Democratic Judgment in an Age of 'Alternative Facts'

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Abstract:
Post-truth, so it is said, characterizes the universal condition of modern democracies. But what does post-truth really mean? Is truth a register we have now well lost? Are we hopelessly tangled up in a complex web of falsehoods that go under the name of "alternative facts," merely subjective differences of opinion about an objective world we once shared in common? These questions arise in the age of "Trumpism," but they point beyond our historical present to enduring problems for democratic thinking and practice.