



THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE ■

130 EST 1895
years

LSE Joint Sessions on Critical Europe

26 - 27 February 2026

European Institute

Welcome

Dear participants,

We are very pleased to welcome you to the second edition of the LSE Joint Sessions on Critical Europe! The conference is meant to create a space for early-career researchers to meet, exchange, and have valuable discussions around their research, but also its practice, its context, its difficulties and community building.

We hope that you will have a good time in London and with your peers, and we remain available for any question you might have!

Wishing you some very fruitful encounters,
The CEC Team (Andréa, Jacob, Daniela, Noa, and Rosa)

Contact Information

You can reach us using the symposium email address: critical.europe.conference@gmail.com. For urgent issues during the conference, please text or call Jacob on +44 7598 867889.

Contents

Programme

- Scheduling
- Catering

Logistics

- Travelling to and from campus
- Campus map

Finances

- Reimbursement information
- Funders

List of participants

- Workshop 1: European Imaginaries of a Liberal Home Under Threat
- Workshop 2: Local and Global Entanglements of the Fascist Turn

Programme

Schedule

Day 1 - 26 February

- 09:00 – 09:30 General welcome and registration
Venue: Conference main room, OLD.1.20
Catering: Breakfast & coffee
- 09:30 – 12:45 Workshop session 1: Introductions and Papers 1-4
Venue: seminar rooms in OLD (1st floor)
- 12:45 – 13:45 **Lunch**
Venue: PhD Academy
- 13:45 – 16:30 Workshop Session 2: Papers 5-7
Venue: seminar rooms in OLD (1st floor)
Catering: Coffee & biscuits
- 16:30 – 18:30 Group discussion: Is this fascism?
Venue: Conference main room
- 18:30 – 20:00 **Reception**
Venue: CKK 8th Floor Reception Area
Catering: Wine, non-alcoholic drinks, and finger food

Day 2 - 27 February

- 09:00 – 12:30 Workshop session 3: Papers 8 - 11
Venue: seminar rooms in OLD (1st floor)
Catering: Coffee & biscuits
- 12:30 – 13:30 **Lunch**
Self-catered
- 13:30 – 15:45 Workshop Session 4: Papers 12-14
Venue: seminar rooms in OLD (1st floor)
- 15:45 – 16:15 **Goodbye plenary**
Venue: Conference main room

Catering

We will provide coffee, tea, and biscuits during the sessions. Lunch will also be provided on Thursday. Gluten-free and vegan options will be available for those who requested them.

Logistics

Travelling to and from campus

The symposium takes place on LSE's campus in central London. A number of tube, rail, and bus stops as well as cycle hire stations are close by:

Tube (Underground)

- **Holborn (Piccadilly and Central lines)** - on the corner of Kingsway and High Holborn. Approximately five minutes away.
- **Temple (District and Circle lines)** - on the Embankment at the bottom of Arundel Street. Approximately five minutes away.
- **Charing Cross (Jubilee, Northern and Bakerloo lines)** - on the Strand at the Trafalgar Square end. Approximately ten minutes away.

National rail

- **Waterloo** - other side of the River from the Strand over Waterloo Bridge. Approximately 10- 15 minutes away. Trains to and from the south coast and south west of England.
- **Charing Cross** - on the Strand at the Trafalgar Square end. Approximately 10 minutes away. Trains mainly to south east London and into Kent.
- **Blackfriars** - on the Embankment near Blackfriars Bridge. Approximately 10 -15 minutes away. Trains mainly to south London and south east England but also the Thameslink line through north London.
- **St Pancras International** - on Euston Road, close to King's Cross mainline station. Take the Piccadilly Line from King's Cross to Holborn, from where it is 5 minutes away (see 'Holborn' above). Serves the Eurostar and trains to the Midlands

Bus

- Buses that stop on or near Aldwych are: numbers: 1, 9, 11, 15, 23, 26, 59, 68, X68, 76, 87, 91, 139, 168, 172, 188, 243, and 341. Most stops are around 5 minutes away.

Cycling

- The LSE campus hosts three [Santander Cycle Hire](#) docking stations on Houghton Street, Portugal Street and Sardinia Street.

We recommend the app 'Citymapper' to get around London and to get up-to-date information on travel routes, delays, and crowdedness.

Fares

You can pay as you go using your contactless card or device or an Oyster card (which you have to purchase). The bus is the generally the most affordable way to get around (£1.75 per trip) while the tube and rail fares depend on when you travel (peak times between 6:30-9:30 and 16:00-19:00 on weekdays are more expensive) and how far (the more zones you cross, the more you pay).

