**Media Discourses on Fake News and their Limits**A talk by Johan Farkas, Malmö University

Democracies are currently under siege, as fake news is flooding social media and post-truth sentiments roam throughout society. This dystopian narrative has come to dominate news headlines across the globe with urgent calls for radical measures. In this talk, Johan Farkas critically examines contemporary media discourses on fake news by honing in on and challenging their democratic underpinnings.

Engaging with critical political philosophy, Farkas highlights how ideas of post-truth and fake news often neglect that democracy has never been about truth, evidence and rationality alone. It is equally about the voice of the democratic people. By neglecting this cornerstone of the democratic tradition, discourses on fake news – and the solutions they contain – often reproduce and strengthen a one-sided vision of democracy, which might end up deepening existing democratic problems.

The talk builds on Farkas’ book, *Post-Truth, Fake News and Democracy: Mapping the Politics of Falsehood*, written with Jannick Schou and published by Routledge in 2019:  
<https://www.routledge.com/Post-Truth-Fake-News-and-Democracy-Mapping-the-Politics-of-Falsehood/Farkas-Schou/p/book/9780367322175>