

The White House Embattled: The U.S. Election 2024

Lecture Series of the North American Studies Program |
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Can It Happen Here? How the Republicans Threaten U.S. Democracy

Tuesday | 11 June 2024 | 6:00-8:00 pm
bpb:medienzentrum | Bundeskanzlerplatz 2e | 53113 Bonn

Dr. Philipp Adorf | University of Bonn

Descriptions of political opponents as “vermin” and migrants engaged in “poisoning the blood of our country” illustrate the extent to which Donald Trump’s rhetoric has further radicalized since he left the Oval Office. While the threat posed by the former – and potentially future – president attracts most attention, the role of the Republicans in damaging US democracy is far more extensive and runs deeper. Today’s Republican Party can be described, Dr. Adorf argues, as a populist, profoundly illiberal and white nationalist movement whose reluctance to abide by democratic norms and conventions predates the Trump era and will affect the United States long term.

Dr. Philipp Adorf is a Research Assistant at the Institute of Political Science and Sociology at Bonn University. His research has focused on the Republican Party as well as right-wing populism on both sides of the Atlantic. The updated edition of his book *Die Republikanische Partei in den USA* will be published this summer.

