



Department of Philosophy  
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Rijeka

## Summer School "Equality and Citizenship" 2026

June 15 – 19, 2026

Sveučilišna avenija 4, Rijeka, Room F-401

June 15th, 2026	
<b><i>Democracy, Inclusivity, Cities</i></b>	
09:45 - 10:00	<i>Opening of the summer school</i>
<b><i>Valentina Gentile Symposium (Freedom with Religions)</i></b>	
10:00 - 11:30	<b>Valentina Gentile</b> (LUISS Guido Carli Rome) <i>Freedom with Religions. The appeal to civility in contemporary diverse democracies</i>
11:30 - 12:00	Coffee break
12:00 - 12:50	<b>Bernd Ladwig</b> (Freie Universität Berlin) <i>Public Reason, Accessibility, and Truth</i>
12.50 – 14.30	Lunch
14:30 – 15.20	<b>Nebojša Zelič</b> (University of Rijeka) <i>Political Liberalism beyond Public Reason: Religion and Political Cooperation in Non-Ideal Liberal Societies</i>
15:20 - 15:40	Coffee break
15:40 - 16:30	<b>Elvio Baccharini</b> (University of Rijeka) <i>Public Reason, Religions, and the Question of Epistemic Injustice</i>

**June 16th, 2026 (TUESDAY)**

***Paul Billingham Symposium***

9:30 - 11:00	<b>Paul Billingham</b> (University of Oxford) <i>The Morality of Public Shaming</i>
11:15 - 11:30	Coffee break
11:30 - 12:20	<b>Daniele Santoro (University of Braga)</b> <i>Publicity, Expression, and Punishment: On the Ethics of Public Shaming</i>
12.20 - 14.00	Lunch
14:00 - 14.50	<b>Ivan Cerovac</b> (University of Rijeka / University of Ljubljana) <i>The Epistemic Justification of Public Shaming: From Moral Criticism to Collective Inquiry</i>
14:50 - 15:00	Coffee break
15.00 - 15.50	<b>Elvio Baccharini</b> (University of Rijeka) <i>Public Shaming in the Original Position</i>
<b>Opatija Coffee House Debates</b> (Hotel Continental, Opatija)	
19.30-21.00	<b>Paul Billingham, Valentina Gentile</b> <i>The Place of Religious Reasons within Democratic Deliberation and Decision-Making</i>

**June 17th, 2026 (Wednesday)**

***Epistemic Dimensions of Democratic Deliberation in the Digital Age***

09:00 - 10:15	<b>José Luis Marti</b> (Pompeu Fabra University) <i>The ideal of an Augmented Democratic Deliberation: on how AI can strengthen, not weaken, our democratic systems</i>
10:15 - 10:25	Coffee break
10:25 - 11:15	<b>Kenneth Howarth</b> (Mercer County College) <i>Democratic Judgment Infrastructure in the Digital Age: Affective Polarization, Trust, and Epistemic Agency</i>

11:15 - 11:30	Coffee break
11:30 - 12:20	<b>Ivan Catanzaro</b> (University of Cologne / University of Salento) <i>Empowerment, Self-Trust, and Democratic Deliberation</i>
12.20 - 13.10	<b>Annemijn Kwijkers</b> (University of Amsterdam) <i>Novel Forms of Epistemic Injustice in the Digital Space</i>
13.10 - 14.00	<b>Nana Čemas</b> (University of Ljubljana) The Gordian Knot of Epistemic Inequalities within the Structural Crisis of the Media
14.00 - 15.00	Lunch
15.00 - 15.50	<b>Belén Pueyo-Ibáñez (ETH Zürich)</b> <i>Rationality in a Polarized Society: Exploring the Socio-Affective Preconditions of Collective Discourse</i>
15.55 - 16.45	<b>Kristina Lekić Barunčić</b> (University of Rijeka) <i>Affective Deliberation</i>
<b><i>Democracy, Inclusivity, Cities</i></b>	
17.00 - 17.50	<b>Antonio Ballarin</b> (University Canada West, Vancouver) <i>The Power to Classify: How AI Shapes Collective Knowledge and Debate in a Democracy</i>
18.00 - 18.50	<b>Bernd Ladwig</b> (Freie Universität Berlin) <i>The Right to a Life of One's Own. Towards a Non-Anthropocentric Liberalism.</i>
19.00 - 19.50	<b>Nicole Ćuk</b> (University of Rijeka) <i>The Public Space</i>

