

**The History and Theory of Democracy**  
**June 25-26, 2026**  
**Université Libre de Bruxelles**

Institut d'études européennes  
Av. Franklin Roosevelt 39, 1050 Bruxelles  
Salle Emmanuel Kant

**Thursday, June 25 :**

**9.00 : Coffee and Welcome**

9.30-10.15 : Manon Westphal (Munich): "Revisiting the Tribune : Inspirations for Contemporary Democratic Innovation"

10.15-11 : Pierre-Etienne Vandamme (UCL): "The Democratic Ambiguity of Elections"

**11-11.30 : Coffee Break**

11.30-12.15 : Sixtine Van Outryve (UCL): "Representing the Assembled People"

12.15-1pm : Arthur Ghins (ULB) : "Rousseau on Elite Accountability."

**1-2.30pm : Lunch**

2.30 -3.15pm : Daniel Zamora (ULB): "Authenticity and the Demise of Political Office"

3.15.-4pm : Annelien De Dijn (Utrecht): "Democracy and Minority Rights: A Historical Perspective"

**4-4.30pm : Coffee Break**

4.30-5.15pm : Martin Deleixhe (ULB): "An Exile's View of the History of Democracy"

**Friday, June 26 :**

**9.00 : Coffee and Welcome**

9.30-10.15 : Justine Lacroix (ULB): "Sureness, not Security : A Prerequisite for Democracy "

10.15-11 : Corrado Fumagalli (Genova): "Democratic Self-Defense and Free Speech"

**11-11.30 : Coffee Break**

11.30-12.15 : Sofia Näsström (Uppsala): "Democracy and the Social Question"

12.15-1pm : Steven Klein (KCL): "Industrial Democracy Revisited:  
On Economic and Political Logics of Representation"

**1.00-2.30 : Lunch**

2.30 -3.15pm : Anton Jäger (Oxford): "The Political Theory of American Populism"

3.15-4pm : Fabio Wolkenstein (Vienna): "Democratic Progress Beyond Restoration"