



Four Crises Of Democracy: Representation, Mastery, Discipline, Anticipation

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SYNOPSIS • Around the world, there is concern about the performance of democratic institutions. There have been similar "crises of democracy" in the past.

But not all crises are alike. This is illustrated by American experience. Over the twentieth century, the United States suffered three distinct "crises of democracy" -- one concerned with representation within a supposedly democratic system, one with mastery of social and economic forces, and one with discipline of the state itself. Today, many Americans are debating about which of these three crises they currently confront. But the present American crisis may be a new type: a crisis of anticipation, concerned with large problems whose effects will not be fully realized for decades. Like its predecessors, this fourth crisis will generate significant changes in American political institutions and culture. Such crises show that governing institutions are more adaptable than scholarship has suggested. The paper can be downloaded from <http://www.aroberts.us>

SPEAKER • **Alasdair Roberts** is the Jerome L. Rappaport Professor of Law and Public Policy at Suffolk University Law School. He is a Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration and a public member of the Administrative Conference of the United States. His books include *The Logic of Discipline: Global Capitalism and the Architecture of Government* (Oxford University Press) and *America's First Great Depression: Economic Crisis and Political Disorder After the Panic of 1837* (Cornell University Press). He is also co-editor of the journal *Governance*.

CHAIR • Dr Rahul Sagar,
Associate Professor,
Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy

WHEN • Monday, 9 March 2015,
12:15pm-1:30pm

WHERE • Seminar Room 3-5,
Manasseh Meyer Building,
Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy

469E Bukit Timah Road,
Singapore 259774

View on Google Maps:
<http://lkyspp.nus.edu.sg/mm-3-5>

RSVP • Admission is free. Please register at lkyschoolevents@nus.edu.sg

This is a brown-bag session and you are most welcome to bring your own packed lunch.