



## In Search for new Concepts and Ideas

### Dear Readers,

The concept of democracy is contested worldwide. With authoritarianism on the rise, scholars and practitioners are still searching for answers to its causes and consequences. Recently, the international dimension - the role of democracy promotion - of democratic backsliding has come under scrutiny again. The EU project [EMBRACE](#) analyzes authoritarian resilience and de-democratization in the European Neighbourhood and aims to identify blockages to democratization. In a case study of energy infrastructure projects, Benjamin Schuetze finds that contemporary energy infrastructure projects hinder opportunities for democratic contestation. His [new research group](#) explores the link between authoritarianism and renewable energy projects. In light of the ongoing Russian war against Ukraine and a new systemic conflict, the questions on how to position democracies against autocratic regimes remains to be debated. At PRIF, a new research

group focuses on [regime competition in a fragmented world](#) and a Blog Series examines the [implications of the new German National Security Strategy](#). Against the backdrop of autocratization and serious human rights violations, Rebecca Wagner discusses German President Frank Walter Steinmeier's [recent visit to Kyrgyzstan](#). Last but not least, Johannes Gerschewski's recently published book „[The Two Logics of Autocratic Rule](#)“ provides valuable insights into the legitimation politics of contemporary authoritarian regimes through the logics of de-politicizing or over-politicizing. While we are still searching for new concepts and ideas, all these pieces of our EDP network members are part of understanding the bigger puzzle and finding solutions to the challenges to democracy.

**We are pleased to present you the 14th EDP Newsletter!**

Vivien and Rebecca for the EDP Network

### News

23. June 2023

[Invitation to online discussion on 'Authoritarian power and contestation beyond the state' on Tuesday, June 27](#)

1. June 2023

[Methodology workshop of EMBRACE project](#)

27. May 2023

[The EDP Network Meeting held on May 26](#)

20. April 2023

[Rebecca Wagner visited the Electoral Integrity Project \(EIP\) in Kingston / Canada](#)

19. April 2023

[Solveig Richter appointed to platform „Rebuilding Ukraine“](#)

11. April 2023

[Vanessa Boese-Schlosser on WDR Podcast about the dangers of democracy](#)

23. March 2023

[EDP Network Members at ISA 2023 in Montréal](#)

Read all **News** [here](#).

### EDP Projects

13. February 2023

[Network member Sonja Grimm is scientific lead of the research Consortium EMBRACE](#)

8. June 2023

[New DFG Research Group headed by Dr. Benjamin Schuetze: Renewable Energies, Renewed Authoritarianisms?](#)

You can find the networks **Projects** [here](#).



## In the Spotlight

Julia Bader is Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science at the University of Amsterdam and is a member of our Network since 2021. Before joining UvA, Julia worked as a research fellow at the German Development Institute (now German Institute of Development and Sustainability). Julia Bader holds a MA in Politics and Management from Konstanz University and a PhD in Political Science from Heidelberg University.



Julia's work on development cooperation, China's foreign relations, regime transition and autocratic stability elsewhere, and on the Chinese Communist Party's outreach to parties and elites around the globe have been published amongst others in *International Studies Quarterly*, *European Journal of Political Research*, *Democratization* and *Journal of Peace Research*. Her monograph *China's foreign relations and the survival of autocracies* has been published with Routledge.

You can read more about Julia [here](#).

## Job Advertisement

The German Institute of Development and Sustainability is hiring! The Research Programme „Transformation of political (dis-) order: Values, institutions and peace“ is looking for a:

[Senior Researcher \(f/m/diverse\) in Bonn, Germany.](#)

For further information about the application process, please click on the provided link.

## Publications (selected)

Felix S. Bethke, Jonas Wolff

[Lockdown of expression: civic space restrictions during the COVID-19 pandemic as a response to mass protests](#)

In: *Democratization* pp. 1-19.

Julia Gurol, Alke Jenss, Fabricio Rodriguez, Benjamin Schütze, Cita Weterich

[Authoritarian Power and Contestation beyond the State](#)

In: *Globalizations* pp 1-14.

Alke Jenss, Benjamin Schütze

[Prefiguring Politics: Transregional Energy Infrastructures as a Lens for the Study of Authoritarian Practices](#)

In: *Globalizations* pp 1-16.

Jonas Wolff

[Human Rights Movements across Latin America](#)

In: *The Oxford Handbook of Latin American Social Movements*, pp 422-438.

Sarah von Billerbeck

[Organizational Narratives and Self-Legitimation in International Organizations](#)

In: *International Affairs*, Volume 99, Issue 3

Johannes Gerschewski

[The Two Logics of Autocratic Rule](#)

Cambridge University Press

Leonie Holthaus, Jonas Wolff

[Practices of policy Orientation: A Study of The Heterogenous Field of Democracy Promotion Research](#)

In: *International Studies Review*, Volume 25, Issue 1

See all **Publications** [here](#).

## EDP Wire

26. June 2023 | EDP Wire | Rebecca Wagner

[The Republic of Kyrgyzstan in a Process of Autocratization: Steinmeier's Visit to Central Asia in the Context of National Processes and the German National Security Strategy](#)

You can find all **EDP Wires** [here](#).