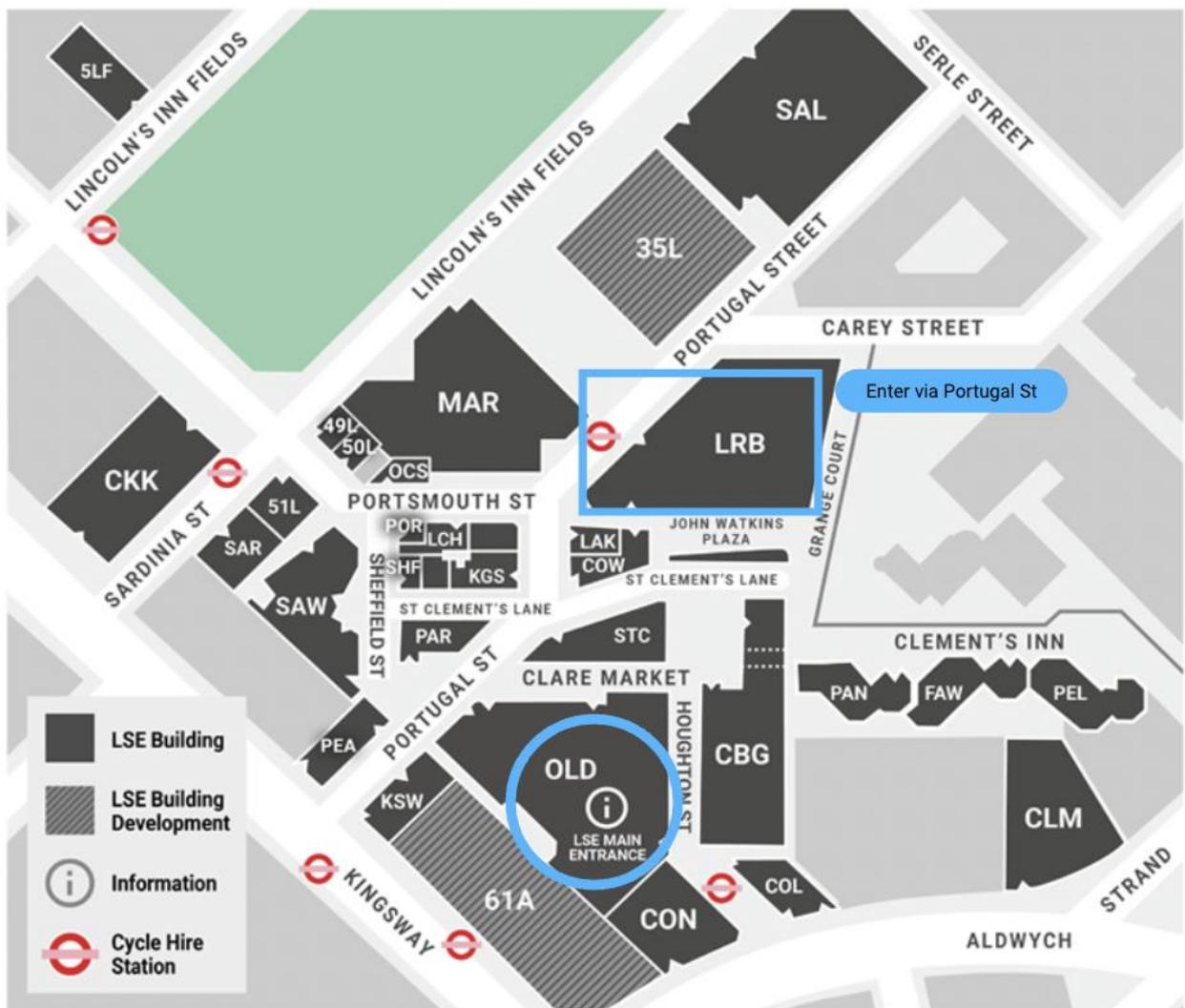
Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have questions about step-free or more accessible ways to and around campus. Also see the UK government's site [Transport if you're disabled](#).

Campus Map

Workshop sessions will be taking place in the Old Building (marked with a circle).

- Registration, coffee, snacks, and helpdesk will be located in room OLD.1.20.
- Workshop 1: European Imaginaries of a Liberal Home under Threat is located in OLD.1.26.
- Workshop 2: Local and Global Entanglements of the Fascist Turn is located in OLD.1.28.

Thursday's Lunch and Evening Reception will be taking place in the PhD Academy (marked with a square) and in the Chen Kin Ku Building (CKK). We will walk to these venues together.



Finances

Reimbursement information

Reimbursements will be processed after the conference and are subject to your attendance. We will aim to disburse the funding as quickly as possible, and we will share further information on how you can submit your claim right after the conference. Please make sure to hold on to your receipts and keep in mind that we will only be able to reimburse travel and/or accommodation costs up to the amount that was communicated to you in late 2025, even if your expenditures exceed it.

