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2PM • ONLINE

REACTIONARY DEMOCRACY IN THE UNITED STATES:

How Racism and the Populist Far Right Became Mainstream

Register: tinyurl.com/bahai-mondon

In this talk, Aurelien Mondon and Aaron Winter will discuss their book *Reactionary Democracy: How Racism and the Populist Far Right Became Mainstream*. Recent developments and protests in the US, and more widely, have shown the reality of systemic racism and convergence of the mainstream and far right after a long period in which racism was deemed to be unacceptable and our societies 'post-racial'. In this talk, Mondon and Winter will look at the legitimisation and mainstreaming of racism and the far right through a variety of processes, such as the construction and racialisation of 'the people' or demos as white, 'populist hype', euphemisation and liberal tropes such as free speech. They argue that this has not only made racism more acceptable, but emboldened racists, including the far right, once seen as the unacceptable face of what Mondon and Winter term 'illiberal racism'. In addition to examining this process and history, they will also discuss what we need to do as anti-racists to not only fight racism and the far right, but ensure democracy is itself progressive. They will focus the talk on the United States, but also draw from case studies on the UK and France from the book.



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