

Orbán's Hungary: Democracy, Dictatorship, or Something Else?

Jason Wittenberg
University of California, Berkeley

Thursday, October 4, 2018
2:30 pm – 4:00 pm
Mackintosh-Corry Hall, Room D216



About the Speaker: Jason Wittenberg received his PhD from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and is Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of California, Berkeley. A former Academy Scholar at Harvard University, he has been a visiting scholar at the Helen Kellogg Institute at the University of Notre Dame, a Fulbright scholar at the Central European University in Budapest, and a visiting professor at the University of Tokyo. Professor Wittenberg has published widely on topics, including electoral behavior, ethnic and religious violence, historical legacies, and empirical research methods. His first book, *Crucibles of Political Loyalty: Church Institutions and Electoral Continuity in Hungary* (Cambridge, 2006), won the 2009 Hubert Morken award for the best political science book published on religion and politics. He is the co-author, most recently, of *Intimate Violence: Anti-Jewish Pogroms on the Eve of the Holocaust* (Cornell, 2018).

About the Lecture: Eight years into the Fidesz party's transformation of the liberal state in Hungary, the European Union has initiated the process of declaring Hungary in breach of European values. How did Hungary go from front-runner of East European liberal democratic consolidation to being a leader of the "resistance" to liberal Europe? Can Hungary still be considered a democracy? This talk considers these questions and why they are important beyond Hungary.

