



# Rethinking and building democracy in a changing international order



**05.Sep 2025**

**Cod. G24-25**

**Mod.:**

Face-to-face

**Edition**

2025

**Activity type**

Summer course

**Date**

05.Sep 2025

**Location**

Miramar Palace

**Languages**

Basque Spanish

**Academic Validity**

10 hours

**Organising Committee**



## Description

The main goal of the course is to reflect on the transformative crisis that democracy is undergoing and which is affecting the quality and functioning of democratic systems and public administrations in different parts of the world. This crisis is apparent in different ways: civic apathy, where many people feel disengaged from politics, which leads to low voter turnout, greater scepticism regarding politicians and a growing apathy about the democratic process; the rise of populism, which has emerged in response to the lack of trust in the political elite, with movements that promise to respect the citizens, but they often simplify complex problems and can undermine democratic norms by fostering controversial and divisive narratives; the ever-greater economic inequality, where the gap between rich and poor has led to a sense of injustice and marginalisation, fuelling discontent and the search for Techno-Populist political alternatives; the erosion of the institutions, where the democratic institutions in some countries are being weakened by authoritarian leaders who are seeking to concentrate power, which includes attacking freedom of press, judicial independence and civil society, threatening the balance of power; and misinformation and misleading, where the proliferation of fake news and the manipulating of information through social media hinder the ability of the citizens to make informed decisions, which can lead to polarisation and radicalisation of opinions.

This course will consider the factors leading to the transformation of democracy around the world and we will seek to explain what is happening in the democracies around us. We will delve further into the current state of the political debate about the transformation of democracy and its consequences; we will examine the fundamental challenges for upholding and consolidating democracy, both from the point of view of public policies and the grassroots political culture.

## Objectives

Delve into the factors behind the transformation of democracy around the world and explain the social, economic and political context of the democracies around us, noted for the institutional crisis, mediation crises, disaffection, polarization and the emergence of populism.

Reflect on the current state of debate regarding the transformation of democracy and its consequences on public opinion, by analysing the role of the traditional media, social media, the political players and the citizens in the societies around us, and most particularly in Basque society.

Examine the fundamental challenges facing the societies around us and, in particular, Basque society, to uphold and consolidate democracy, both from the perspective of public policies and from grassroots political culture.

## Organised by



## Directed by



### **Yosu Arraiz Aramburu**

Gipuzkoako Foru Aldundia

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- Position: General Manager of Strategy (2025-present). Studies: Graduate in Civil Engineering (UPV/EHU); Master's Degree in Civil Engineering (University of Cantabria); Expert Course in Urban Innovation (MU). - Professional and political career: Director General of Innovation in Administration, Provincial Council of Gipuzkoa (2023-2025); Councillor responsible for Urban Planning, Works and Services, Elgoibar (2015-2023). President of the Community of Municipalities of Debarrena (2019-2023). Vice-President of Gipuzkoako Hondakinen Kontsortzioa (2019-2023).

# Registration fees

FACE-TO-FACE	UNTIL 05-09-2025
<a href="#">Free registration</a>	0 EUR

## **Place**

### **Miramar Palace**

Pº de Miraconcha nº 48. Donostia / San Sebastián

Gipuzkoa