presenters shall be made available by 24 January 2026.



International Association for Political Science Students
Association Internationale des Étudiants en Sciences Politiques

IAPSS Annual Research Seminar/Academic Convention 2026 'Democracy, Democratization and Democratic Backsliding'

Day 1: Session 2

25 January 2026 at 3:30 PM GMT / 9 PM IST / 10:30 AM EST

Join using this [link](#).

Europe: Rise of Illiberal Liberal-Democracies

Panel Chair: Yelyzaveta Samsonova, Member, IAPSS Ukraine

Discussant: Laly Warnier, Member, Comparative Politics-SRC

'Right-Wing Populism, Executive Aggrandizement & Democratic Backsliding in Europe: The Case of Hungary under Victor Orban' by Nadire Burcu Gümüşfiliz, Yeditepe University

'Illiberal Democracy or Competitive Authoritarianism: Diagnosing Democratic Backsliding in Russia' by Shalini, Jawaharlal Nehru University

'Between democratization and backsliding: Institutional Erosion and Hybridization in Georgia (2022-2024)' by Eteri Kokaia, Tbilisi State University

'Sovereignty Under Pressure: Hybrid Interference and Security Vulnerabilities in Eastern Europe and Western Balkans' by Enes Ismeti, University of Prizren "Ukshin Hoti"

'The Role of Civil Society in Defending Ukraine's Anti-Corruption Institutions (NABU and SAPO) in 2025' by Liubov Koronevska, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv

'The role of hybrid warfare in democratic backsliding in the Western Balkans: Mechanisms, institutional vulnerabilities, and governance dynamics' by Denur Paçaku, South East European University



International Association for Political Science Students
Association Internationale des Étudiants en Sciences Politiques

IAPSS Annual Research Seminar/Academic Convention 2026 'Democracy, Democratization and Democratic Backsliding'

Day 1: Session 3

25 January 2026 at 3:30 PM GMT / 9 PM IST / 10:30 AM EST

Join using this [link](#).

East Asia: Stepping out of Militarism and Challenges to Democratization

Panel Chair: Aman Maheshwari, Chair, Asia & Oceania-SRC

Discussant: Chavi Saini, Vice-Chair, Asia & Oceania-SRC

'Japan's Engagement with Thailand and Cambodia amid the Decline in Democracy: A Window of Opportunity for Greater Autonomous Diplomacy, Long-term Commitment to Democratization and Balancing against China's Influence in the Region' by Sato Yoichiro & Sek Sophal, Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University

'Recognition and Denial: The Arakan Army, Political Exclusion of NUG, Rohingya Identity, and Federal Democracy in Myanmar' by Mohammed Siraj, Rohingya Academic Research Institute

'State-civil society relations in the context of democratic backsliding in Cambodia' by Jeudy Oeung, Nagoya University

'Who Is to Blame? Enemy Construction and Blame Shifting in Prabowo Subianto's Populist Rhetoric (2009-2024)' by Debora Priyanka Mulya, Leiden University



International Association for Political Science Students
Association Internationale des Étudiants en Sciences Politiques

IAPSS Annual Research Seminar/Academic Convention 2026 'Democracy, Democratization and Democratic Backsliding'

Day 2: Session 1

26 January 2026 at 3:30 PM GMT / 9 PM IST / 10:30 AM EST

Join using this [link](#).

The Grand Indian Democracy: Challenges to Substantive Democratization (I)

Panel Chair: Narendra Singh, Member, Comparative Politics-SRC

Discussant: Tiasha Maity, Editor, *A Different View*

'Decentralization and Local Governance in the Uttarakhand Himalaya' by
Sheeba Sheikh, Jamia Millia Islamia

'Declining Freedom and the Shrinking Space for Dissent: Challenges to
India's Democratic Trajectory in the post-2014 Scenario' by Dr. CV
Lalmalsawmi, Nagaland University

'From Consent to Consolidation: How Electoral Legitimacy Reshapes
Democratic Power in India' by Sanjay Biswas, Kingston Law College

'Reconfiguring the 'social field of democracy': Cultural and Political
Mobilisation in India today' by Sanjana K. Sitaraman, Jawaharlal
Nehru University



International Association for Political Science Students
Association Internationale des Étudiants en Sciences Politiques

IAPSS Annual Research Seminar/Academic Convention 2026 'Democracy, Democratization and Democratic Backsliding'

Day 2: Session 2

26 January 2026 at 3:30 PM GMT / 9 PM IST / 10:30 AM EST

Join using this [link](#).

