

BERGEN EXCHANGES

ON LAW & SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION

#BeEx2026 17–21 AUGUST



AUTOCRATIZATION DYNAMICS * INDIGENOUS RIGHTS & LAND * DEMOCRATIC
RESISTANCE & ACTIVIST STRATEGIES * DECOLONIZING ACADEMIA * MIGRATION *
GENDER, SEX & POLITICS * REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE * GOVERNING GLOBAL
CHALLENGES: CLIMATE & HEALTH * POLITICS OF CRIME & POLICING * ACADEMIC
FREEDOM * ART AS RESISTANCE & TRANSFORMATION * LEARNING EXCHANGES

PRELIMINARY
PROGRAM

Venues:

KULTURHUSET, VASKERELVEN 8, BERGEN (Monday - Wednesday)

BERGEN GLOBAL, JEKTEVIKSBAKKEN 31 (Thursday, Friday)

MONDAY AUGUST 17TH

VENUE: **KULTURHUSET**, VASKERELVEN 8, TOP FLOOR

The venue is open from 8:30 for coffee, tea, meet & greet.

9:00 - 9:30

OPENING of the 2025 Bergen Exchanges

9:30 - 10:45

GENDERED POLITICAL ECONOMY OF DEMOCRACY

KEYNOTE by **Lyn Ossome**, MISR, Makerere University, Uganda

Democracy is celebrated as a pathway to inclusion, equality, and political participation. Yet democratic institutions are embedded in social and economic structures shaped by histories of colonialism, capitalism, patriarchy, and unequal access to resources and power. In this keynote, Lyn Ossome explores democracy through the lens of African feminist thought, political economy and decolonial scholarship. Drawing on her influential work on gendered labour, social reproduction, agrarian transformation, and political violence, she examines how democratic systems depend on forms of labour and care that remain largely invisible, undervalued, and disproportionately borne by women - and how democratic transitions and political competition can reproduce forms of gendered exclusion and violence rather than overcome them. What would it mean to build democratic futures grounded in social justice, economic redistribution, and the recognition of the labour that sustains life itself? The keynote will be followed by a roundtable discussion. [This session is part of the UiB GOV project Decolonizing Epistemologies: Disciplines and the University in Relation to the Society and the World \(Norhed\)](#)

ROUNDTABLE participants: **Lauren Paremoer**, University of Cape Town, South Africa;

Ruth Rubio Marin, University of Sevilla, Spain /European University Institute. Italy;

Tatiana Alfonso, CIDE, Mexico; **Torunn Wimpelmann**, CMI (tbc)*

Chair: **Liv Tønnessen**, CMI

11:00 - 11:45

DECOLONIZING SCHOLARSHIP

Raga Makawi (PeacRep) in conversation with **Mari Norbakk** (CMI)

What does it mean to decolonize scholarship in a world where knowledge production remains deeply shaped by unequal power relations, geopolitical hierarchies, and extractive academic practices? Who gets to produce knowledge, define expertise, frame crises, and speak for communities marked by war, displacement, and marginalization? This session explores decolonizing scholarship not simply as a question of representation or inclusion, but as a broader challenge to the structures, assumptions, and political economies that shape contemporary knowledge production. Drawing on experiences from Sudan and other contexts marked by conflict, authoritarianism, and global inequality, the discussion examines how scholarship can reproduce forms of silencing, epistemic extraction, and colonial hierarchies — even within critical or progressive spaces. At the same time, the session asks what alternative practices of research, collaboration, and public engagement might look like. How can scholarship become more grounded, accountable, and politically attentive? What forms of knowledge are marginalized by dominant academic institutions and funding structures? And how can scholars navigate the tensions between activism, solidarity, critique, and academic authority? Bringing together perspectives on political economy, feminism, conflict, and postcolonial critique, the session invites a broader conversation about knowledge, power, and responsibility in contemporary academia.

[This session is part of the UiB-CMI Sudan-Norway Academic Cooperation \(SNAC\)](#)

LEARNING EXCHANGES: TRANSFORMING EDUCATION TO MEET GLOBAL CHALLENGES

How can higher education respond to the multiple and cumulative global challenges and transformations that we currently face, most notably democratic backsliding and global mobilisation of anti-rights movements, growing inequality, climate crisis, and artificial intelligence? This roundtable explores how we can move beyond traditional models of knowledge transfer to create more collaborative, globally connected, and transformative forms of learning. The session brings together participants from three LawTransform-affiliated initiatives to reflect on experiences of co-creating knowledge across countries, disciplines, and institutional settings. Participants discuss how collaborative research, digital classrooms, student exchanges, and partnerships with activists and civil society can challenge academic hierarchies, decolonise knowledge production, and strengthen education as a space for democratic engagement. Rather than treating learning as a one-way transfer of expertise, these initiatives are built on dialogue, mutual learning, and comparative reflection. The session explores both the opportunities and challenges of creating educational spaces that connect research with practice, foster global solidarity, and equip students and researchers to engage critically with contemporary struggles over rights, democracy, and social transformation.

This session is a collaboration between the projects **Autocratization Dynamics: Innovations in Research-Embedded Learning** (UiB-GOV/LawTransform grant from the Norwegian Research Council - NFR (Intpart #322644)), the **Global Classroom for Global Challenges** (funded by HK-dir/UTFORSK) and the **SAIH-Norec Youth Exchange Against Anti-Rights** (funded by NOREC)

ROUNDTABLE participants: **Dan Brinks**, University of Texas at Austin, USA, **Danielle Rached**, University of São Paulo, Brazil; **Rachel Cichowski**, University of Washington, USA, Representative from SAIH, Norway (tbc*)

Chair: **Lise Rakner**, Department of Government, University of Bergen

13:00 -14:00

LUNCH

14:00 - 15:00

PROTESTS, POLICING AND DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

Protest is an increasingly central battleground in struggles over rights, citizenship, and democracy. Rather than existing outside the law, protest can itself be a form of legal mobilization: citizens and social movements invoke constitutional principles, human rights, and democratic commitments to challenge policies, demand accountability, resist state violence, and defend threatened freedoms. In the process, legal norms are not only claimed but interpreted, enacted, and reshaped through collective action. At the same time, states govern protest and dissent through law and coercive institutions, raising fundamental questions about the legitimate boundaries of criminalization, policing, and state coercion in a democracy. Administrative restrictions, spatial control, surveillance, preventive policing, and criminal law can reshape the conditions for collective action, while violence and impunity may generate new forms of mobilization by victims, families, and communities demanding justice and accountability. Bringing together perspectives on legal mobilization, criminal law, protest policing, state violence, and the rule of law, the roundtable examines how citizens, social movements, courts, police, and other state institutions mobilize and contest law around protest and dissent. It asks how these struggles redefine the boundaries of legitimate political participation, public order, and state authority—and what they reveal about the rule of law and the quality of democracy.

