

# Fringe Talk Series

With **Guy Ben-Porat** on **September 28** at **13:00** *In collaboration with the network of researchers in Sociology&Communication, Department of Letters, Philosophy, Communication (University of Bergamo)*

## Remember to be Jewish: Religious Populism in Israel



This talk will explore the relation between religion and populism in Israel. Jewish identity has been an important marker of citizenship and belonging in Israel since its inception. The complex relation between religion and populism in Israel is demonstrated by the development of two populist parties; the first one we describe as “inclusive” (Shas) and the second one as “exclusionary” (Likud). The study of the two parties, analyses the role of religious identities, tropes, and symbols in boundary-making and political strategies. In the Israeli case religion functions, both as the positive content of the political community (since the ethnos -the Jewish people - is conflated with the demos) and the demands for inclusion; and as the marker of a threat (non-Jewish citizens, asylum seekers and allegedly disloyal secular elites).

**Guy Ben-Porat** is a professor at the Department of Politics and Government at Ben-Gurion University. He is the author of *Between State and Synagogue, the Secularization of Contemporary Israel* (Cambridge University Press, 2013).

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://stavanger.zoom.us/j/68693712980?pwd=aU1nQ0JMRkI4SC9ZL1hiM2hVbmdodz09>

Meeting ID: 686 9371 2980 Password: 211104