

The Bavarian American Academy promotes and coordinates the interdisciplinary cooperation of scholars in the social and cultural sciences in the broadest sense, specializing in aspects of North American culture, society, politics and economics in their hemispheric and global contexts.

The conference is organized by the Bavarian American Academy in cooperation with the Bavarian State Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs, Sciences and the Arts and the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg.



Bavarian State Ministry of  
Education and Cultural Affairs, Sciences and the Arts



**Conference venue:**  
**Amerikahaus, Barer Straße 19 a, Munich**



## 17th International Academy Conference 2017

### The Comeback of Populism Transatlantic Perspectives

The term populism is fuzzy and diffuse. It neither identifies a political program nor does it clearly situate political parties in a left-to-right spectrum. Rather, it appears to refer to a particular style of political performance and communication. Analyzing the current resurgence of populism in the United States and Europe, this conference seeks to shed light on some of the implications of populism's comeback from a transatlantic and interdisciplinary point of view.

The conference will evaluate the return of populism in a diachronic and a synchronic perspective.

Resurgent populism in Europe and the United States needs to be interpreted and understood both in its cultural and political specificities and in its virulent reappearance in the United States, France, Germany, etc. as well as its concomitant global reach in the present moment.

Contemporary populisms often share an authoritarian as well as an anti-elitist and anti-establishment agenda that posits as capturing and expressing the 'voice of the people.' Scenarios of threat and anxiety meet a rhetoric of emancipation from suffering and victimization, yet at the same time, populist protest appears to be couched in a militant rhetoric of exclusion and, usually, nativism.

Working through populism's simplifications and mystifications, our conference will examine its discursive strategies in nuanced ways.

**no conference fee**  
**registration requested**

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17th Academy Conference

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# The Comeback of Populism

## Transatlantic Perspectives

**July 6 – July 8, 2017**  
**International Conference**  
**Amerikahaus Munich**



**bavarian  
american academy**

Thursday, 6 July 2017

**18.30 Conference Opening**

**Welcome**

**Heike Paul**

Bavarian American Academy  
University of Erlangen-Nuremberg

**Klaus Ulrich**

Bavarian State Chancellery

**Award Ceremony**

BAA Dissertation Award

**19.00 Keynote Address**

**Hans Vorländer** (Technical University Dresden)  
*Populism in Modern Democracy*

**Reception**

Friday, 7 July 2017

**09.00 Panel I: Current Populist Movements in the Americas**

Chair: **Ursula Prutsch** (University of Munich)

**Michael Hochgeschwender** (University of Munich)  
*A Populist Critique of Populism*

**Carlos de la Torre** (University of Kentucky)  
*Trump's Populism: Lessons from Latin America*

**10.30 Meet and Greet with U.S. Consul General Jennifer D. Gavito (Munich)**

**10.45 Coffee Break**

Friday, 7 July 2017

**11.00 Panel II: The Populist Moment in Constitutional Democracy**

Chair: **Jürgen Gebhardt** (University of Erlangen-Nuremberg)

**Frank Decker** (University of Bonn)  
*Right Wing Populism in Germany and Abroad*

**D. Sunshine Hillygus** (Duke University)  
*Understanding the Trump Win: Populism, Partisanship, and Polarization in the 2016 Election*

**12.30 Lunch Break**

**14.30 Panel III: Popular Imagination and Public Opinion: Fiction's Role in the Making and Unmaking of a Democratic Public**

Chair: **Kerstin Schmidt** (University of Eichstaett-Ingolstadt)

**Sascha Pöhlmann** (University of Munich)  
*Missing the People: Populist Aesthetics and Unpopular Resistance*

**Stacey Margolis** (University of Utah)  
*Poe, Popularity, Populism*

**16.00 Coffee Break**

**16.30 Panel IV: Young Scholars Forum**

Chair: **Heike Paul** (University of Erlangen-Nuremberg)

**Laura Vorberg** (University of Erlangen-Nuremberg)  
*#Deplorables: Twitter-Populism, Digital Imagined Communities and the Cross-Media Effects of Donald J. Trump's Social Media Campaign Communications*

**Michael T. Oswald** (University of Passau)  
*Trump's Use of Producerism*

**Nicole Schneider** (University of Eichstaett-Ingolstadt)  
*'Grassroots Populism': Black Lives Matter and the Democratization of Political Culture*

**18.30 BAA Members Meeting (members only)**

Saturday, 8 July 2017

**09.00 Book Presentation (in German)**

**Georg Eckert** (University of Wuppertal)  
*Populismus: Varianten von Volksherrschaft in Geschichte und Gegenwart*

**10.15 Coffee Break**

**10.45 Introduction (in German): Populistische Phänomene und extremistische Bedrohung: Zum Aufgabenfeld staatlich verantworteter Präventionsarbeit**

**Werner Karg / Katharina Willimski**  
(Bavarian State Ministry, Dept. XI.9: Prevention of Extremism, Holocaust Education, Memorial Site Pedagogy and International Cooperation Programs in formal and non-formal Education)

**11.00 Panel Discussion (in German): Populismus – eine Gefahr für die Demokratie?!**

**Margarete Bause, MdL** (Die Grünen)

**Robert Brannekämper, MdL** (CSU)

**Tim Bütthe** (Bavarian School of Public Policy – Hochschule für Politik an der TU München)

**Heinrich Oberreuter** (University of Passau)

**Michael Piazzolo, MdL** (Freie Wähler Bayern)

**Diana Stachowitz, MdL** (SPD)

Moderation: **Werner Karg** (Bavarian State Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs, Sciences and the Arts)

**13.00 End of Conference**