



**Universität Stuttgart**

Institut für Sozialwissenschaften

Abteilung SOWI II Prof. Dr. André Bächtiger

Abteilung SOWI I Prof. Dr. Patrick Bernhagen

# Is there a crisis of democracy?

*The current public debate about democracy assumes that liberal democracy in Europe is in crisis. The rise of populism from the right and from the left, the imposition of austerity on southern European countries by the Troika, Brexit and the illiberal measures taken by governments in Hungary and Poland are interpreted by pundits – academics as well as public intellectuals – as so many signs of a crisis of democracy.*

*The current situation reminds of the late 1960s and early 1970s, when preoccupied observers identified 'a breakdown in consensus', 'a political and economic decline' and 'a crisis of democracy'. A large research project that was triggered by these preoccupations with democratic crisis confirmed the authors' 'normality thesis'. The current crisis talk is discussed in the light of some empirical evidence that suggests that now as then, the crisis talk is largely exaggerated.*

**Donnerstag, 21. Juni 2018,  
14:00 – 15:30 Uhr, Breitscheidstraße 2a,  
(Hörsaalprovisorium), Raum M 2.00**

**Alle sind herzlich eingeladen!**

**Prof. Dr.  
Hanspeter  
Kriesi**

**European University  
Institute, Italy**

