



THE END OF LIBERAL MODERNITY?

Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory: University of Belgrade, East China Normal University, Center for Advanced Studies Southeast Europe: University of Rijeka, Faculty of Arts: University of Ljubljana

Programme

Monday 6 July – Friday 10 July 2026

Working principle: presentations are limited to 15 minutes.
Standard paper slots allow a further 10 minutes for discussion.

Programme framework

- Working mornings run from 08:30 to approximately 14:00, with two breaks.
- Monday 08:30–09:00 is reserved for orientation, agreements on working intensity, and discussion of possible IUC-supported excursions.
- Wednesday morning includes two optional 30-minute lectures by Professors Shijun Tong and Zdravko Kobe.
- Friday 12:00–14:00 is dedicated to conclusions, planning for the 2027 summer school, and publication decisions.



Monday, 6 July

Opening: What does it mean for liberal modernity to end?

TIME	SESSION
08:30–09:00	Welcome and orientation — Petar Bojanić, Shijung Tong, Sanja Bojanić, Zdravko Kobe Familiarisation with the programme; agreement on working intensity; discussion of possible excursions with IUC colleagues.
09:00–09:25	Sara Dragišić — <i>After liberal modernity? Political rationality, anthropology and historical action</i>
09:25–09:50	David F. L. Gomes — <i>What ends when the end comes?</i>
09:50–10:15	Vukan Marković — <i>The Eternal Present of Neoliberal Modernity: Neoliberal or Postliberal Temporalities as a Symptom of Presentist Regime of Historicity</i>
10:15–10:45	Break —
10:45–11:10	Corinna Mieth — <i>Liberalism and Utopia</i>
11:10–11:35	Vanja Grujić — <i>Critique at the Limits of Liberal Modernity</i>
11:35–12:15	Plenary discussion — Endings, unfinished projects, historical time, and the fate of critique.
12:15–12:45	Break —
12:45–13:30	Assignment of the working groups — Map the week's key concepts and common theoretical problems.
13:30–14:00	Reports and practical planning — Group reports; confirmation of excursion possibilities and practical arrangements.



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Tuesday, 7 July

Justice, equality, and political liberalism

TIME	SESSION
08:30–08:45	Morning recap — Framing the day’s discussion of justice, equality, and political liberalism.
08:45–09:10	Chunshou Hui — <i>Beyond Equality: The Difference Principle and its Interest of Emancipation</i>
09:10–09:35	Yang Li — <i>Rethinking Marxist Theory of Justice in Light of Rawlsian Legacy</i>
09:35–10:00	Feng Xu — <i>Luck Egalitarianism and Problems of Respect</i>
10:00–10:15	Short collective response — Initial connections and questions across the first three papers.
10:15–10:45	Break —
10:45–11:10	Qi Ying — <i>Virtue Politics and Egalitarian Politics from the Perspectives of the Rechtsstaat and the Sozialstaat</i>
11:10–11:35	Tu Zhang — <i>The Morality of Avoidance (in Politics): A Defense for Political Liberalism</i>
11:35–12:15	Roundtable — Rawls after liberal modernity: justice, respect, virtue, and avoidance.
12:15–12:45	Break —
12:45–13:30	Small-group seminar — Marxism, egalitarianism, and the limits of liberal justification.
13:30–14:00	Plenary synthesis — Shared questions and preparation for Wednesday’s focus on collective learning and socialism.



Wednesday, 8 July

Socialism, China, labour, and collective learning

TIME	SESSION
08:30–08:45	Morning recap — Opening remarks and linkage with Tuesday’s discussions.
08:45–09:00	Petar Bojanić — <i>Project</i>
09:00–09:15	Shijun Tong — <i>Modernity as an Unfinished Project of Collective Learning: The Chinese Case of Balancing Efficiency and Fairness in Distribution</i>
09:15–09:30	Sanja Bojanić — <i>Fragmentation of Labour</i>
09:30–09:45	Zdravko Kobe — <i>Have we ever been liberal?</i>
09:45–10:15	Discussion — Collective learning, modernity, and the relationship between efficiency and fairness.
10:15–10:45	Break —
10:45–11:10	Yuguang Zhou — <i>Mutual Mirroring: How China and Yugoslavia Learned from Each Other’s Socialist Revolution and Construction</i>
11:10–11:35	Tingting Niu — <i>Rewriting Labor: Historical and Contemporary Transformations in China</i>
11:35–12:00	Zhiyuan Cui — <i>Proudhon: The Forerunner of Post-Fordism and his Theory of International Relations</i>
12:00–12:30	Break —
12:30–12:55	Hugo Lev Šuklje — <i>Post-progressive-neoliberalism</i>
12:55–13:35	Plenary discussion — Collective learning, labour, socialism, post-Fordism, and emancipatory theory.
13:35–14:00	Excursion preparation / informal continuation —

Note: The optional afternoon excursion remains subject to confirmation with IUC colleagues on Monday.



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Thursday, 9 July

Illiberalism, exit, democracy, and public reason

TIME	SESSION
08:30–08:45	Morning recap — Framing the day’s discussion of post-liberalism, democracy, and public reason.
08:45–09:10	Naja Terzin — <i>The Rejection of Liberalism by the Third New Right Movement</i>
09:10–09:35	Martin Hergouth — <i>Transcendental Liberalism as Social Ontology of Exit</i>
09:35–10:00	Sašo Furlan — <i>A Coup from Within: Liberal Democracy, Bonapartism, and the Capitalist State</i>
10:00–10:15	Short collective response — Points of convergence and disagreement across the morning papers.
10:15–10:45	Break —
10:45–11:10	Yiyang Shi — <i>From Monologue to Dialogue: Reasons and Consensus in Habermas’s Discourse Ethics</i>
11:10–11:45	Roundtable — Is “post-liberalism” a diagnosis, a political programme, or a conceptual trap?
11:45–12:15	Break —
12:15–13:00	Working groups — Formulate three to five central theses emerging from the week.
13:00–13:45	Publication workshop — Book proposal, edited volume, or thematic section of texts in an international journal.
13:45–14:00	Short reports — Preparation for Friday’s collective decisions.



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Friday, 10 July

Synthesis, future plans, and publication

TIME	SESSION
08:30–09:15	Synthesis workshop — “The end of liberal modernity”?
09:15–09:45	Working group A — Shared conceptual framework and possible theme for the 2027 summer school.
09:45–10:15	Break —
10:15–10:45	Working group B — Publication format, editorial structure, and possible contributors.
10:45–11:15	Reports from working groups — Presentation of proposals for programme and publication plans.
11:15–11:30	Break —
11:30–12:00	Drafting the decision list — Responsibilities, next steps, and deadlines.
12:00–14:00	Final session — Conclusions of the summer school; plans for the 2027 summer school; decision on a book proposal and/or a thematic section in an international journal; allocation of editorial and organisational tasks.

Discussion participants and auditors are warmly invited to join all plenary and working-group sessions.