<b>June 18th, 2026 (Thursday)</b>	
<b><i>The Challenges of Hostile Epistemology</i></b>	
<b><i>Robert Talisse Symposium</i></b> Moderated by José Luis Martí (Pompeu Fabra University)	
09:00 - 10:30	<b>Robert Talisse</b> (Vanderbilt University) <i>The Real Problem of Civility</i>

10:30 - 11:00	Coffee break
11:00 - 11:50	<b>Snježana Prijić-Samaržija</b> and <b>Andrea Mešanović</b> (University of Rijeka) <i>Science Denial, Epistemic Obstruction, and the Limits of Democratic Self-Correction</i>
12:00 - 12:50	<b>Luis Loia</b> (Universidade Católica Portuguesa) <i>The Trunked Debate on Democratic Crises</i>
12:50 - 14:30	Lunch break
14:30 - 15:20	<b>Ivan Cerovac</b> (University of Rijeka / University of Ljubljana) <i>Weak Ties, Civic Solitude and the Social Foundations of Democratic Citizenship</i>
15:30 - 16:20	<b>Holger Kiik</b> (Tallinn University) <i>Why Should I Trust Anyone?</i>
16:20 - 16:40	Coffee break
16:40 - 17:30	<b>Jacopo Marchetti</b> (University of Pisa) and <b>Patrizia Pedrini</b> (University of Geneva) <i>Performative Contingency and Affective Polarization</i>
17.40 - 18.30	<b>Sergiu Spatan</b> (Technische Universität Dresden) <i>Mandevillian Wisdom Makes Better Voters</i>
18.40 - 19.30	<b>Elvio Baccharini</b> (University of Rijeka) <i>Journalism, Institutional Responsibility, Epistemological Skills</i>
20.00	Conference Dinner

June 19th, 2026	
Democracy, Media, and Liberal Society Conference	
09:00 - 10:30	<b>Chris Ranalli</b> (VU University Amsterdam) <i>Liberalism and the Many Faces of Conspiracy Theorizing</i>
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee break
11:00 - 11:40	<b>Hana Samaržija</b> (University of Rijeka) <i>Hostile Environments: Testimony in the Internet Age</i>

11.50 – 12.30	<b>Vojko Strahovnik and Matea Centa Strahovnik</b> (University of Ljubljana) <i>Whose Judgements? Which Rationales?</i>
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch
14:00- 14:40	<b>Diana Daly</b> (University of Arizona) <i>Resisting Hostile Epistemology Towards International Students in the US</i>
14.50 - 15.30	<b>Marko Luka Zubčić</b> (Institute of Philosophy, Zagreb) <i>Epistemology of Public Discourse: A Housekeeping</i>
15.30 – 15.50	Coffee break
15:50 - 16:30	<b>Ivan Mladenović</b> (University of Belgrade) <i>Arguments Against Digital Epistocracy</i>
16,40 – 17,20	<b>Zuzana Rybarikova</b> (University of Ostrava) <i>Generative AI, Disinformation, and the Transformation of Epistemic Trust</i>
17.20 – 17.40	Coffee break
17.40 – 18.20	<b>Antonio Scala</b> (National Research Council of Italy) <i>Fractured Reality and Hostile Epistemology: Algorithmic Punctuation in Democratic Life</i>
18.30 – 19.10	<b>Fang Yiyang</b> (National University of Singapore) <i>Towards a Critical Vice Epistemology</i>

The conference *Democracy, Inclusiveness, Cities* is a part of the project *Democracy, Inclusiveness, Cities* (uniri-iz-25-152), funded by the European Union — NextGenerationEU. The event is organized by Elvio Baccharini & Ivan Cerovac

The conference *Epistemic Dimensions of Democratic Deliberation in the Digital Age* is a part of the project *Affective Deliberation: How Political Emotions Shape Democratic Processes* (uniri-mz-25-70), funded by the European Union — NextGenerationEU. The event is organized by Kristina Lekić Barunčić.

The conference *The Challenges of Hostile Epistemology* is part of the research project *Epistemic Democracy in the Digital Era* (EDDD), funded by the Croatian Science Foundation (Grant Number: IP-2024-05-4113). The event is organized by Ivan Cerovac, Kristina Lekić Barunčić, Andrea Mešanović and Hana Samaržija.

Organization board:

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