

Let's Talk: The Changing Role of Government Institutions - The Implications for American Democracy



A contentious debate for America: what kind of government and institutions do we want? Long supported policies implemented for the safety and protection of the public are being rolled back across every government institution from HUD, EPA, Wall Street, State Department, Department of Education, and more. Even the Supreme Court is being affected by public opinion and corporations are involved in shaping public policy. Our two experts will help clarify the causes, issues, how they intersect and impact America and our democracy.



Alexander Hertel-Fernandez is an assistant professor of public affairs at Columbia University. His work focuses on the intersection of organized interests, especially business, labor, and wealthy donors, and public policy. His first book, "Politics at Work: How Companies Turn their Workers into Lobbyists" (2018, Oxford University Press), examines how businesses are increasingly recruiting their workers into politics to change elections and public policy. His next book, "State Capture: How Conservative

Activists, Big Businesses, and Wealthy Donors Reshaped the American States – and the Nation" (Oxford University Press), examines cross-state networks of private-sector companies, donors, and activists who have pushed for right-leaning legislation across the states and how the political left has responded.



Michael Unger is Associate Professor of Political Science at Ramapo College of New Jersey. He holds Ph. D. and M.A. degrees from University of Texas at Austin as well as a B.A. from Binghamton University (S.U.N.Y.). Professor Unger's research interests include the US Supreme Court and public opinion, judicial elections, judicial legitimacy, and the role of the U.S. Supreme Court in elections. He teaches courses in American politics and public law

including the U.S. Supreme Court, Civil Rights, and the American Presidency. Professor Unger has published articles and book reviews in many leading journals and presented at major conferences.

Thursday, May 17
7:30 pm to 9:30 pm
Doors open at 7 pm

Fairleigh Dickinson University
Dickinson Hall
Wilson Auditorium
140 University Plaza Drive
Hackensack, NJ 07601

Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased online or at the door.
Students with student ID free

Purchase tickets in advance at
www.nfrpp.org

Thanks to our co-sponsors:

**League of Women Voters
of Northern Valley**

**League of Women Voters
of Fair Lawn, NJ**