



# Democracy in Decline?

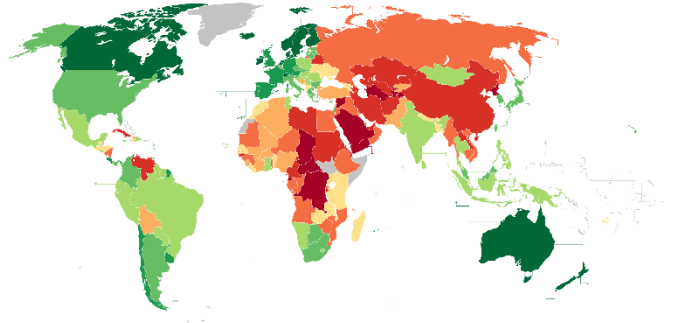
Emeritus Professor Damien Kingsbury

Wednesday 21 February 2024: 5:30pm for 6 – 7pm AEDT at Level 13, 356 Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

2024 should be democracy's biggest year ever.

Over four billion people – around half of the world's population across more than 60 countries – will go to the polls.

Yet, democracy may now be in decline. There are fewer democracies, fewer people live in democracies, and many established democracies have veered towards more authoritarian responses.



Democratic countries have also become less democratic, reflecting increasing levels of autocracy, political populism, the personalisation of political power, restrictions on free speech, and other forms of democratic "backsliding."

Will 2024 be democracy's biggest test, or is there reason for cautious optimism?

AIIA Victoria invites you to join Damien Kingsbury, author of [\*The Rise and Decline of Modern Democracy\*](#) (Routledge, 2023) to explore the challenges of the year ahead.



**Professor Damien Kingsbury** held a Personal Chair and was Professor of International Politics at Deakin University. He has coordinated several international elections observer missions, including to Timor-Leste's ballot for independence in 1999 and to elections in 2007, 2012, 2017 and May 2018, and to Myanmar in 2015. Damien has also been adviser to several armed non-state organisations, including to the Free Aceh Movement in advising on the Aceh Helsinki peace process which ended three decades of separatist war; brokered an internal conflict between three warring factions in Nagaland, north-east India, and advised on the Mindanao, Philippines peace agreement. Damien has published more than two dozen books on political and security issues.

## [BOOK ONLINE HERE](#)

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**Webinar:** Free for all AIIA members. Student Non-Members \$5. Non-Members \$10