

# The Ethics of Citizenship in the 21st Century

Friday May 30th & Saturday May 31st, 2014

Institute for Culture and Society (Aula 30, 2nd Floor Edificio Central), Religion & Civil Society Project  
Universidad de Navarra – Pamplona (Spain)

Conference Coordinator: David Thunder (dthunder@unav.es)



With the advent of an increasingly fragmented and globalized world, in which the traditional locus of citizenship, the state, seems to be increasingly undermined by global economic actors from without, and by moral, religious, and political tensions from within, the future of citizenship as the proverbial “glue” of society seems increasingly uncertain. This conference convenes a prestigious group of international scholars to investigate the meaning and value of citizenship in today’s world, with a view to conceptualizing ideals of civic character suitable for contemporary social conditions. Questions to be explored include:

- ◆ What are the virtues that define the good citizen?
- ◆ Should the central paradigm of citizenship remain state-based, or should we adopt a more pluralistic and/or cosmopolitan approach?
- ◆ What role should religion play in the definition of citizenship?
- ◆ Is it possible to conceive an ideal of citizenship that is culturally, ethically, and religiously inclusive, yet also “thick” enough to capture our imaginations and loyalty?

## FRIDAY 30TH MAY

- 9:30 Conference Registration
- 10:00 Introductory Remarks - David Thunder
- 10:15 “What is it Like to Be a Good Citizen?”  
- Simon Keller (Victoria University of Wellington)
- 11:45 Coffee Break
- 12:15 “The Affective Dimension of Citizenship in a Changing World”  
- Emma Cohen de Lara (Amsterdam University College, University of Amsterdam)
- 13:45 Lunch Break
- 15:45 “Autonomy and the Attitude of Toleration”  
- Ryan Davis (Harvard University)
- 17:15 Coffee Break
- 17:30 “Varieties of Citizenship and the Moral Foundations of Politics”  
- Bill English (Harvard University)
- 18:55 Conference Sessions Conclude

## SATURDAY 31ST MAY

- 10:00 “Conscientious Citizenship: A Philosophical Examination of Conscience Claims in the Public Sphere”  
- Angela Miceli (University of Navarra, ICS)
- 11:30 Coffee Break
- 12:00 “From Social Practices to Reflective Agency: A Postsecular Ethics of Citizenship?”  
- Paolo Monti (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore)
- 13:30 Lunch Break
- 15:30 “The Creative Dimension of Citizenship and Its Neglect in Law-Based Paradigms of Justice”  
- David Thunder (University of Navarra, ICS)
- 17:00 Conference Sessions Conclude



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## PRINCIPAL SPEAKERS



**Dr Angela C Miceli** is a Research Fellow at the University of Navarra's Institute for Culture and Society (Religion and Civil Society Project) in Pamplona, Spain. Previously, she served at the University of Notre Dame as visiting research fellow at the Maritain Center, and as the Inaugural Edith Stein Fellow at the Center for Ethics and Culture. In 2013, she received her Ph.D. in political theory from Louisiana State University. Her research interests include theories of religious freedom, freedom of conscience and its impact on political society, and ethical discourse in public life. Her recent publications have appeared in *Perspectives on Political Science* and *Public Discourse*.



**Dr David Thunder** is a Research Fellow at the University of Navarra's Institute for Culture and Society (Religion and Civil Society Project) in Pamplona, Spain. Previously, he served as Postdoctoral Fellow at Princeton University's James Madison Program and as Visiting Assistant Professor at Villanova University. He earned his BA and MA in philosophy at University College Dublin, and his Ph.D. in political science at the University of Notre Dame. Dr Thunder's research investigates the lived experience of persons who seek to live meaningful and worthy lives in community with others. His work has appeared in prominent venues such as the *American Journal of Political Science* and *Political Theory*. His forthcoming book, *Citizenship and the Pursuit of the Worthy Life* (Cambridge University Press, 2014), argues against liberal and realpolitik attempts to isolate politics from fundamental ethical values and begins to develop a model of civic engagement that is more hospitable to citizens' ethical aspirations.



**Dr Simon Keller** is Professor of Philosophy at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. His work is focused on the ethics of special relationships and loyalty, but he has also published on questions about the nature of well-being, time-travel, love, distributive justice, Plato's philosophy of language, and disagreement about climate change. He is the author of *The Limits of Loyalty* (Cambridge University Press, 2007), which won the American Philosophical Association Book Prize in 2009. His most recent book, *Partiality*, was published by Princeton University Press in 2013. He has previously worked at Boston University and the University of Melbourne, and has held visiting positions at Harvard University and Rice University.



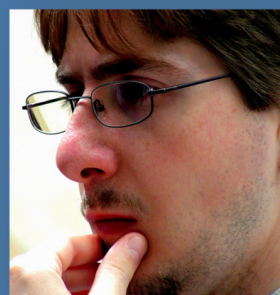
**Dr Bill English** is a political theorist with scholarly interests in ethics, education, political economy, and the biological foundations of human behavior. He is currently a research fellow with the Harvard Initiative for Learning and Teaching, where his work examines the promise and limits of new educational technologies, the value of humanistic, residential, and extra-curricular learning, and questions about civic education and the public role of universities. Bill also serves as a research director for the Edmond J Safra Center for Ethics at Harvard University, and he continues to pursue empirical and normative investigations of "institutional corruption" with the Center. Bill received his Ph.D. in Political Science from Duke University, and taught at Brown University as a post-doctoral research associate with the Political Theory Project. His research has appeared in prominent venues such as the *American Political Science Review* and the *Journal of Theoretical Politics*.



**Dr Ryan Davis** is a graduate fellow at the Edmund J. Safra Center for Ethics at Harvard University. He received a PhD from Princeton University's Program in Political Philosophy. He is centrally interested in the normative importance of respect for persons, which his work considers from a broadly Kantian point of view. He has written about topics such as the ethics of democratic participation, international justice, political liberalism, and the grounds of the value of autonomy. Previous work has appeared (or will appear) in journals such as *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice*, *Political Studies*, *The Journal of Value Inquiry*, *Religious Studies*, and the *Intercultural Human Rights Law Review*.



**Dr Emma Cohen de Lara** holds a PhD in political science from the University of Notre Dame, where she was a Fulbright scholar, and masters degrees from Leiden University and the London School of Economics. Emma is currently a lecturer in political theory at Amsterdam University College, which is the honors college of the University of Amsterdam. Before coming to AUC, she was assistant professor at the University of Vermont and at VU University, Amsterdam. Emma's research focuses principally on citizenship, liberal education, and the history of political thought. She has recently published (in Dutch) on the Dutch citizenship exam and on Tocqueville, civil society and citizenship.



**Dr Paolo Monti** is Lecturer at Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milan. He earned his Ph.D. in Philosophy in 2005 at the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore with a focus on issues of normative ethics and public ethics in contemporary American philosophy. He served as visiting researcher at Notre Dame University in 2004 and 2006, in the Department of Bioethics of the NIH in 2009, and at Georgetown University in 2011. He worked from 2007 to 2010 at the Center for Clinical Bioethics and Healthcare Governance at Fondazione IRCCS Ospedale Maggiore Policlinico, a public research hospital based in Milan, on projects concerning public deliberation in healthcare, informed consent and patients' empowerment. From 2011 to 2013 he served as research fellow at ASSET – Studium Generale Marcianum, Venice. His research focuses on the intersection of ethics and public life, with a special focus on the nature of public reason in pluralistic societies.