This session is part of the UiB/LawTransform project **Autocratization Dynamics**: (NFR/ Intpart #322644),

ROUNDTABLE participants: **Julia Goldani**, Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV), Brazil,; **Karina Ansolabehere**, UNAM, Mexico; **Sofia Rolim**, FGV, Brazil and UiB

Chair: **Sanne Taekema**, Erasmus University Rotterdam, the Netherlands

15:15 - 16:45

TRANSFORMATIVE POTENTIAL AND LIMITS OF LAND RIGHTS MOBILIZATION

Latin American and Global Perspectives

When and how can legal mobilization over land produce transformative change in contexts marked by colonial legacies, inequality, and authoritarian regression? Are there red lines that courts cannot cross when adjudicating such cases? Bringing insights from Brazil, Guatemala, Colombia, Mexico, India and Brazil, this session interrogates the role of courts, constitutions, and transnational legal frameworks in advancing—or constraining—redistributive justice. Under which conditions do land claims reshape power relations and when do they risk reinforcing existing hierarchies? This session presents central findings from the *PluriLand* project, which investigates how land conflicts unfold across plural and overlapping legal regimes. Drawing on comparative research from Latin America, India and South Africa, it examines how marginalized communities navigate multiple legal sites, frames, and authorities in struggles over land. The discussion highlights how legal pluralism shapes both opportunities for resistance and new forms of exclusion. [This session is part of the CMI/LawTransform project *PluriLand: Theorizing Conflict and Contestation in Plural Land Rights Regimes*, funded by the Norwegian Research Council \(Fripro #300851\)](#)

ROUNDTABLE introduction and chair: **Rachel Sieder**, CIESAS, Mexico & CMI

Participants: **Ana Braconnier De León**, Universidad Rafael Landívar, Guatemala; **Ana Carolina Alfinito Vieira**, Amazon Watch/Federal University of Para; **Archit Shukla**, CPR, India; **Jackie Dugard**, Columbia University, USA /University of the Witwatersrand (Wits), South Africa; **Jorge Pelaez Padilla**, Universidad Iberoamericana, Mexico; **Namita Wahi**, CPR, India; **Tatiana Alfonso**, CIDE, Mexico

17:00 - 19:20

LA FJELLA LEVE - LET OUR MOUNTAINS LIVE

FILM SCREENING (venue: Konsertpaleet KP12)

Welcome to a special screening of this powerful and timely documentary about Sámi resistance, Indigenous rights, and the political struggles surrounding land, nature and the “green transition” in northern Norway. Through intimate storytelling and striking Arctic landscapes, the film explores what is at stake when traditional livelihoods, cultural survival, and democratic participation collide with state development projects and competing visions of progress. **Håvard Bustnes** is one of Norway’s leading political documentary filmmakers, and the film captures both emotional and political dimensions of contemporary Sámi activism. Deeply personal and profoundly political, the film raises urgent questions about power, belonging, memory, and whose voices are heard in decisions about land and the future. The screening will be followed by a conversation with director Håvard Bustnes on **FILM AS POLITICS**: documentary filmmaking as political storytelling, the role of cinema in shaping public debate and historical memory, and the continuing relevance of Sámi struggles for contemporary discussions on democracy, climate justice, and decolonization. [The screening is a collaboration with the Bergen International Film Festival, BIFF, and the CMI/LawTransform project *PluriLand* funded by NFR/ Fripro #300851\)](#)

CONVERSATION and Q&A with Håvard Bustnes

Ana Braconnier De León, Universidad Rafael Landívar, Guatemala (chair); **Håkon Tveit**, BIFF; and **Rasmus Berg**, UiB/LawTransform.

20:00 - 22:30

SOCIAL EVENT by invitation

(We will walk jointly from the screening)

TUESDAY AUGUST 18th

VENUE: KULTURHUSET, VASKERELVEN 8, TOP FLOOR

Coffee & tea is served from 8:30

9:00-10:00

CONTESTED FRONTIERS

What happens when indigenous peoples who never accepted the legitimacy of the state's authority confront borders, laws, and institutions imposed upon them? How do struggles over land, sovereignty, and political belonging at the "edges" of states reshape the meaning of democracy, constitutionalism, and self-determination? This panel explores contested frontiers as sites where foundational political and legal questions become especially visible and urgent. Bringing together perspectives from political theory, constitutional law, Indigenous studies, and comparative politics, the discussion examines how Indigenous resistance, territorial conflicts, and competing claims to authority challenge dominant understandings of citizenship, sovereignty, and democratic order. From Sápmi and the Arctic to other frontier regions shaped by settler colonialism and state expansion, the panel asks what these struggles reveal about the past, present, and future of liberal democracy. *This session is a collaboration with Aaron Spitzer's ERC project **CONFRONT** - Contested Frontiers, based at the Department of Comparative Politics, UiB*

ROUNDTABLE participants: **Aaron Spitzer**, **Anja Tucker**, **Camilla Wangmar** (all Department of Comparative Politics, UiB); and **Gökhan Sen** (Faculty of Law, University of Oslo)

10:15-11:30

CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES ON LEGAL MOBILIZATION

Legal mobilization is often associated with empowerment, rights claiming, and social change. Yet critical scholarship has long questioned who benefits from legal strategies, whose voices are amplified or marginalized, and what may be lost when political struggles are translated into legal claims. Courts can provide important opportunities for contestation and accountability, but legal mobilization may also individualize collective grievances, reinforce existing power structures, depoliticize social conflict, or privilege actors with greater legal and financial resources. Recent scholarship shows that legal mobilization cannot be understood simply as strategic litigation. Legal action may simultaneously pursue strategic, performative, recognition, and case-specific objectives, challenging conventional understandings of how law operates as a tool of political contestation. This session brings together critical perspectives on legal mobilization from socio-legal studies, critical legal theory, political science, and activist practice. It explores the limits, contradictions, and unintended consequences of rights-based strategies, while examining how law interacts with broader struggles over democracy, inequality, recognition, and social transformation. By reflecting on both the promises and pitfalls of legal mobilization, the session invites a deeper discussion of when, how, and for whom law can serve as a tool for change. *This session is part of the UiB/LawTransform project **Autocratization Dynamics**: (NFR/ Intpart #322644),*

ROUNDTABLE introduction: **Kristin Bergtora Sandvik**, University of Oslo, Norway;

Participants: **Diana Kisakye**, Friedrich-Alexander-Universität, Germany;

Rebecca Fenn, Tilburg University, the Netherlands; **Thandi Matthews**, Wits University, South Africa

Chair: **Rachel Cichowski**, University of Washington, USA

11:45 - 12:30

PRO BONO LAWYERING & LEGAL ALLYSHIP FOR ACTIVISTS IN SHRINKING CIVIC SPACE

Pro bono legal services and other forms of legal allyship can provide expertise, resources, legitimacy, and protection, helping activists defend rights, challenge repression, and pursue social change. As civic space contracts and activists face growing legal, political, and financial pressures, relationships with lawyers and other institutional actors have become increasingly important. Yet legal allyship also raises difficult questions about professionalism, power, accountability and risk. This session explores the opportunities, dilemmas, and contradictions of legal allyship, including pro bono by large law firms. How do activists engage institutional allies while maintaining autonomy and accountability? When do pro bono lawyers strengthen movements, and when might they reshape agendas or reinforce existing inequalities? What responsibilities accompany claims to allyship? The session examines how legal actors navigate the tensions between solidarity, professionalism, and power - and how activists experience the tensions. This session is a collaboration between the UiB/LawTransform projects **Autocratization Dynamics**: (NFR/ Intpart #322644) and the **ProBono** project at the University of Oslo.

