Recent political events in the US and Europe have focussed scholarly debate on the nature of populism and its relationship to democracy. In the context of Latin America the concept has a long history. Associated with economic nationalism and the co-optation of particular classes from the early twentieth century, from the 1990s a neo-liberal form of populism emerged in Latin America. With the diversity of ‘populisms’ identified, the conference seeks to examine whether the term continues to have any validity and what relationship(s) it has to democracy. Possible topics include

**Day 1 | Thursday 18 March**

**14:00**
Welcome and opening remarks
Professor Linda Newson, Director, Institute of Latin American Studies, University of London

**14:10**
Panel 1: Theory

Talking with the right wing: Pernicious polarisation in Brazil and the philosophy of Paulo Freire
Fanny Vrydagh, Universite Libre de Bruxelle and Cesar Jimenez-Martinez, U of Cardiff

Popular sovereignty, institutionality and the dilemma of democratizing democracy
Tony Spanakos, Montclair State University

Articulating populism in place: The case of Kirchnerism in Argentina
Sam Halvorsen, Queen Mary University and Fernanda Torres, National University of La Plata

Populism and anti-globalism on twitter: Similarities of conspiratorial discourse and content diffusion on social networks in Brazil, Spain and Italy
Ana Carolina Raposo de Mello (USP) and Felipe Estre (USP and KCL)

**15:20**
Break
15:30 Panel 2: Political economy

Do populists affect economic performance? The Latin American experience, 1989-2017
Alejandro Angel, Federal University of Santa Catarina

Anti-system politics in Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago
Scott Timcke, University of Havana

The effect of commodity prices on far-right populism: Evidence from Brazil
Paula Rettle, Bocconi University

Economic conditions, resentment and support for right-wing populist parties in Europe and Brazil
Diogo Ferrari, University of California at Riverside

16:40 Break

16:50 Panel 3: Electoral behaviour

Negative partisanship towards populist radical right parties in Western Europe
Cristobal Rovira Kaltwasser and Carlos Melendez, Diego Portales University

Voting for a killer: Efrain Rios Montt’s return to politics in democratic Guatemala
Regina Bateson, University of Ottawa

Voting for violence: The new middle class and authoritarian populist presidents in the Philippines and Brazil
Cecilia Lero, University of Sao Paulo-CEBRAP

Making the Americas great again! How the public frame morality in populism: Evidence from populism in Brazil and the USA
Fabricio Chagas Bastos, University of Melbourne

18:00 Break

18:10 Day 1 Keynote

Populism and democracy revisited: discursive logics, host ideologies and societal roots
Francisco Panizza, LSE

19:00 End of Day 1
Day 2 | Friday 19 March

14:00 Panel 4: Gender

The evolution of Argentine populism under Peron: Gender, poverty and exile in the new historic novels of Tomas Eloy Martinez
Mariya Dzhyoyeva, University of Toronto

“Enfrentar virus como homem”: Bolsonaro’s populism and performing hegemonic masculinity
Theo Aiolfi and Giulia Champion, University of Warwick

Women in Bolsonaro’s administration: Gender roles and the role of gender in maintaining far-right populism during the Covid-19 pandemic
Ana Carolina Nunes de Macedo Sales, Federal University of Ceará

Intellectual imperialism and selection bias in the study of populism: Violence, gender and elite support
Stacey L. Hunt, Auburn University

15:10 Break

15:20 Panel 5: Institutions

Left populism and institutions: Lessons from Ecuador on the feasibility of a republican populism
Samuel Mazzolini University of Bath

The politics of consensus and non-populism in post-authoritarian Chile 1990-2020
Soraya Hamdaoui, University of York

‘I will end everything’: Brazilian far-right populism, scorched-earth politics and the erasure of bureaucrats’ memories”
Gabriela Lotta, FGV-EAESP, Amon Barros, University of Essex, and Ana Diniz, Insper

Modi’s India: From national populism to authoritarianism
Christophe Jaffrelot, India Institute, King’s College London

16:30 Break

16:40 Panel 6: Covid 19

Populism, personalism or political calculation? Covid-19 pandemic responses under authoritarianism and democratic erosion
Kai M. Thaler, University of California at Santa Barbara

Populism, pandemic and payments: Analysing policies of aid and cash transfers in Brazil and India
Devika Misra, Jawaharlal Nehru University

Medical populists and the pandemic
David Magalhaes, PUC-SP/FAAP and Guilherme Casaroes, FGV

The pandemic and populism in Brazil: Crisis management by the Bolsonaro government
Vinicius de Souza Sturari, UNESP and Rodrigo Otavio Moretti-Pires, Federal University of Santa Catarina

17:50 Break

18:00 Day 2 Keynote:

The supply side of populism: The crisis of political establishments and what it means for democracy
Steve Levitsky, Harvard University

18:50 Concluding remarks

Anthony Pereira, King’s College London

19:00 End of Conference