

IPW LECTURES

Populism, neoliberalism and sustainable alternatives in rural Europe

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Abstract

Right-wing populism has gained ground in Europe in recent years, with the greatest support among rural communities. Yet the European countryside remains largely overlooked in debates on the current political crisis and the ways out of it. In this lecture, Dr. Natalia Mamonova will discuss the key factors that influence rural support for regressive political forces in Europe, paying especial attention to the processes in Central and Eastern Europe. She will engage with the agrarian studies literature to demonstrate the impact of neoliberal capitalism in the European countryside, revealing its social, economic and environmental costs. She argues that the countryside provides not only a breeding ground for right-wing populism, it also may offer progressive solutions in the form of emancipatory rural politics.

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