ROUNDTABLE participants: **Adrian Jjuuko**, Makerere University, Uganda; **Nina Reiners**, University of Oslo, Norway; **Thalia Viveros-Uehara**, Harvard University, USA/Max Planck Institute, Germany; **Yijia Li**, University of Oslo, Norway
Chair: **Jackie Dugard**, Columbia University, USA/ Wits University, South Africa

12:30-13:30

LUNCH

13:30-14:45

GLOBAL DEMOCRATIC DECLINE AND GROWTH

Democracy is in flux. Across the globe, countries are experiencing divergent political trajectories: democratic erosion, authoritarian consolidation, uneven institutional resilience, and in some cases renewed democratic growth. This roundtable explores global patterns of democratic decline and transformation, bringing together comparative perspectives on how these shifts can be understood, measured, and explained. The discussion examines competing approaches to assessing democracy and autocratization, including the challenges of capturing gradual institutional change, legal transformations, informal power dynamics, and democratic resilience. Attention is given to the political, social, and economic drivers shaping contemporary democratic trajectories, as well as the implications for governance, rights, and global order in an era of increasing polarization and geopolitical uncertainty. This session is part of the project **Autocratization Dynamics**: (funded by NFR/ Intpart #322644).

ROUNDTABLE introduction by **Carl Henrik Knudsen**, University of Oslo, Norway
Participants: **Daniel Brinks**, University of Texas at Austin, USA; **Elisabeth Ivarsflaten**, Department of Government, UiB; **Jessica Hickle**, Yale University, USA; **Namita Wahi**, Centre for Policy Research, CPR, India.

15:00-16:15

LEGACIES OF AUTOCRATIZATION - POST U-TURN LESSONS FOR DEMOCRATS

KEYNOTE: Adam Bodnar, Senator, former Minister of Justice of **POLAND** (2023-25), Associate

Professor of Law at SWPS University, awarded the 2018 Rafto Prize as Ombudsman for Human Rights

How do legacies of autocratization and past erosion of democratic institutions continue to shape law, politics, society, and strategies for reform? How can post-autocratic governments prevent re-autocratization? This roundtable brings together comparative perspectives from across regions to explore how legal frameworks, informal norms, and power structures persist beyond authoritarian turns and the strategies under which democratic restoration and renewal is possible. *This session is a collaboration between LawTransform (**Autocratization Dynamics**, NFR #322644) and the Rafto Foundation.*

COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVES FROM BRAZIL by **Marta Machado**, Minister of Drug Policy, Brazil and Professor, FGV Law School, São Paulo - digital participation.

ROUNDTABLE participants: **Daniel Brinks**, University of Texas at Austin, USA; **Fiona Shen-Bayh**, University of Maryland; **Gabriel Pereira**, Universidad Nacional de Tucumán, Argentina; **Kateryna Halushka**, McGill University, Canada; **Sergio Kezen**, University of São Paulo, Brazil.

Chair: **Lise Rakner**, Department of Government, UiB/CMI.

16:30-17:30

CAN INTERNATIONAL ACTORS CONSTRAIN & REVERSE NATIONAL-LEVEL AUTOCRATIZATION?

Can international actors help halt democratic erosion — or even contribute to democratic recovery once autocratization is underway? This panel examines the role of international and transnational actors in constraining, enabling, or reversing national-level autocratization, with particular attention to the role of the European Union, the Council of Europe, and the Venice Commission. Bringing together comparative and interdisciplinary perspectives, the discussion explores how international courts, regional institutions, legal standards, monitoring mechanisms, funding conditionalities, and diplomatic pressures shape domestic democratic trajectories. The panel considers both the possibilities and limits of external democratic safeguards in a changing geopolitical landscape marked by polarization, democratic backsliding, and growing challenges to liberal internationalism. Under what conditions can international engagement strengthen democratic resilience, support resistance, and contribute to meaningful democratic recovery?

*This session is part of the UiB/LawTransform project **Autocratization Dynamics**: (NFR/ Intpart #322644).*

ROUNDTABLE introduction: **Eirik Holmøyvik**, UiB Faculty of Law and Vice President of the Venice Commission of the Council of Europe

Participants: **Adam Bodnar**, SWPS University, Poland; **Alida Steigler**, University of Oslo, Norway; **Iver Ørstavik**, Rafto Foundation for Human Rights, Bergen; **Jacob Batinga**, Cornell University, USA; **András Sajó**, Central European University, Austria.

18:00 - 19:00

THE BERGEN MAYOR'S RECEPTION

(SCHØTSTUENE, BRYGGEN - by invitation)

We will walk jointly to the reception from the conference venue after the last session.

Following the reception, the social gathering will continue in Christiesgate 18 - by invitation.

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 19th

VENUE: KULTURHUSET, VASKERELVEN 8, TOP FLOOR

Coffee & tea is served from 8:30

9:00-10:15

THE RIGHT TO CARE: REIMAGINING CITIZENSHIP, EQUALITY & DEMOCRACY

KEYNOTE by Ruth Rubio Marin, University of Sevilla, Spain /European University Institute, Italy

Care is indispensable to the survival of societies, yet it has long remained largely invisible in constitutional thought and public law. This keynote explores what it would mean to recognize a *right to care*—and a corresponding public responsibility for care—as a constitutional principle. Drawing on her work on gender constitutionalism, women's citizenship, and transformative equality, Ruth Rubio Marin argues that constitutional democracies must move beyond treating care as a private obligation borne disproportionately by women and recognize it as a shared social and political good. At a time of demographic change, democratic strain, and growing inequalities, the right to care invites us to rethink the relationship between states, markets, families, and citizens—and to envision more equal, inclusive, and sustainable constitutional futures.

The roundtable will also discuss the **REMAKING OF CARE BY THE RIGHT**. Across the world, right-wing movements have made gender, family, reproduction, and care central battlegrounds in broader struggles over constitutionalism and democracy. Under the language of protecting children, families, religion, and national identity, anti-gender actors are reshaping rights agendas, challenging long-established understandings of equality and social citizenship, and advancing new constitutional visions of the state. This roundtable examines how these struggles over care have become a strategic frontier in contemporary democratic backsliding.

