In the wake of the election of Trump in the US, Brexit, and rising support for radical right and left-wing parties in Europe, it seems populism is on the rise. Yet, while much attention has been devoted to populism in American and European democracies, little is known about populism outside ‘the West’. Commentators often use the term ‘populist’ to describe anti-establishment, anti-elite rhetoric, combined with policies that seem to cater to the material interests of lower-income people or working class groups. What does populism actually mean and what are its causes? Is it on the rise? And is it a good or a bad thing? This seminar addresses these and other questions from the perspective of countries and regions of the world that have received less media coverage in the populism debate: India, Eastern Europe and the Philippines.

This Globalisation and Governance Research Network seminar hosts Distinguished Visiting Scholar Professor Ashutosh Varshney as keynote speaker.

Professor Varshney is Sol Goldman Professor of International Studies and the Social Sciences, Brown University, USA where he also directs the Center for Contemporary South Asia. His books include Battles Half Won: India’s Improbable Democracy, Ethnic Conflict and Civic Life: Hindus and Muslims in India, Democracy, Development and the Countryside: Urban-Rural Struggles in India, and India in the Era of Economic Reforms. His honors include the Guggenheim and Carnegie fellowships and the Gregory Luebbert Prize.

Prof Ashutosh Varshney, Brown University, USA

Date: TUESDAY, 11 July 2017
Time: 3:00-4:30pm
Location: Old Main Building, Room G32, UNSW Kensington
Map reference: K15
Campus map: view.

The event will be followed by drinks and nibbles at the White House.

Please RSVP by 1 July 2017 to Dr Carolien Van Ham (c.vanham@unsw.edu.au) and Dr Annie Herro (a.herro@unsw.edu.au)
Expert discussion and reflection will be provided by:

Professor Martin Krygier, UNSW

Professor Martin Krygier is the Gordon Samuels Professor of Law and Social Theory and Co-Director of the Network for Interdisciplinary Studies of Law at the University of New South Wales and Honorary Professor at RegNet. His research interests span law and social theory, legal theory, rule of law, and populism in Eastern Europe.

Adele Webb, University of Sydney

Adele Webb is PhD candidate at the University of Sydney's School of Social and Political Sciences, and a member of the Sydney Democracy Network. Working in the fields of political sociology and political theory, her doctoral research uses a historical study of democratization and the middle classes in the Philippines to challenge core assumptions in liberal democratic theory. Adele has three forthcoming publications addressing populism and the popularity of Rodrigo Duterte in the Philippines, including a chapter in the upcoming edited volume *The Duterte Reader*. She has written on Philippine politics for the ABC and The
Conversation, and been a guest presenter at the Australian Institute for International Affairs (NSW).