

Fifth Venice World Multidisciplinary Conference on Republics and Republicanism  
**Power, Freedom and Oligarchy**  
Venice International University  
26-28 June 2026

**FRIDAY 26 JUNE**

**9:30 OPENING REMARKS - Room 1E**

Luca Pes  
Venice International University  
(plenary)

**9:45-11:00 KEYNOTE SPEECH – Room 1E**

*Oligarchic Power as Worldmaking*  
Camila Vergara  
Senior Lecturer, University of Essex  
Chair: Banu Turnaoğlu Açan  
Cambridge University, England / Sabancı Üniversitesi, Türkiye  
(plenary)

**11:00-11:20 COFFEE BREAK**

**11:20-12:50 PANELS 1-2**

**PANEL 1 – Room 1E**  
**Anti-Oligarchic Theory**

Chair: Tom O'Shea  
The London School of Economics and Political  
Science, England

*Against Democratic Erosion: Liberal Crisis,  
Democratic Resilience and Republican Legitimacy*  
Sabrina Zucca  
Helmut-Schmidt-Universität, Germany

*Liberal Plebeianism: A New Theory of Anti-  
Oligarchic Democracy*  
Gordon Arlen  
University of Melbourne, Australia

*Should Anti-Oligarchic Tribunates be Class-  
Specific?*  
Vincent Harting  
London School of Economics and Political Science,  
England

*Citizens' Assemblies between Opinion and Interest:  
Republican Freedom, Oligarchic Drift, and the  
"Minor-Key" Institution of Public Life*  
Ünsal Doğan Başkır  
İzmir Ekonomi Üniversitesi, Türkiye

**PANEL 2 – Room 1G**  
**Constitutional issues and New Frontiers**

Chair: Sara De Vido  
Università Ca' Foscari Venezia, Italy

*Republicanism and the Mutable Constitution*  
Seán Rainford  
Dublin City University, Ireland

*Constitutional Court Responsibility: Towards  
Reducing Domination via Republican  
Constitutional Pluralism*  
Max Steuer  
Univerzita Komenského v Bratislave, Slovakia /  
Universität Münster, Germany

*Under the Sword of Damocles: Identity Harassment  
and Freedom as Non-Domination*  
Melisa Acar  
University of Glasgow, Scotland

*Involving Non-Humans in the Green Community:  
Sound as a Tool for Understanding Non-human  
Will*  
Martina Zanetti  
Université Paris Cité/Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna  
Pisa, Italy

**12:50-14:20 SOCIAL LUNCH**

#### 14:20-15:35 PANELS 3-4

##### **PANEL 3 – Room 1E** **Anti-Oligarchic Case Studies**

Chair: Sabrina Zucca  
Helmut-Schmidt-Universität, Germany

*The only True and Worthy Government:  
Democratic Responses to Oligarchy in the 17th  
century Dutch Republic*  
Pim Trommelen  
The Ohio State University, US

*Political equality and "oligarchization of  
democracy": a critical-normative reflection on  
some institutional arrangements recently adopted in  
Brazil to promote republican citizenship*  
Rodrigo Ribeiro de Sousa  
Universidade Estadual de Campinas (Unicamp) São  
Paulo, Brazil

##### **PANEL 4 – Room 1G** **19<sup>th</sup> Century British Political Thought: Price and Bentham**

Chair: Holly Brewer  
University of Maryland, US

*Liberty as Self-Government, Representation and  
Citizenship. The Republicanism of Richard Price*  
Christopher Hamel  
Université de Rouen Normandie, France

*Liberty, Security and Utility: Questioning  
Bentham's relation to republicanism*  
Emmanuelle de Champs  
CY Cergy Paris Université, France

#### 15:35-16:50 PANELS 5-6

##### **PANEL 5 – Room 1E** **Republicanism and Feminist Theory**

Chair: Sara De Vido  
Università Ca' Foscari Venezia, Italy

*Between Private Order and Public Freedom:  
Family, Gender, and the Crisis of the  
Public/Private Divide in Republican Thought*  
Keiju Vihreäsalo  
University of Helsinki

*Care and Republic: Arendt and Luxemburg in  
Feminist Dialogue*  
Marcela da Silva Uchôa  
Universidade de Coimbra, Portugal

##### **PANEL 6 – Room 1G** **Greek and Venetian Republican Themes**

Chair: Luca Pes  
Venice International University

*The Katechon as a Proto-Republican Community:  
Eschatological Letters of Maximus the Greek*  
Andrei Papin  
EUSP - European University at Saint-Petersburg,  
Russia

