

## **The Mainstreaming of Extremism within the Conservative Movement**

The chapter will cover the mainstreaming of extremism within the conservative movement from the advent of the alt right in around 2015 until the present time. It will trace the role paleoconservatives like Sam Francis, Paul Gottfried and Pat Buchanan played in inspiring white nationalists in the United States, including the alt right; the alt right's goal of injecting extreme ideas into the conservative movement and the role of the Trump presidency in opening the door for the mainstreaming and normalization of extreme views and conspiracy theories such as QAnon and election fraud. The chapter will also examine the current state of the far-right wing of the conservative movement and its embrace of authoritarian leaders and conspiracists.