This session is part of the UiB/LawTransform projects **Autocratization Dynamics**: (NFR/ Intpart #322644),

ROUNDTABLE participants: **Ebenezer Durojaye**, University of Pretoria, South Africa; **Maya Unnithan**, University of Sussex, UK; **Neil Datta**, European Parliamentary Forum for Sexual and Reproductive Rights; Chair: **Irene Maffi**, University of Lausanne, Switzerland

10:30 -11:30

GENDER, SEXUAL RIGHTS, AND SOCIAL CHANGE IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH

BOOK LAUNCH by the South-South Network

How are gender and sexual rights shaped, contested, and transformed in societies marked by inequality, democratic strain, and competing visions of justice? Covering topics from adolescent pregnancy, reproductive justice, and gender-based violence to LGBTQ+ rights, anti-gender mobilization, judicial practices, and algorithmic discrimination, this volume, edited by Livia Buzolin, explores how law, politics, and social mobilization interact in struggles over rights and social change. Drawing on cases from Latin America, Africa, and Asia, contributors reveal both advances and backlash, and the diverse pathways through which rights are negotiated, expanded, and challenged. The volume grew out of a collaboration among early-career scholars in the LawTransform-affiliated **South-South Network**. Strengthening dialogue across regions and Global South perspectives on law and social change. At the launch, contributors and discussants reflect on the book's key insights and what they tell us about the future of gender and sexual rights.

This session is part of the UiB/LawTransform project **Autocratization Dynamics**: (NFR/ Intpart #322644),

ROUNDTABLE introduction and chair: **Livia Buzolin**, Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV), Brazil:

Participants: **Camila Salazar-Larsen**, University of Bergen; **Carolina Mosquera**, University of Warsaw, Poland; **Chianaraekpere (Chianara) Ike**, University of Washington, USA

Discussant: **Satang Nabaneh**, University of Dayton, USA

11:45 - 13:00

THE EVERYDAY LIFE OF RIGHTS: LAW AS INSTITUTIONAL PRACTICE

KEYNOTE by **Leticia Barrera**, CONICET, Argentina

Rights may emerge from constitutions, legislation, or landmark court decisions, but whether they become meaningful depends on what happens afterwards. As legal norms move through bureaucracies, courts, hospitals, police services, and other public institutions, they are translated into files, classifications, evidentiary standards, professional judgments, administrative routines, and everyday encounters between citizens and the state. Law does not simply travel from courts into society; it is continuously interpreted, enacted, and remade through institutional practice. The keynote explores the everyday practices through which law is made inside institutions, highlighting the material, organizational, and epistemic dimensions of legal work. The roundtable extends these perspectives through empirical studies of women's pathways through institutions responding to intimate partner violence in Tunisia, institutional responses to sexual violence within military organizations, and the role of subnational constitutions and courts in protecting transgender rights under conditions of democratic backlash. By shifting attention from strategic litigation to the everyday work of institutions, the session broadens our understanding of how law produces social change. It asks how rights are shaped not only through political struggle and landmark judgments, but also through the ordinary practices of interpretation, discretion, and implementation that ultimately determine whether legal protections become meaningful in people's lives.

This session is part of the UiB/LawTransform project **Autocratization Dynamics**: (NFR/ Intpart #322644),

ROUNDTABLE participants: **Camila Gianella**, PUC, Peru; **Haneen Al Awawdeh**, University of Lausanne, Switzerland; **India Angelique Simmons**, University of Central Florida, USA,
Chair: **Luciana Gross Cunha**, Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV), Brazil

13:00 - 14:15

LUNCH

14:15 - 15:15

Department of Government GENERAL SEMINAR

CAN CITIES CONSTRAIN AND REVERSE NATIONAL-LEVEL AUTOCRATIZATION?

KEYNOTE by **Maria Popova** (McGill University)

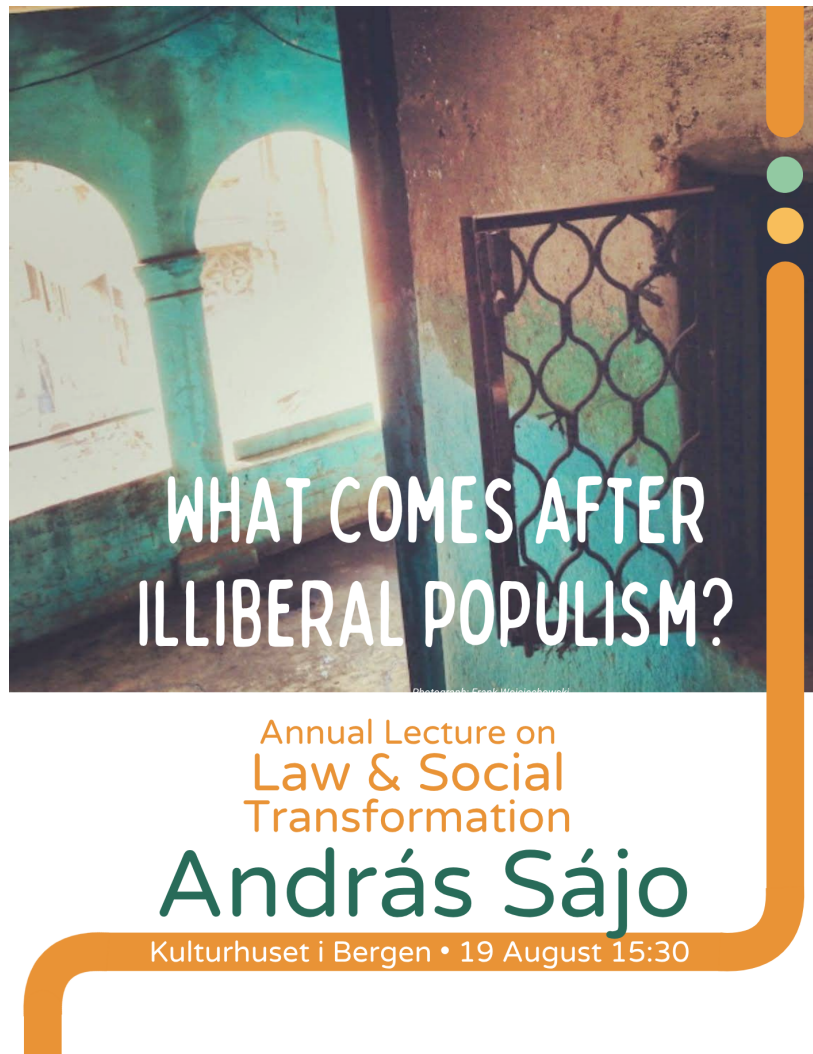
The keynote explores whether cities can serve as democratic counterweights in times of national democratic erosion. Focusing on Eastern Europe, Popova discusses the role of opposition control in large cities for democratic resilience, focusing on four mechanisms: political participation, protest mobilization, legal resistance, and transnational support. Popova and her co-author, Nikolay Marinov, develop a theory of subnational democratic resistance that treats cities as reservoirs of participation, organization, legal mobilization, and credibility during autocratic waves. Drawing on comparative evidence from the region, they ask whether urban resistance can contribute not only to constraining, but potentially reversing, national-level autocratization. This session is a collaboration with the Department of Government, UiB and the UiB/LawTransform projects **Autocratization Dynamics**: (NFR/ Intpart #322644).