Africa: Democratic Experiments, Shortcomings and Solutions (I)

Panel Chair: Mounamukhar Ghosh, Vice-Chair, Gender & Identity-SRC

Discussant: Deborah Sike, Vice-Chair, Comparative Politics-SRC

'Navigating Democratic dynamics in Digital era: Gen Z and the Reinvention of Politics in Morocco' by Meriam Hssaini, Cadi Ayyad University

'Curriculum as democratic control: civic education and the making of political meaning in hybrid regimes - the case of Morocco' by Wissal Chafik, Samuel Hall

'Longevity in power and presidential elections in Cameroon: between improvement and democratic backlash' by Minko A Bitegni Jean Emmanuel, Institut Universitaire De La Cote

'Negotiating Democracy and Authority: Political Closure in Post-Conflict Rwanda' by Michael Khorommbi, University of Johannesburg

'Effect of Public Financial Management Reform on Financial Operations: The Case of Ministry of Finance in Puntland State of Somalia' by Moulid Abdirahman Ali, Sahal University

'Democratic Renewal in Africa: Citizen Agency, Contextualised Practice, and the Limits of Institutional Replication' by Koketso Tlotlo Moyo and Angela Joubert, University of Botswana



International Association for Political Science Students
Association Internationale des Étudiants en Sciences Politiques

IAPSS Annual Research Seminar/Academic Convention 2026 'Democracy, Democratization and Democratic Backsliding'

Day 3: Session 1

27 January 2026 at 3:30 PM GMT / 9 PM IST / 10:30 AM EST

Join using this [link](#).

The Grand Indian Democracy: Challenges to Substantive Democratization (II)

Panel Chair: Sanjay Suna, Member, Comparative Politics-SRC

Discussant: Taslima Tariq, Vice-Chair, Gender & Identity-SRC

'Redemocratizing Indian Democracy: Vital Factors' by Dr. Santwana Pandey,
Guru Ghasidas Viswavidyalaya

'The Paradox of Indian Democracy: Institutional Decay against the Backdrop
of a Vibrant India' by Dr. Suchit Kumar Yadav, Dr. Rajendra Prasad
National Law University

'Why Democratization Failed to Democratize Society: Revisiting Ambedkar
in the Age of Democratic Regression' by Shubham, Kurukshetra
University

'Nari Shakti and the Electoral Turn: Women as the New Democratic
Constituency in India' by Rahul Kumar, Jawaharlal Nehru University



International Association for Political Science Students
Association Internationale des Étudiants en Sciences Politiques

IAPSS Annual Research Seminar/Academic Convention 2026 'Democracy, Democratization and Democratic Backsliding'

Day 3: Session 2

27 January 2026 at 3:30 PM GMT / 9 PM IST / 10:30 AM EST

Join using this [link](#).

South Asia: Between Populist Resurgence and Democratic Resilience (I)

Panel Chair: Meenakshi Bansal, Member, Gender & Identity-SRC

Discussant: Mehul Kumar, Member, Comparative Politics-SRC

'Institutionalization of the Political Party System in Sri Lanka through Election Campaign Regulations and Public Funding Mechanisms: A Failed Attempt?' by Isuri Wickramarathna Siriwardhana, Bandaranaike Centre for International Studies, Sri Lanka

'Backsliding by Design: Electoral Legitimacy and the Normalization of Illiberal Rule' by Katha Chakraborty, South Asian University

'Ballots without Democracy? Mapping Democratic Decline in South Asia' by Mukesh Kumar Pandey, Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Rohilkhand University

'China's Authoritarian Diffusion in South-Asia: Assessing India's Concerns and Response' by Manzoor Ahmad Padder, University of Kashmir



International Association for Political Science Students
Association Internationale des Étudiants en Sciences Politiques

IAPSS Annual Research Seminar/Academic Convention 2026 'Democracy, Democratization and Democratic Backsliding'

Day 3: Session 3

27 January 2026 at 3:30 PM GMT / 9 PM IST / 10:30 AM EST

Join using this [link](#).