*Stone, Space, and the Res Publica: Public and  
Private Epigraphic Speech in the Sacred Spaces of  
Renaissance Venetian Istria*  
Josip Banic  
Sveučilište u Zagrebu, Croatia

*Between Empire and Liberty: Neutrality as a  
Republican Practice of Power in Venice (1688–  
1714)*  
Stefano Cattelan  
Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium

**16:50-17:10 COFFEE BREAK**

**17:10- 18:55 PANEL 7 (plenary)**

**PANEL 7 – Room 1E  
Feminist Voices in Republicanism**

Chair: Camila Vergara  
University of Essex, England

*Unfreedom as Structural Injustice: The Case of Mary Wollstonecraft*  
Signy Gutnick Allen  
Universität Zürich, Switzerland

*Feminist Republicanism: The Political Ideas of French Revolutionary Women, 1789-1794*  
Nicolai Von Eggers  
Aarhus Universitet, Denmark

*Harriet Jacobs, Sexual Violence and Feminist Republicanism*  
Alan Coffee  
Dickson Poon School of Law, King's College London, England

*Freedom as Non-Domination in Nineteenth-Century Czech Thought: Teréza Nováková and a Feminist  
Republican Tradition*  
Adela Radkova  
Univerzita Karlova, Prague, Czechia

*Feminist Republicanism in Early Republican Turkey: The Political Thought of Nezihe Muhittin*  
Banu Turnaoğlu Açan  
Cambridge University, England / Sabancı Üniversitesi, Türkiye

**19:30-21:30 SOCIAL DINNER**

**SATURDAY 27 JUNE**

**9:30-10:45 PANELS 8-9**

**PANEL 8 – Room 1E  
Machiavelli**

Chair: Giuseppe Ballacci  
Universidade do Minho, Portugal

*From Classical Dictatorship to Derived Constituent  
Power: Machiavelli's Republican Constitutional  
Legacy*  
Jeremie Barthas  
Institut d'Histoire Moderne et Contemporaine Paris

*Captains Must Be Good Orators: Machiavelli and the  
Rhetoric of Command*  
Michael Hawley  
UNC Chapel Hill, US

*Custom, Institutions, and the Loss of Republican  
Liberty in Machiavelli's Florentine Histories*  
Piao Mao  
University of Southampton, England

**PANEL 9 – Room 1G  
English and American Revolutions and Civil  
Wars**

Chair: Martin Miller  
Duke University, US

*Locke's Experiences with Tyranny and the Legal  
Grounding of his Philosophical Response*  
Holly Brewer  
University of Maryland, US

*Corruption and newspaper polemics in colonial  
North America*  
Becca Palmer  
University College London, England

## 10:45-11:05 COFFEE BREAK

### 11:05-12:20 PANELS 10-11

#### **PANEL 10 – Room 1E** **Visualizing Republicanism**

Chair: Oleg Kharkhordin  
EUSP - European University at St. Petersburg,  
Russia

*Documentary Photography of the Provisional  
Government in Russia, March-October, 1917*

Martin Miller  
Duke University, US

*Making Things Visible: Cartography as a Cause  
and a Means of Overcoming World Alienation*

Ivan Naumov  
EUSP - European University at St. Petersburg,  
Russia

#### **PANEL 11 – Room 1G** **Politics and Revolution 1750-1850**

Chair: Banu Turnaoğlu Açıkan  
Cambridge University, England / Sabancı  
Üniversitesi, Türkiye

*The plea for the distribution of wealth and the  
dynamics of meritocracy in 18th century Europe  
(Britain, Corsica, France)*

Myriam-Isabelle Ducrocq  
Université Paris Nanterre, France

*Neglected Moments of Central European  
Republicanism in 1848: The Discourse of the  
Austrian/Bohemian Revolution*

Jan Květina  
Univerzity Hradec Králové, Czechia

## 12:20-13:50 SOCIAL LUNCH

### 13.50-15:05 PANELS 12-13

#### **PANEL 12 – Room 1E** **Postcolonial Republicanism**

Chair: Peter Bloom  
University of Essex, England

*The Enslaver State: Republican Assimilationism  
and Its Critics*

Mayaki Kimba  
Columbia University, US

*Exploitation as the Domination of Racialized  
Labor: Property, Inequality, and the Dark Ghetto*

Nicholas Vrousalis  
Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam, Netherlands /  
University of Athens, Greece

