Narendra Modi: A Populist in Power

The lecture attempts to apply a theoretical framework on populist rule to the case of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Using the "populist-rule diamond" by Takis S. Pappas, the presentation is going to argue that Modi can be described as a populist leader. In a second step, the possible consequences of Modi's continued populist rule on India and its democracy will be assessed. Here, the lecture will be leaning on Pappas' "populism pathways" scheme which has been developed around case studies of populists who have been in power for at least two consecutive terms. Following his triumph in the 2019 general election, Modi will probably complete at least two terms in power. Hence the theoretical model can offer a reasonable glimpse into the future for India and for the state of democracy in New Delhi.

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The lecture is presented by India and South Asia Studies / CISCA together with the Global Studies Department. Everybody is welcome.