South Asia: Between Populist Resurgence and Democratic Resilience (II)

Panel Chair: Arka Palita, Chair, Global Politics-SRC

Discussant: Abhinav Rana, Analyst, IAPSS Think Tank

'Borderless Threats, Bordered Responses: Climate Migration and Regional Security Dilemmas in South Asia' by Naresh Prajapati, Bennett University

'Populism and Democratization in Hybrid Regimes: Insights from Pakistan' by Sarmad Wali Khan, BNU Center for Policy Research

'Bottom-Up Autocratisation in Bangladesh: A Case of Grassroots Democratic Backsliding in a Transitional Polity?' by Kuriakose Mathew, P P Savani University & Arjun Ramachandran, University of Hyderabad

'The Persistence of the "Authoritarian Syndrome": A Nested Mixed-Methods Analysis of Bangladesh's 2026 Democratic Transition' by Md. Monir Hossin, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology



International Association for Political Science Students
Association Internationale des Étudiants en Sciences Politiques

IAPSS Annual Research Seminar/Academic Convention 2026 'Democracy, Democratization and Democratic Backsliding'

Day 3: Session 4

27 January 2026 at 3:30 PM GMT / 9 PM IST / 10:30 AM EST

Join using this [link](#).

Global Democratic Ownership: Civil Society, Democratic Theory and Practice

Panel Chair: Furqan Ahmed, Global Partnerships Associate

Discussant: Shrey Mitra, Vice-Chair, Global Politics-SRC

'(De-)Democratization Across History: Political Systems as Adaptive Socio-Ecological Systems' by Marvin Best, Heidelberg University

'Diagnosing Democratic Backsliding as Configurational Drift: A Relational–Geometric Perspective on Democratic Viability' by Gerardus Bukkems, Center for Community Emergence and Regeneration

'Diagnosing Democratic Backsliding Beyond Rupture: Machine Learning, Measurement Error and the Case of India' by Thato Mazwe Madibo, IIE Varsity College Pretoria

'Democracy and the Design of Artifacts: Secondary Instrumentalization and Power in Technology' by Maria Malandraki, Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences

'The Narrative Security Machine as a threat to the reactive of democratic exhibition processes in historical museums' by Józef Legierski, Jagiellonian University

'Venezuela and the geopolitics of democratization: geoeconomic and sociopolitical effects of us sanctions on the government of Nicolás Maduro (2015-2017)' by Daniel Flores, University of Guadalajara



International Association for Political Science Students
Association Internationale des Étudiants en Sciences Politiques

IAPSS Annual Research Seminar/Academic Convention 2026 'Democracy, Democratization and Democratic Backsliding'

Day 4: Session 1

28 January, 2026 at 3:30 PM GMT / 9 PM IST / 10:30 AM EST

Join using this [link](#).

Populism, Civil-Military Relations and the Rise of the Far Right: Institutionalism, Constitutionalism and Normativity

Panel Chair: Fernando F Garcia, Member, Comparative Politics-SRC
Discussant: Bruno Mattos Pereira, Academic Programs Office, IAPSS

“The Worst Form of Government?” Democratic Backsliding as a Crisis of Values and Moral Responsibility’ by Yelyzaveta Samsonova, State University "Kyiv Aviation Institute"

‘The World as One Family: Toward Global Democratic Ownership’ by Chandramani Sharma, Tribhuvan University

‘Populism and Democratization in Turkey: A Vehicle for Authoritarian Consolidation’ by Valdrin Dragusha, Wilfrid Laurier University

