



GERMAN ELECTIONS 2021

PAINT IT BLACK, GREEN DAY OR RED TRIUMPH?

14 SEPTEMBER 2021

12.30 pm - 2 pm (Melbourne time)

**Online
Free Event**

The European Union Centre of Excellence at RMIT University and the European Studies Association Australia and New Zealand (ESAANZ) invite you to this presentation and discussion on the upcoming German federal election.

Germans will elect a new government and a new chancellor on 26 September 2021. This is the first election since 1949 in which the incumbent chancellor is not seeking re-election.

SPEAKERS

Dr Maren Klein European Union Centre of Excellence, RMIT University

Damian Privitera RMIT University

REGISTRATION

Register [HERE](#). The online link will be sent closer to the event date. This event is free.



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BACKGROUND INFO

Voters in Germany – the EU's most populous Member State – will go to the polls on 26 September to elect a new government and a new chancellor. This is the first election since 1949 in which the incumbent chancellor is not seeking re-election.

Angela Merkel will step down at the elections. After 16 years in office, Merkel's is a hard act to follow, and so far there is no clear favourite among the three candidates vying for the office. But it is not only that there is no favourite for the office of chancellor with less than a month until the election: in this most unpredictable German federal election in decades there is no clear indication which parties will form government, either. Early trends have been reversed, but many options remain open.

The election campaign itself has been lacklustre, dominated by personalities, disasters and scandals about plagiarism, disclosures, and resumé padding. Election manifestos for the major parties have been lofty but not provided any indication how Germany will address its many looming problems such as climate change, an aging population, the challenges of digitalisation and industry transformation in the wake of the pandemic, underinvestment in infrastructure and housing to name just a few.

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Dr Maren Klein is a Research Officer in the European Union Centre of Excellence, Social and Global Studies Centre at RMIT University. Her research interests include German politics, the European Union as a global actor, governance, and transnational education.

Damian Privitera is currently studying International Studies at RMIT University. He is a former intern of the European Union Centre of Excellence. His interests include European diplomacy, international relations, climate change, renewable energy and cross-cultural engagement, with a particular focus on German politics and language.



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