

“Populism(s) and regionalism: Discourses, strategies, and effects” (P170)

(Ansprechpartner*in: Sören Stapel, Universität Freiburg)

Populism has become increasingly salient in all parts of the world, in developed as well as developing countries. Researchers on populisms tend to focus on populists' impact on their country's domestic politics. They emphasize the anti-elitist and anti-pluralist motivations of both populist politicians and their supporters. At the same time, their research acknowledges that populisms take different shapes in different contexts, and populist leaders rely on different discourses and strategies.

The regional and international dimensions of populisms remain largely underexplored. Populisms equally impact the foreign policy of the concerned countries and the position towards regional and international cooperation. As populists have formed governments all over the world, it thus becomes imperative to study the consequences of the rise of populism as well as their effects for regional cooperation. The panel therefore invites theoretical and empirical contributions that help us better understand the nexus of populism and regionalism:

How do populist leaders discursively and strategically position themselves towards regionalism and regional organizations? How do their cooperation partners and regional actors react to the discourses and strategies of populist leaders?

Do the discourses and strategies systematically vary between different shapes and types of populism and in different regions of the world, and why?

How does the emergence and rise of populism affect the activity, effectiveness, and legitimacy of regional organizations and regional governance?