ROUNDTABLE participants: **Anthony Un**, Syracuse University, USA; **Kerry Ryan Chance**, Department of Social Anthropology, UiB, and **Simon Neby**, Department of Government, UiB (tbc*)

Chair: **Elisabeth Ivarsflaten**, Department of Government, UiB

15:30 - 17:00

The 2026 Annual Lecture on Law & Social Transformation



Known for his intellectual sharpness, wit, and ability to bridge legal scholarship, judicial practice and contemporary politics, András Sajó brings a comparative and historically informed perspective to current global democratic challenges - including how to reverse authoritarian politics in his native Hungary. András Sajó is one of Europe's leading scholars of constitutionalism, democracy, and the rule of law. A former judge and Vice-President of the European Court of Human Rights, and founding Dean of the Central European University Law School, he has combined an outstanding academic career with deep engagement in some of the most pressing legal and political challenges of our time. His work explores the vulnerabilities of constitutional democracy, dynamics of authoritarianism and democratic backsliding, and the complex relationship between law, power, and social transformation. András Sajó's books *Ruling by Cheating* and *Constitutional Sentiments* have influenced debates on autocratic legalism, constitutional decline, and the future of liberal democracy.

The Annual Lecture is part of the UiB/LawTransform projects **Autocratization Dynamics**: (NFR/ Intpart #322644),

Chair **Siri Gloppen**, Department of Government, University of Bergen (UiB) / LawTransform:

Roundtable participants: **Roberto Gargarella**, University of Buenos Aires/Pompeu Fabre University, Spain; **Alida Steigler**, University of Oslo, Norway; **Eirik Holmøyvik**, Faculty of Law, UiB

In the break before the Annual LawTransform party, you can join for
a swim in the fjord



or for a guided visit to:
EXHIBITION

DECOLONIAL POLITICS - TRANSFORMING THROUGH ART

VENUE: **BERGEN KUNSTHALL, Festsplutstillingen 2026**



Welcome to a tour of the **Bergen Festival Exhibition** with Zambian-Norwegian artist **Anawana Haloba: "From This Darkness I Shall Grow"**. The title is inspired by Aboriginal Australian filmmaker and poet Moreton and points to a transformative movement from oppression into agency. The exhibition engages female craft traditions and polyphonic rituals as forms of resistance. It explores the patterns, materials, and methods of Tonga culture in dialogue with the late Norwegian textile artist Hannah Ryggen, in which resilience and the rendering of oppression are central. Through sound, text, and movement, her work weaves together body, history, and collective memory,

resonating across time and experience. Haloba is Associate Professor at the Norwegian National Academy of the Arts, specialising in decolonial theory in artistic practice.

19:30 - 22:30

ANNUAL LAW TRANSFORM PARTY AT THE University of Bergen LAW SCHOOL CAFETERIA

(MAGNUS LAGABØTESPLASS 1 - by invitation)

THURSDAY AUGUST 20th

VENUE: BERGEN GLOBAL, JEKTEVIKSBAKKEN 31

Coffee & tea is served from 8:30

9:00 - 10:15

DECITIZENING, LAWFARE AND THE MAJORITARIAN STATE

KEYNOTE by **Angana Chatterji** (University of California, Berkley, USA)

In contemporary India, processes of "decitizenizing" have transformed citizenship from a guaranteed legal status into a terrain of suspicion, documentation, and political exclusion. Focusing particularly on Assam and the targeting of religious and ethnic minorities, this keynote examines how law, bureaucracy, and majoritarian politics intersect to produce presumptive statelessness, dispossession, and democratic erosion. Drawing on decades of research and documentation, the lecture explores how legal and administrative mechanisms are used to redefine belonging, exclude vulnerable populations, and consolidate the power of the majoritarian state.

CITIZENSHIP, IDENTITY AND BELONGING

What is citizenship when legal status, identity, and belonging do not coincide? And how do contemporary struggles over citizenship reshape democracy, sovereignty, and political membership? Across the world, citizenship is increasingly contested, as exclusionary laws raise barriers to inclusion and denationalization practices exclude groups once regarded as part of the citizenry. At the same time, displacement driven by conflict, climate change, inequality, and repression intersects with rising nationalism and harsher border regimes. Drawing on anthropology, law, and political science, this roundtable explores tensions between legal citizenship and lived identity, mobility and rootedness, and nation-states and broader ideas of homeland and belonging. It examines how citizenship and migration governance can provide protection but also produce exclusion and control—and how communities resist erasure and assert alternative claims to belonging. *This session is a collaboration with the UiB/LawTransform projects **Autocratization Dynamics**, **Decolonizing Epistemologies** and the **Rafto Foundation**.*

ROUNDTABLE participants: **Arsène Brice Bado**, CERAP, Côte d'Ivoire, (tbc*); **Somayeh Dolatkhan**, University of Lausanne, Switzerland, **Rachel Sieder**, CIESAS, Mexico/CMI, and **Valentina Carlino**, University of Siena, Italy.

Chair: **Synnøve Bendixsen**, Faculty of Social Sciences, UiB

10:30 - 11:15

REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE

KEYNOTE by **Maya Unnithan**, University of Sussex, UK

MIGRATION GOVERNANCE AND REPRODUCTIVE FUTURES

How are reproduction, mobility, and belonging governed in an era of mass displacement? This panel explores reproductive justice for refugees, migrants, and displaced populations in the Global South, focusing on how legal status, health systems, social norms, and political contestation shape access to care, rights, and family life. Bringing together comparative and interdisciplinary perspectives, the panel examines reproductive governance as a form of bordering and stratified citizenship, with particular attention to vulnerable and under-researched groups living in precarious conditions.

