

European & Eurasian Studies Program

Brown Bag Series

Is It Time for Revival?

Factors Facilitating the Success of Far-Right Populism

Thursday, Feb 19 @ 12:30 PM

SIPA II Conference Room 501

Steven J. Green School of International & Public Affairs
Florida International University
11200 SW 8 St, Miami, FL 33199

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Right-wing populist parties continue to see gains across the member states of the European Union. In Bulgaria, Revival has managed to become the third largest party in the National Assembly. Revival is not the first populist radical right party in the country but is perhaps the most successful of this family in parliamentary elections. The present study seeks to establish if time or messaging is key to populist parties' electoral success. Using Bulgaria's Revival as a case study presents a fruitful avenue of research due to ongoing domestic and international events. Since April of 2021, Revival has continuously seen success in the context of a significant decrease in electoral participation and intensifying public protests against political corruption. Revival's rise also comes during a tumultuous period in international relations and populist parties across Europe gaining votes and securing alliances with like-minded partners. An analysis of these temporal factors and the alternative, programmatic stances of Revival explains the party's electoral performance and cast light on the reasons for the electoral gains of contemporary far-right populism.

GUEST SPEAKER

Ryan Coleman is a Political Science PhD candidate at Florida International University. His research focuses on elections, political parties, populism, political identity, and the politics of Central and Eastern Europe.