Funders

This symposium would not have been possible without the generous financial and administrative support of the LSE's European Institute and the LSE PhD Academy. If you want to find out more about the Institute's engagement with going 'beyond Eurocentrism', have a look at the programme website here.

List of participants

Workshop I: European Imaginaries of a Liberal Home Under Threat

Political Theory 1: Fascism and the Inner Contradictions of Liberalism		
Jan Kwasniak	European University Institute	A Genealogy of Populism: Why the Right Is Ascendant in the 21st Century
Rokas Garliauskas	Lithuanian Culture Research Institute	The Dialectic of Fear and Resistance: Ideological Polarization in Lithuania and Post-Soviet Europe
Dimitrije Matić	Institute for Recent History of Serbia	The Far Right and the Politics of Memory: Reinterpreting WWII in 21st-Century Serbia
Gender and masculinity in the European far right		
Jon Borland	King's College London	Flamboyant and Feared: A Reflection on UK Media Imaginings of Queer People and Asylum Seekers in the Wake of the 2014 Home Office Queer Asylum Scandal
Roman Olshevskiy	Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz	Transnational Making of a "Western Man": Ethnographic Insights from an American-European Masculinity Camp
Miruna Chirila	European University Institute	How does it feel to be the threat? Interviewing genderqueer people in Romania
The European Union, technocratic liberalism and universal values talk		
Alex Yates	University of Bath	The Anti-Populist Articulation of 'European Values': A Corpus-Assisted Discourse Analysis
Ana Taranu	University of Warwick, Babeş-Bolyai University	(Un)Reasonable Bedfellows. Technocratic Centrism, Austerity, and the Ascent of the Romanian Far-Right
Lea Schnakenberg	University of Southampton	Human rights in the EU's external policy
Postcoloniality and the politics of liberal resentment		
Adeela Zaka	Tu Dortmund University	The Brown Condition: South Asian Life and the Postcolonial Contradictions of Liberal Europe
Louise Dupont	European University Institute	"I Am Not Responsible for the Past": Whiteness and the Politics of Teaching Colonial History in Francophone Belgium
María Ruigómez Eraso	University of Cambridge	Free to repatriate? Museums in the contemporary political landscape

Workshop II: Local and global entanglements of the fascist turn

Political theory II: Fascist spectres and hauntings in liberal		
Kian Aspinall	University of Cambridge	Fascism, Racial Capitalism and the Crises of Europe: Reconsidering Fascism through Black Radical Histories
Kye Allen	University of Oxford	Weird Fiction, White Supremacy, and the Dissident Right: The Reception and Utilisation of H.P. Lovecraft within the Extreme Right
Turi Robert Mendoza	CUNY Graduate Center	Ghosts of the Future: On Spectral Fascism, Hauntology and The Work of Guillermo Del Toro By Turi Robert Mendoza
David Lewis Thomas	University of Sussex	You Don't Belong: Stiegler's Mnemotechnics and Autochthonic Myth-Making
Technology and technofascism		
Ana Cláudia Ferreira Barbosa	Universidade do Porto	Deepfakes as Fascist Infrastructure: Gender Violence, Networked Right-Wing Politics, and the Predatory Political Economy of Synthetic Media
Nanna Lilletvedt Sæten	University of Cambridge	The promise of technology: how the broad takeup of Silicon Valley ideas fuels the far right
Luca Cocco	Humboldt University	Apocalypticism and techno-fascism: politics in the "end of times"
Political ethnographies of memory, nostalgia, and affect		
Amir Massoumian	SOAS University	The Pub as Anchor: Memory, Melancholia, and Far-Right Affect in London
Zachary del Rosso	CUNY Graduate Center	Global Lessons on Putting America First: Transnational Far-Right Networks and Diffusion in New York City
Lorena Drakula	Freie Universitaet Berlin	A Liberal Home Under Threat – Discourse, Materiality, and the Reproduction of Liberal Order in Croatia and Serbia
Gaza, resistance, and repression		
Mohamed Salhi	Independent	The Gaza Moment and the Mainstreaming of the Far Right
Asfa Shakeel	London School of Economics and Political Science	Natives v immigrants: identity and the politics of media reception
Iman Dawood	London School of Economics and Political Science	Forging 'Unity' in Times of Peril: British Muslim Activism in the Era of Far-Right Politics



THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE ■

130 EST 1895
years

European Institute

The London School of Economics
and Political Science
Houghton Street
London WC2A 2AE

Email: ei@lse.ac.uk

Telephone: +44 (0) 20 7955 0000

lse.ac.uk/ei

The London School of Economics and Political Science is a School of the University of London. It is a charity and is incorporated in England as a company limited by guarantee under the Companies Acts (Reg no 70527).

The School seeks to ensure that people are treated equitably, regardless of age, disability, race, nationality, ethnic or national origin, gender, religion, sexual orientation or personal circumstances.