

Dear Madam or Sir,

the EU-Office of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation (FES) would like to invite you to a presentation and discussion on

**The Legacy of Authoritarian Regimes
on Democratic Citizenship**

**Tuesday, March 28th
10h30 to 12h30**

(Registration from 10h00; Lunch will be served)

Venue:

EU Office, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung
Rue du Taciturne 38, 1000 Brussels

Democracy is one of the European Union's founding values formalized in Article 2 of the Lisbon Treaty. Throughout, it is a guiding principle to its internal action among the member states as well as to its external. Supporting democracy worldwide is a priority and indeed a core element of the European Union.

The latest developments in Europe and its neighborhood showed the importance of understanding the process of democratization and its impact on the citizen within the states of progress. An important part of supporting democratic development is to comprehend the effects and influences of former regimes and political systems on citizens. Especially when the previous regime was an authoritarian one it is worthy to ask for the effects of authoritarian imprints and the lasting legacy of authoritarian dictatorship on its citizens' political attitudes today.

Dr. Anja Neundorf, Associate professor in Politics and the co-director of the Nottingham Interdisciplinary Centre for Economic and Political research from the University of Nottingham, is introducing to her project "The Legacy of Authoritarian Regimes on Democratic Citizenship" to answer this guiding question. **Her study is focusing on the long-term impact of autocratic regimes on civil society that could undermine democratization processes.** Using a new statistical methodological approach and using the data sets of the Varieties of Democracy Institute in Gothenburg Sweden, the study investigates the legacy of dictatorship from over 100 countries from around the globe, covering the entire 20th century.

The FES is delighted to host a presentation on the latest interim research results to address the Brussels-based experts on European Democracy Policy, Support, and Democracy Aid. **The FES EU-Office invites to an exchange and discussion about synergies between practical experience in democracy support and the research framework.**

We are looking forward to your participation and kindly ask to save the date and register for this event by Thursday, March 23rd through our **registration** page: [FES Brussels Registration](#).

With kind regards,

Johanna Lutz

Agenda:

10h00 Registration

10h30 Welcome by
Johanna Lutz, Deputy Head of Office Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Brussels

Research Presentation by **Dr. Anja Neundorf**

Comments on the Research by

Dr. Uwe Optenhögel, Director Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Brussels

Sylwia Domisiewicz, Policy Officer Democracy and Electoral Observation (EEAS)

Gerrard Quille, Head of Service, DG External Policies, Directorate for Democracy Support (EPMS)

Follow-Up discussion

12h30 Lunch

Presentation and Discussion chaired by **Johanna Lutz**, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Brussels