



MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS 2024
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR HOSTING MARIE CURIE FELLOWS

HOST INSTITUTION

IFILNOVA – Nova Institute of Philosophy. NOVA FCSH

RESEARCH GROUP AND URL

EPLAB. Laboratory of Ethics and Political Philosophy. URL: <https://ifilnova.pt/en/laboratories/eplab/>

SUPERVISOR (NAME AND E-MAIL)

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SHORT CV OF THE SUPERVISOR

Andre Santos Campos (PhD University of Lisbon, 2009) works as a research fellow and invited assistant professor at the Nova University of Lisbon. His current research concentrates on issues that connect contemporary Political Theory with Jurisprudence and Intellectual History, such as sovereignty, representation, human rights, and intergenerational justice. His publications have appeared in a wide range of high-ranked journals and publishing houses. In 2019, he was the recipient of the Brian Barry Prize in Political Science, attributed by the British Academy. He is the author of *The Semi-Future Democracy* (Edinburgh University Press, 2024), *Spinoza's Revolutions in Natural Law* (Palgrave, 2012) and the editor of *Challenges to Democratic Participation* (Lexington, 2014), *Spinoza: Basic Concepts* (Imprint Academic, 2015), *Spinoza and Law* (Routledge, 2016), *Sovereignty as Value* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2021), and *Machiavelli's Discourses on Livy* (Brill, 2021).

5 SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- Campos, Andre Santos (2024). *The Semi-Future Democracy. A Liberal Theory of the Long-term View*. Edinburgh University Press.
- Campos, Andre Santos (2023). 'The Moral Entitlements of Future Persons: Expectancies and Prospective Beneficiaries', *The Journal of Ethics*, 28: 125-143.
- Campos, Andre Santos (2021). 'The Origins of Temporal Legitimacy: Normative Political Theory and Time'. In *The Oxford Handbook of Time and Politics*, ed. Klaus H. Goetz. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Campos, Andre Santos (2020). 'The British Academy Brian Barry Prize Essay: Representing the Future: The Interests of Future Persons in Representative Democracy'. *British Journal of Political Science* 51 (1): 1-15.
- Campos, Andre Santos (2018). 'Intergenerational Justice Today'. *Philosophy Compass* 13 (3): 1-12.

PROJECT TITLE AND SHORT DESCRIPTION

Present Democracy for Future Generations

Future generations will most likely outnumber us by millions to one. Of all the people who we might harm with our actions, the majority are yet to come. Contemporary democracies' power to affect the future is so high that it may impact on communities and unborn persons to the point of carrying existential risk. The challenge they face is enormous: they rely on time-sensitive criteria of legitimacy (e.g. elections) that offer strong incentives for short-term governance while also facing 'the urgency of the long-term view'. Are they up to the challenge, or is short-termism so embedded in them that favouring the long term puts them at risk? The two usual answers are inadequate: the first hints that democracy should be replaced with authoritarian eco-friendlier regimes (e.g.

'future' China); the second, which derives from intergenerational justice studies, includes future persons in current democratic procedures, generating legitimacy and accountability problems. Neither provides a valuable argument from democratic long-term governance.

This project aims to determine whether democratic decision-making favouring explicitly the far-off future is prevented by systemic short-termism or can be facilitated by conceptual and institutional tools compatible with democracy. It breaks new ground by striking a balance between conceptions of democracy that are primarily legitimate in light of their accountability towards present individuals and the need to develop normative arguments and political incentives to counter short-termism. It involves theoretical work (an original confluence of democratic theory with intergenerational studies), empirical analysis (a comparison of long-term policies between democracies that fare differently on the Democracy Index, with a particular focus on Europe), and a pragmatic component intended at informing long-term decision-making in democratic environments without losing sight of accountability issues.

SCIENTIFIC AREA WHERE THE PROJECT FITS BEST*

Social Sciences and Humanities (SOC)