“Democracy in Uneven Time: Rethinking Democratic Backsliding as Incremental Erosion’ by Swastika Kar, Presidency University, Kolkata

‘The Rise of the Radical Right in Hungary: An Analysis of its Causes, Policies, and Effects on European Multilateralism’ by Luis Ángel Palomino Rojas, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú

‘Autocratisation and Democratisation in Latin America: Evidence from Brazil and El Salvador’ by André Leite Araujo, São Paulo State University

‘The Brazilian Way: Judicial Protagonism and Historical Contradictions in Democratic Resilience after January 8’ by Edson Mendes Nunes Junior, Fluminense Federal University



International Association for Political Science Students
Association Internationale des Étudiants en Sciences Politiques

IAPSS Annual Research Seminar/Academic Convention 2026 'Democracy, Democratization and Democratic Backsliding'

Day 4: Session 2

28 January, 2026 at 3:30 PM GMT / 9 PM IST / 10:30 AM EST

Join using this [link](#).

Africa: Democratic Experiments, Shortcomings and Solutions (II)

Panel Chair: Collins Akinujomu, Member, Comparative Politics-SRC

Discussant: Christopher Ebikebena, Country Coordinator (Nigeria), IAPSS Africa

'Legislative Manipulation and the Shrinking Democratic Space: Democratic Backsliding in Zimbabwe's Second Republic' by Portia Sizalobuhle Ndlovu, North-West University

'Remembering Democratic Failure: Historical Memory and the Everyday Diagnosis of Electoral Backsliding in Nairobi' by Carol Atieno Mbeche, University of Johannesburg

'From Ballots to Barracks: Re-imagining Democracy in West Africa Amid a New Wave of Military Resurgence' by Alusine Deen Sesay, University Of International Business and Economics

'Contiguity to Military Junta; Implication for Nigeria's 2027 presidential election' by Ekeh Chinedu Patrick, University of Port Harcourt

'Relax Tinubu will fixed Nigeria through Educational Nelfund and Agricultural reform' by Feisal Mohammed, Federal University Of Education Kontagora

'Democratic Resilience vs. Democratic Backsliding: A Tale of Two Nations in Times of Political Instability and Insecurity' by Deborah Sike, University of Pittsburgh



International Association for Political Science Students
Association Internationale des Étudiants en Sciences Politiques

IAPSS Annual Research Seminar/Academic Convention 2026 'Democracy, Democratization and Democratic Backsliding'

Guidelines for Paper Presentation

Rules for Paper Presentation

- (I) Presentation panels shall be composed of a Panel Chair and a Discussant, along with fellow presenters.
- (II) All presentations will be held virtually, over Zoom
- (III) All participants are expected active participants in their respective paper presentation panels, with active peer feedback and sharing of insights.
- (IV) Panel Chairs shall recommend papers for certificate awards in respective categories. Decisions on awards shall be by the Organizing Committee and binding on all participants.
- (V) Selected papers will be recommended for publication in IAPSS's peer-reviewed journals Encuentro Latinoamericano and Politikon, with additional invited contributions featured on the IAPSS blog, A Different View (ADV); provided that papers embody the research rigor of said publications.

Time Structure of Panels

- (1) Each paper presentation will consist of a presentation by the paper presenter, the discussant's reply and a Q&A session with the audience.
- (2) Panel Structure:
 - a) 10 minutes presentation;
 - b) 5 minutes for remarks by the Panel Chair and Discussant;
 - c) 20-minute Q&A after all presentations.

How to be a good Paper Presenter

- (1) Keep to time.



International Association for Political Science Students
Association Internationale des Étudiants en Sciences Politiques

IAPSS Annual Research Seminar/Academic Convention 2026 'Democracy, Democratization and Democratic Backsliding'

- (2) You will be allocated between 8 and 10 minutes and if you go over the limit, it will be taken from the time of your co-presenters.
- (3) Structure your presentation so that the audience has the time to ask you questions afterward.
- (4) Prepare your speech beforehand. You do not need to read directly from the paper but hint-cards are always useful.
- (5) If you write down your speech, make sure you have leeway time-wise.
- (6) Speakers reading directly from the paper very often underestimate the time they will need for presentation.
- (7) If you run out of time, you will be cut off mid-presentation. No exceptions.
- (8) Be precise and concise. You are presenting your research results, not making a political speech. Keep in mind that your audience is smart.
- (9) Be attentive to your colleagues. It is polite to prepare at least one question for each of your co-panelist and give them proper feedback. Your work does not end with finishing your paper, the key to a successful academic panel is interaction among its participants.