ROUNDTABLE participants: **Irene Maffi**, University of Lausanne, Switzerland; **Carmeliza Rosario**, CIH, UiB; **Adrian Jjuuko**, Makerere University, Uganda; **Satang Nabaneh**, University of Dayton, USA/ University of Pretoria, South Africa

Chair: **Astrid Blystad**, Centre for International Health (CIH), University of Bergen (UiB)

12:00-13:30

GLOBAL HEALTH GOVERNANCE IN AN ERA OF AUTOCRATIZATION

International health cooperation is under pressure from geopolitical tensions and declining aid. Health is both a public good and a political project. The institutions that shape health, locally, nationally, and globally are increasingly being transformed by democratic backsliding, growing concentrations of political and economic power, and the erosion of international solidarity. At the same time, expanding privatization, financialization, and market-based approaches to health are reshaping access to care, deepening inequalities, and challenging commitments to universalism and the right to health. These pressures are becoming ever more acute as societies confront the intersecting challenges of the climate crisis, widening inequality, and global health insecurity. This roundtable examines how autocratization is reshaping the political economy of health and the future of global health governance. Bringing together perspectives from law, political economy, public health, climate justice, and human rights, it explores how shrinking civic space, attacks on scientific expertise, weakened accountability, and changing patterns of global cooperation affect health justice within and across countries. Rather than treating health as a technical policy domain, the session approaches it as a central arena in contemporary struggles over democracy, equality, and the governance of global public goods. Looking beyond the current crisis, it asks what forms of democratic governance, multilateral cooperation, financing, and social solidarity are needed to build more equitable, resilient, and accountable health systems capable of addressing the intertwined challenges of the climate crisis, health, and inequality.

ROUNDTABLE introduction and chair: **Alicia Ely Yamin**, Harvard University, USA

Participants: **Camila Gianella**, Pontifical Catholic University of Peru; **Ebenezer Durojaye**, University of Pretoria, South Africa; **Juan Cruz Goñi**, Argentina; **Lauren Paremoer**, University of Cape Town, South Africa; **Mizan Kiros**, Bergen Centre on Ethics and Priority Setting in Health (BCEPS), UiB; **Ole Frithjof Norheim**, Harvard University/BCEPS UiB

13:30 - 14:30

LUNCH

Photo Exhibition

14:30 - 15:30

MENTAL HEALTH, RESILIENCE & RESISTANCE IN TIMES OF WAR

What does it do to people and societies to live through prolonged war, occupation, displacement, and permanent crisis? How do individuals and communities endure, adapt, and resist under such conditions — and what broader lessons can societies draw from these experiences? This interdisciplinary roundtable explores mental health, resilience, and resistance in times of war. The discussion takes the situation in Lebanon as its starting point, while drawing comparative perspectives from other conflict-affected areas, including Ukraine, Gaza, Afghanistan, and Sudan. The event also features photographs by Ukrainian photojournalist Yan Dobronosov documenting life on the frontlines and the experiences of civilians during Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, creating a visual point of departure for a broader conversation about resilience, human dignity, and survival in times of war.

This roundtable is a collaboration with **Human Rights Research League (HRRL)** and builds, in part, on a joint research project conducted by HRRL and international partners, including Université de Montréal

ROUNDTABLE participants: **Camila Gianella**, Pontifical Catholic University of Peru; **Garine Papazian-Zohrabian**, Université de Montréal, Canada; **Milica Javdan** (HRRL); and **Munzoul Assal**, CMI

Chair: **Tom Syring**, Human Rights Research League, Norway

15:45-16:30

HABITABLE AIR: TOXIC INEQUALITIES IN THE TIME OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Air pollution, worsened by urbanization, poverty, and conflict, impacts public health and climate change. Many cities fail to meet WHO air quality standards, with pollutants like black carbon and sulphur dioxide harming humans and the environment. This issue is critical to SDG 1 (No Poverty) and SDG 13 (Climate Action). Despite the severity, there is a lack of data on emissions in poor communities, and regulations often fall short. This panel, organized by The Habitable Air Project, aligns with The Bergen Exchanges' focus on law and social transformation. It aims to foster collaboration among marginalized communities, governments, academia, and technology start-ups to improve emissions measurement and monitoring. Experts from various sectors will discuss policies, technologies, and community-driven practices, featuring case studies from the U.S., South Africa, and Germany, and findings from a study on low-cost air monitors in poor communities. The panel will provide actionable recommendations for policymakers and academia.

ROUNDTABLE introduction & chair: **Kerry R. Chance**, Department of Social Anthropology, UiB
Participants: **Stefan Ogedengbe**, Department of Social Anthropology, University of Bergen; and **Wesley Maraire** (University of Copenhagen)

16:45-17:30

ROUNDTABLE

THE RULE OF NOBODY? DEMOCRACY, AGENCY AND GOVERNANCE IN THE AGE OF AI

Artificial intelligence is increasingly shaping how public decisions are made, authority is exercised, and societal futures are governed. While debates on AI often focus on regulation, innovation, and technological risk, they raise deeper questions about democracy itself: who governs, who is accountable, and how citizens can exercise meaningful political agency in systems increasingly mediated by algorithms. Drawing inspiration from Hannah Arendt's critique of bureaucracy as the "rule of nobody," this session explores how AI is transforming public authority, democratic responsibility, and governance across generations. Attention is given to the challenge of intergenerational justice. As societies confront long-term problems such as climate change, energy transitions, demographic change, and environmental degradation, AI is increasingly presented as a tool for anticipating and managing future risks. Yet reliance on algorithmic systems may also weaken democratic accountability and obscure responsibility for decisions that shape the lives of future generations. With perspectives from political theory, law, governance, public administration, and technology studies, the session asks how democratic societies can harness the benefits of AI while preserving human agency, political responsibility, and meaningful accountability to both present and future generations.

ROUNDTABLE introduction and chair: **Esmeralda Colombo**, GP+/ Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy, Participants: **Ben Franta**, Oxford University, UK; **Mark Perry**, University of Washington, USA; **Roberto Gargarella**, University of Buenos Aires/Pompeu Fabre University, Spain; **Yann Robiou du Pont**, Centre on Climate and Energy Transformation (CET), UiB.

18:00 - 20:30

ART OF REPRESSION, RESISTANCE, MEMORY & RECONCILIATION

Venue: Vågsallmenningen 12

!KUNSTHALL 3:14



From above by **Shwan Dier Qaradaki**

February 28th by **Mona Tahani**

GUIDED TOUR OF THE EXHIBITIONS

CONVERSATION WITH THE ARTISTS by **Alicia Ely Yamin**

ROUNDTABLE

Art and culture serve as tools of colonial repression, assimilation and erasure, but also as spaces for documentation, decolonial resistance, memory-building and, in some cases, reconciliation. The roundtable will discuss the role of artistic expression and activism in contexts marked by colonialism and conflict, where art is used to document repression, preserve and build collective memory and identity, sustain resistance, and imagine more just futures. Lines are drawn from **KURDISTAN** and **PALESTINE** to Norway's Indigenous **Sámi** peoples, showing how art and culture have been weaponized for assimilation but also mobilized as powerful tools of resistance and revitalization. Bringing together artists, scholars, and activists, the discussion asks how creative practices challenge power, shape public narratives, mobilize communities, and contribute to memory, justice, and reconciliation. The second part turns to **BODY POLITICS, ART AND GENDERED RESISTANCE IN IRAN**. It explores how women's bodies have become central sites of state control as well as everyday resistance, and how artistic and cultural expression has helped challenge dominant norms and imagine alternative political futures. Reflecting on the legacy of the *Woman, Life, Freedom* movement, the discussion examines how resistance extends beyond organized protest into everyday acts of defiance, struggles over visibility and dignity, and creative expression. At the same time, war has devastating effects on social movements: it militarizes public life, intensifies state repression, and fragments the networks necessary for collective action. It also considers how war and geopolitical conflict reshape both state repression and the possibilities for collective action, asking what prospects remain for democratic transformation under conditions of intensifying violence and uncertainty. *The event is a collaboration between Kunsthall 3:14 and LawTransform (UiB/Norhed Decolonizing Epistemologies, and UiB/Intpart project Autocratization Dynamics)*