*Reimagining the republic: equality, fraternity and  
the eradication of caste in Ambedkar's political  
writings*

Manjeet Ramgotra  
SOAS University of London, England

#### **PANEL 13 – Room 1G** **Republicanism in the Digital Era**

Chair: Martina Zanetti  
Université Paris Cité/Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna  
Pisa, Italy

*Pop-up Polis: Zuzalu and the limits of  
technological republicanism*

Olga Bychkova  
Independent Scholar - formerly EUSP, Russia

*AI Prediction as Domination: A Republican  
Perspective*

Hans de Zwart  
Radboud Universiteit, Netherlands / Amsterdam  
University of Applied Sciences, Netherlands

*AI-Augmented Deliberation: hybrid assemblies,  
platforms, and republican decision-making*

Andrei Mogoutov  
Sciences Po, médialab, Paris, France

## 15:05-16:35 PANELS 14-15

### PANEL 14 – Room 1E Reviewing Neo-Republicanism

Chair: Philip Pettit  
Princeton University / Australian National University

*Republican Non-Domination Beyond the Polis: Interconnected Demoi and Global Capitalism*  
Peter Bloom  
University of Essex, England

*Rhetoric and Liberty in Quentin Skinner's Republican Thought*  
Giuseppe Ballacci  
Universidade do Minho, Portugal

*Liberty as non-domination: a review of Skinner and Pettit's historical interpretation*  
Alberto Ribeiro Gonçalves de Barros  
Faculdade de Filosofia, Letras e Ciências Humanas  
- Universidade de São Paulo/CNPq

*The Republican Project and the Sociology of (Scientific) Knowledge in Turbulent Times*  
Rafał Paweł Wierzbowski  
Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Poland

### PANEL 15 – Room 1G State, Civil Society and Freedom from Bodin to Schumpeter

Chair: Sabrina Zucca  
Helmut-Schmidt-Universität, Germany

*Liberty, A Thing Much Dearer Than Life: Fatherly Sovereign and Free Subjects in Bodin*  
Bingshu Zhao  
University of Exeter, England

*Rousseau, republicanism, and the people*  
James Harris  
University of St Andrews, England

*The synergy between republican liberty and Schumpeterian theory*  
Andrea Capussela  
London School of Economics and Political Science, England

## 16:35-16:55 COFFEE BREAK

### 16:55-18:10 KEYNOTE SPEECH – Room 1E

*Freedom, State and Market*

Philip Pettit

Professor of Philosophy, Princeton University / Australian National University

Chair: Oleg Kharkhordin

EUSP - European University at St. Petersburg, Russia  
(plenary)

**SUNDAY 28 JUNE**

**9:30-10:45 PANELS 16-17**

**PANEL 16 – Room 1E  
Cooperative and Socialist Republicanism**

Chair: TBD

*On Liberty and Virtue: John Stuart Mill and  
Harriet Taylor's Democratic Transformations to  
Republicanism*

John Ayshford

University of Manchester, England

*Governing the Shared: Housing Committees and  
the Material Foundations of Republican  
Participation, 1917–1922*

Konstantin Tarasov

University of Nottingham, England

*Why Socialists should be Republicans?*

Bruno Leipold and Tom O'Shea

The London School of Economics and Political  
Science, England

**PANEL 17 – Room 1G  
Contemporary Republican Discourses**

Chair: Luca Pes

Venice International University

*Freedom, Power and Democracy in Iceland,  
1990–2008: A Civic Republican Critique*

Emma Björg Eyjólfsdóttir

Háskóli Íslands – University of Iceland, Reykjavík,  
Iceland

*A Republican King? Republican Themes in the  
Speeches of Felipe VI*

Francisco Beltran

IE University, Spain

*What Republic? Ordinary Understandings of  
Republicanism in Contemporary French «Cahiers  
de doléances»*

Magali Della Sudda and Manon Pengam

CNRS – Centre Émile Durkheim, Bordeaux and  
CY Cergy Paris Université, France

**10:45-11:05 COFFEE BREAK**

**11:05-12:35 CLOSING ROUNDTABLE: Freedom, Power and Oligarchy**

with Philip Pettit, Camila Vergara, Banu Turnaoğlu Açı, Sara De Vido, Bruno Leipold, Sabrina Zucca

Chair: Oleg Kharkhordin

(plenary)

**15:00 at Giardini: guided visit to Biennale of Visual Art “In Minor Keys”**