

European & Eurasian Studies Program

Democratic Backsliding in Russia

Ramifications for Europe

Thursday, March 5 @ 2 PM

Graham Center, Room GC 355
Florida International University
11200 SW 8 St, Miami, FL 33199



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Russia's political regime has not only reversed the democratic gains of the 1990s but has also extended its reach beyond its borders to undermine the security and democratic integrity of European states. By supporting illiberal, Euroskeptic political actors and networks and by leveraging corruption in its dealings with foreign public officials, the Kremlin exports key features of its own state-capture model as a strategy for expanding geopolitical influence. This phenomenon exploits existing weaknesses in oversight and the rule of law, thereby weakening the democratic "immune system" of the region. Experts on democratic backsliding in Europe and on Russia's aggressive efforts to discredit Western democratic norms will discuss the forms, mechanisms and scale of Moscow's impact across the region.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Ambassador Kurt Volker
Center for European Policy Analysis

Dr. Lenka Bustikova
University of Florida

Mr. Ruslan Stefanov
Center for the Study of Democracy, Sofia

MODERATOR

Dr. Tatiana Kostadinova
Professor, Department of Politics & International Relations
Director, European & Eurasian Studies Program