Participants: **Shwan Dier Qaradaki**, **Mona Tahani**, **Ali Teymoori**, University of Bergen (UiB); **Elin Skaar** (CMI); **Haci Akman**, University of Bergen; and **Liv Tønnessen** (CMI)

20:30 - 22:30

SOCIAL EVENT AT KUNSTHALL 3,14 - by invitation

FRIDAY AUGUST 21st

VENUE: BERGEN GLOBAL, JEKTEVIKSBAKKEN 31

Coffee & tea is served from 8:30

9:00 - 10:30

ACTIVIST STRATEGIES IN REPRESSIVE CONTEXTS

Keynote by **Leo Arriola**, University of California, Merced, USA

How do rights activists navigate shrinking civic space and rising autocratization? What enables activism to persist and remain effective under increasingly repressive conditions -- and under what circumstances is this no longer possible? Drawing on findings from the **RightAct** project, this session examines how activists in Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Nigeria, and Zimbabwe adapt their strategies, messaging, organizational practices, and alliances in response to domestic repression, geopolitical shifts, and sharply reduced access to international funding. It explores the dilemmas activists face in balancing visibility and security, maintaining legitimacy and constituencies, and building alliances in increasingly hostile political environments. The keynote and roundtable consider when and how grassroots activism can continue to mobilize support, shape public attitudes, and influence policy—and what these experiences tell us about the possibilities and limits of rights activism under autocratization.

This session forms part of the CMI/LawTransform project **RightAct: Rights Activism under Political Uncertainty** (NRC Fripro #325997)

ROUNDTABLE participants: **Arsène Brice Bado**, CERAP, Côte d'Ivoire; **Moumouni Soumano**, University of Bamako, Mali; **Johanna Reyes Ortega**, Yale University, USA; **Liv Tønnessen**, Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI); **Matthew Gichohi**, CMI; **Lise Rakner**, UiB/CMI
Chair: **Leo Arriola**, University of California, Merced, USA

10:45 - 11:45

GOVERNING A JUST TRANSITION

The transition to a low-carbon future is not only a technological or economic challenge—it is also a question of justice. As societies confront climate change, biodiversity loss, and increasingly frequent environmental disasters, legal institutions are being asked to navigate difficult questions about equity, participation, accountability, and the distribution of environmental risks and benefits. Achieving climate and environmental justice requires more than ambitious climate targets; it demands legal and institutional pathways capable of translating principles of justice into public policy, democratic decision-making, and everyday governance. Bringing together perspectives on international climate law, climate litigation, disaster governance, and environmental justice, this session explores how law can contribute to a just transition. From international legal principles and climate governance to constitutional courts and justice institutions responding to climate-related disasters, the discussion examines how climate justice is interpreted, institutionalized, and implemented across different levels of governance. Together, the panel asks what legal and institutional arrangements are needed to ensure that the transition is not only environmentally sustainable, but also socially equitable, democratically legitimate, and responsive to the needs of those most affected by environmental change.

This session is part of the UiB/LawTransform project **Autocratization Dynamics**: (NFR/ Intpart #322644),

ROUNDTABLE participants: **Anwasha Dutta** (CMI); **Endre Tvinnereim**, Department of Government, UiB; **Emanuela Rassu**, University of Siena, Italy; **Håvard Haarstad**, CET. UiB (tbc*); **Lívia Cunha de Menezes**, Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV), Brazil; **Rosa Manzo**, Faculty of Law, University of Bergen.
Chair: **Danielle Rached**, University of São Paulo, Brazil

12:00 - 13:30

CLIMATE LAWFARE

The transition to a low-carbon future is increasingly being shaped through struggles over law. Around the world, communities, Indigenous peoples, public-interest lawyers, scientists, and civil society organizations are mobilizing litigation, human rights, environmental law, and corporate accountability to accelerate climate action and advance climate justice. At the same time, corporations are deploying legal strategies across multiple arenas, including litigation and efforts to influence legislative and regulatory processes to influence the pace, direction, and distributive effects of the green transition. Climate lawfare has thus become a defining feature of contemporary struggles over environmental governance. The session opens with two landmark cases that illustrate competing forms of climate lawfare: the legal struggles surrounding the *Dakota Access Pipeline*, which sheds light on the use of law against environmental and Indigenous defenders, and the *TotalEnergies* climate litigation, where we will get insights into how scientific expertise is translated into legal evidence and corporate accountability. The roundtable will explore how different actors mobilize law to contest the green transition across courts, regulatory institutions, markets, and the public sphere. It asks how legal strategies can both advance and obstruct climate justice, how expertise and evidence shape these struggles, and what this reveals about the relationship between corporate power, democratic governance, and the future of a just transition.

This session is part of the UiB/LawTransform project **Autocratization Dynamics**: (NFR/ Intpart #322644).

ROUNDTABLE introductions:

Yann Robiou du Pont, CET. UiB. **THE TotalEnergies CASE**;

Jackie Dugard, Columbia University, USA/Wits **THE DAKOTA PIPELINE CASE**

Participants: **Benni Avhatakali Mudau**, University of the Witwatersrand (Wits), South Africa;

Christian Emilio Carli, University of Oslo; **Melina de Bona**, Oxford University, UK;

Chair: **Ben Franta**, Oxford University, UK

13:30 - 14:30

LUNCH

14:30 - 15:45

YOUTH EXCHANGE AGAINST ANTI-RIGHTS

What drives contemporary anti-rights movements, and how are activists, communities, and institutions responding? This session presents research on struggles over gender equality, LGBTQ+ rights, environmental justice, and democratic space in diverse political contexts, highlighting global trends as well as the importance of local histories, solidarities, and forms of resistance. The session showcases work developed through the SAIH–Norec exchange programme, bringing together young researchers from South Africa, Myanmar/Thailand, and Norway. Rooted in SAIH's commitment to global solidarity, decolonial partnerships, and mutual learning, the programme is built on the idea that knowledge is created through dialogue across different experiences and contexts. Rather than a one-way transfer of expertise, it fosters collaborative research, critical reflection, and exchange among activists, students, and scholars working to advance rights and social justice. Through partnerships with SAIH, SKOK, and LawTransform, the programme creates a space for comparative learning about democracy, resistance, and social transformation in a rapidly changing world. This session is part of the **Youth Exchange Against Anti-Rights** project. Funded by NOREF (2025-26).

