The European Far-Right: From Neo-Fascism to Populism and Illiberal Democracy

with

Jean-Yves Camus

After the end of the Second World War, Neo-Fascist political parties existed on the fringe of the political system and some of them made their way into Parliament. However, Fascism and National-Socialism were so widely rejected that they became useless political weapons. Starting in the 1980s, a new Extreme-Right party family came to the fore, with the goal of attaining power, not commemorating the past. The most successful national-populist parties in Western Europe have shifted their agenda from plain racism to ethno-differentialism and from supporting the Party-State to claiming the "rights of the people". But how much has the Extreme-Right really changed and does it genuinely fit into the frame of parliamentary democracy? And does the future of the European Extreme-Right lie with the likes of Front national, AfD, Lega nord and FPÖ, or with the model of illiberal democracy that is now into power in part of Central Europe?

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