International Association for Political Science Students
Association Internationale des Étudiants en Sciences Politiques

IAPSS Annual Research Seminar/Academic Convention 2026 'Democracy, Democratization and Democratic Backsliding'

The Organizing Committee for the IAPSS Annual Seminar/Academic Convention 2026 on 'Democracy, Democratization and Democratic Backsliding':

Convenor	Soumyadeep Chawdhury, VP & Head of Academics, IAPSS
Co-Convenor	Soumya Tiwari, Deputy Head of Academics, IAPSS
Coordinator	Allen David Simon, Academic Projects Coordinator, IAPSS
Joint Coordinator	Adarsh Prasad, Asia Chair, IAPSS

Organizing Committee Members	Furqan Ahmed, Global Partnerships Associate Liubov Koronevska, President, IAPSS Ukraine Muhammad A Utama, Coordinator, IAPSS Think Tank Felipe Honorato, Editor-in-Chief, <i>Encuentro Latinoamericano</i> Saareena Asrar, Editor-in-Chief, <i>A Different View</i> Bruno Mattos Pereira, Academic Programs Office, IAPSS Alisha Khan, Chair, Comparative Politics-SRC Aman Maheshwari, Chair, Asia & Oceania-SRC Arka Palit, Chair, Global Politics-SRC Nestor A Campero, Chair, Political Theory-SRC Chavi Saini, Vice-Chair, Asia & Oceania-SRC Deborah Sike, Vice-Chair, Comparative Politics-SRC Mounamukhar Ghosh, Vice-Chair, Gender & Identity-SRC Rishav Gupta, Vice-Chair, Comparative Politics-SRC Shrey Mishra, Vice-Chair, Global Politics-SRC Taslima Tariq, Vice-Chair, Gender & Identity-SRC Priyanka Das, Editor, <i>A Different View</i> Tiasha Maity, Editor, <i>A Different View</i> Christopher A Ebikebena, Member, Comparative Politics-SRC Meenakshi Bansal, Member, Gender & Identity-SRC Sanghamitra Mallick, Member, Asia & Oceania-SRC Thirupathi P., Member, Comparative Politics-SRC
------------------------------------	---



**International Association for Political Science Students
Association Internationale des Étudiants en Sciences Politiques**

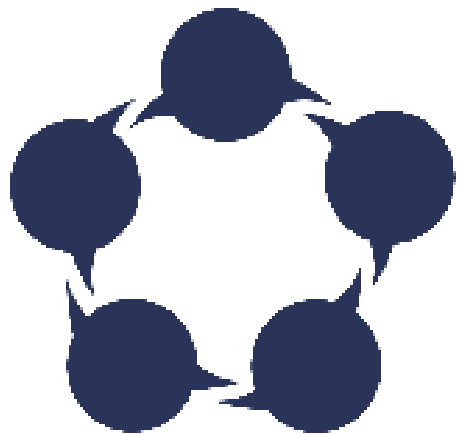
**IAPSS Annual Research Seminar/Academic Convention 2026
'Democracy, Democratization and Democratic Backsliding'**

Produced by the International Association for Political Science Students

Dated: 24 January 2026

For inquiries, kindly contact Allen David Simon, Academic Projects
Coordinator at academicproject@iapss.org.

International Association for Political Science Students
Department of Political Science, Concordia University
1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West
Montréal, Québec, H3G 1M8
Canada



IAPSS

The International Association
For Political Science Students

IAPSS Annual Seminar/Academic Convention 2026
'Democracy, Democratization and Democratic Backsliding'