**Social movements and policy outcomes: How right-wing grassroots groups influence foreign policy**

On 8 March 2019, the international workshop Social movements and policy outcomes: How right-wing grassroots groups influence foreign policy took place at the University of Manchester.

The event was organized by Dr. Sofia Tipaldou and Prof. Vera Tolz and was co-financed by artsmethods@manchester, Manchester Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence, and the British International Studies Association.

This event has brought together scholars based in the UK, the EU and the US in order to produce ground-breaking research on the under-researched topic on the influence that right-wing social movements have on foreign policy. The progressive entrenchment of right-wing groups in their national political systems has raised a number of questions about their potential implications on the nature of democracy and policy-making. However, given the centrality of an extreme form of nationalism in the ideology and programmatic agendas of these groups, their impact on foreign policy- a domain which though closely connected to the ethno-centric and even expansionist ideology of far-right social movements, remains under-theorised. This workshop aimed to broaden the scope of the existing literature on the far right that focuses on their rise and causes of success, but largely ignores their outcomes and introduces a comparative analysis between Western, Central, and Eastern European countries in order to produce a solid theoretical base for the study of this phenomenon.

The event opened with an introduction by Prof. Vera Tolz from the University of Manchester. Sofia Tipaldou (University of Manchester) gave an overview of the state of the art regarding nationalism and foreign policy. It was followed by Dessie Zagorcheva’s (Columbia University) presentation on the first case study, Bulgaria. Lenka Bustikova (Arizona State University) presented her research on Czech Republic and Slovakia and Olga Onuch (University of Manchester) on Ukraine. Michelle William (W. Florida University) joined the panel through video-conference and presented her research on Germany and Mihai Varga (Free University Berlin) followed with a presentation on Poland and Hungary. Finally, Daphne Halikiopoulou delivered the closing lecture on current developments and future challenges of right-wing populism in contemporary Europe.