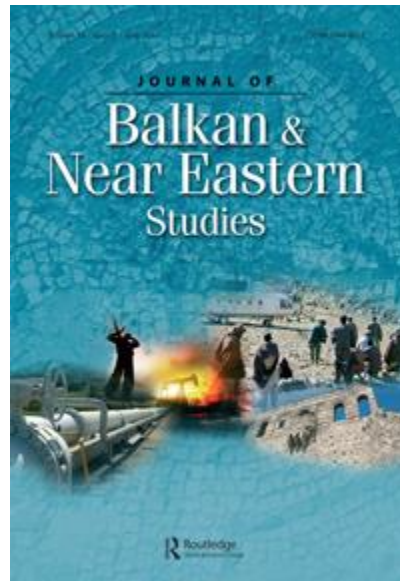


## REDETE Network - European & Global Partnerships



### Celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the **JOURNAL OF BALKAN AND NEAR EASTERN STUDIES (JBNES)**

Routledge-Taylor & Francis  
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Banja Luka, BiH, Saturday 14 April 2018

Conference theme:

### **EUROPE AND THE BALKANS: OLD AND NEW FORMS OF AUTHORITARIAN RULE**

Soon after the collapse of "really existing socialism", mainstream pundits, politicians and intellectuals have rushed to draft plans for the transition to political freedom and free market capitalism, whereas castigating the past experience of authoritarian Communism (for the East) and Keynesian, demand-led social economies (for the West). In this system of thought, authoritarianism comes to be replaced by liberal democracy and global markets, signalling the end of history and the advent of consumer paradise.

How accurate is this view? How can this be measured against the recent experience of the Euro-zone crisis and the authoritarian way in which key

executives of the West have dealt with it? In this context, what are the connections between authoritarianism and free market discipline? What are the origins and causes of the new xenophobic, right-wing parties and movements across Europe? With Turkey and many European countries under a state of emergency, what are the prospects for democracy in Europe and the Balkans? This Conference is set to look at the past and present set of economic, political and ideational circumstances defining the realities of the region in order to provide a critique of new authoritarianism from above that is often connected with cultivating racist and xenophobic movements from below. Thus, important lessons for the future will be drawn informing policy-makers and civil society, launching a new democratic dialogue between them.

**Speakers and participants include:**

**Jovo Ateljevic (Banja Luka), Dejan Djokic (Goldsmiths, tbc), Constantine Dimoulas (Panteion, tbc), Jasna Dragovic-Soso (Goldsmiths), Dejan Jovic (Zagreb and *Croatian Political Science Review*), Vassilis K. Fouskas (UEL), Bülent Gökay (Keele), Alexander Kazamias (Coventry, tbc), Radmila Nakarada (Belgrade, tbc), Slobodan Samardzic (Belgrade, tbc), Mustafa Türkeş (METU, tbc).**

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