

Mind the gap - the crisis of representation. The broken links between voters and political elites.

Date:

21.11.2019

Venue:

Konrad Adenauer Stiftung

ul. Dąbrowskiego 56
Warsaw

Organizers:

Institute of Political Science, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in
Warsaw

Konrad Adenauer Foundation in Poland

Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights in Warsaw
Collegium Interethnicum Foundation

Political representation, as the link between political elites and citizens, is one of the core elements of liberal democracy. In recent years, the relationship and interaction between both sides appear to be worsening - and with these developments, there seems to be a strong challenge to the model of representative democracy. This challenge is mounted from the inside, mainly by (new) populist parties and institutional reforms, or by outside factors which include different models of democratic rule, loss of sovereignty to supranational organizations, technocratic rule or even aspects of autocratic regimes. Are we witnessing the beginning of far-reaching reform processes which might lead to new democratic models succeeding dominating model of representative democracy? Is this just a shake-up of existing structures which need time to adapt to societal and global changes? Or, will there be a severe crisis of democracy proofing finally that there was indeed no “end of history”?



15.00-15.15 Opening

Piotr Womela, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung office in Poland

Ajla van Heel, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR)

15.15- 17.15 Abandoned citizens, detached political parties? Central European Perspective

Moderator: Katarzyna Grzybowska - Walecka (UKSW)

Lenka Bustikowa (University of Arizon/ Czech Academy of Science)

Balsa Lubarda (Central European University)

Artur Wołek (Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow)

17.15 – 17.45 Coffee break

17.45- 19.30 Apathy, engagement and participation?

Moderator: Kinga Wojtas (UKSW)

Agnieszka Kwiatkowska (University SWPS)

Kazimierz Ujazdowski (Member of Senate, Civic Coalition)

Sebastian Gajewski (University of Warsaw, Daszyński Centre)

19.30 Buffet dinner