ROUNDTABLE participants: **Ingyin Hmwe**(SAIH); **Sai Khun Min**(SAIH); **Kristin Alme**(SAIH); **Henrik Mørk Johansen**(SAIH); **Sisipho Nqadala**; **Zinzile Sibanda** (SAIH)

Chair: **Vinicius Cruz Campos** (SAIH)

16:00 - 17:30

LEGAL COUNTERMOBILISATION - REMAKING OF RIGHTS BY THE RIGHT

LAUNCH OF SPECIAL ISSUE

Around the world, conservative and right-wing actors are increasingly turning to law not to reject rights, but to remake them. Through litigation, constitutional reform, administrative action, and strategic legal advocacy, they deploy the language of rights, legality, and democracy to reshape who is entitled to rights, which rights deserve protection, and whose interests the law should serve. Rather than simply opposing human rights, these actors selectively expand some rights while restricting or delegitimizing others. This double session explores these evolving dynamics through the lens of the special issue [The Legal Mobilization of the Right Against Rights \(Law & Society Review June 2026\)](#). Moving beyond the language of “backlash,” the special issue develops a framework for understanding right-wing legal mobilization as a strategic effort to use legal institutions and rights discourse to challenge advances in gender equality, reproductive and LGBTQ+ rights, migrants' rights, and other protections for marginalized groups. Drawing on research from Latin America, North Africa, Europe, and beyond, it shows how countermobilization operates across courts, constitution-making, state institutions, and transnational networks. The first part launches the special issue, with contributors discussing its conceptual and empirical insights, including how rights are reframed through claims about democracy, sovereignty, religion, family, and popular will.

This session is part of the project **Conservative Legal Mobilization** (supported by the Law & Society Association),

ROUNDTABLE participants: **Karina Ansolabehere**, UNAM, Mexico, **Juliana Jaramillo**, Catholic University of Chile; and tbc*

Chair: **Gabriel Pereira**, Universidad Nacional de Tucumán, Argentina

LEGAL COUNTERMOBILISATION BY THE RIGHT - NEW FRONTIERS

Looking beyond the special issue, the roundtable explores new frontiers of legal countermobilization and right-wing legal mobilization. Across different political and legal contexts, conservative, authoritarian, and powerful economic actors are developing strategies to challenge rights advances, reshape legal institutions, and defend established political, social, and economic orders. From anti-gender mobilization and constitutional politics in Africa and Europe to countermobilization against Indigenous, environmental, and territorial rights in Latin America, these struggles increasingly unfold across multiple legal and political arenas. The roundtable examines how legal ideas, rights claims, and strategies travel across borders and movements, and how alliances between political, religious, and economic actors shape domestic struggles over rights, democracy, land, and state authority. Bringing together perspectives from Africa, Europe, and Latin America, it asks what these emerging forms of countermobilization tell us about the changing politics of rights—and about law as an increasingly important battleground over social and political transformation.

This session is part of the project **Conservative Legal Mobilization** (supported by the Law & Society Association),

ROUNDTABLE **Ana Carolina Alfinito Vieira**, Amazon Watch/Federal University of Para;

Angana Chatterji, University of California, Berkeley, USA; participants: **Francesca Feo**, Department of Government, UiB (tbc*); **Neil Datta**, EPF, Belgium; **Satang Nabaneh**, University of Dayton, USA;

Victor Giusti, Central European University, Austria;

Chair: **Juliana Jaramillo**, Catholic University of Chile

17:30 - 18:00

Closing of the Bergen Exchanges 2026

SOCIAL EVENT in CMI Cafeteria (by invitation)

The Bergen Exchanges on Law & Social Transformation — #BeEx2026

is a meeting place for scholars, practitioners, and activists from across disciplines and world regions who seek to understand law as a central arena of political struggle and social transformation. Throughout the week, we explore how governments, corporations, social movements, courts, experts, and citizens mobilize law to advance competing visions of democracy, justice, rights, development, and the public good. Rather than treating law as a neutral framework or a technical instrument, the Bergen Exchanges examines how legal institutions, legal expertise, and rights discourses shape—and are shaped by—relations of power. Through interdisciplinary and comparative dialogue, the Bergen Exchanges investigates the dynamics and effects of legal mobilization and lawfare across diverse institutional and political settings. We examine how law is used to govern societies through constitutions, legislation, regulation, and international institutions; how it is mobilized by communities, activists, businesses, and other actors to contest or defend political and economic orders; and how legal and administrative institutions interpret, implement, and transform legal norms in practice. The effects of these struggles extend far beyond courts and legal texts: they reshape public policies, redistribute resources, redefine political possibilities, and influence the ideas, narratives, and institutions through which societies are governed.

LawTransform (CMI-UiB Centre on Law & Social Transformation) has hosted the Bergen Exchanges every year since 2014. **LawTransform** is a global community and collaborative network for research and education on law and social change. The Centre is co-owned by the Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI) and the University of Bergen (UiB), faculties of Law and Social Sciences and is based at the UiB Department of Government. Co-directors are Siri Gloppen (UiB) and Liv Tønnessen (CMI), and Lara Côrtes is the LawTransform Coordinator.

The PhD course *Effects of Lawfare: Courts & law as battlegrounds for social change* is an integrated part of the Bergen Exchanges. The course is interdisciplinary and open to students from across the globe. It is a hybrid course, with the option of being present in Bergen during the week of #BeEx2026. A majority of the students will join us in Bergen!

#BeEx2026 events are public, and participation is free of charge. Most sessions are recorded and streamed online. If you do not want to be present in photos published from the events, please let the registration desk know. If you require adjustments or equipment to participate on an equal basis with others, please let us know in advance at info@lawtransform.no.

#BeEx2026 is made possible by contributions from the researchers and research projects that form part of LawTransform, and whose research is presented throughout the Exchanges, as well as through collaboration with our partners: **Bergen Global**; **DIPA**—Centre for Research on Discretion and Paternalism; **CET**—Centre for Climate and Energy Transformation; **SkeivForsk**—the UiB interfaculty queer research network; **SKOK**—Centre for Women's and Gender Research; the **Raffo** Foundation for Human Rights; and **BCEPS**—Bergen Centre for Ethics and Priority Setting. We are also grateful for financial support from the **Norwegian Research Council**. And not least: thanks to the contributions from our dedicated LawTransform interns, volunteers and fellows!

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