The National Endowment for Democracy
and
The Embassy of Canada
present
The Eighteenth Annual
SEYMOUR MARTIN LIPSET LECTURE
ON DEMOCRACY IN THE WORLD

Ronald Deibert
Director, The Citizen Lab, Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy,
University of Toronto

Digital Subversion:
The Threat to Democracy
Wednesday, December 1, 2021
Virtual Event
The Eighteenth Annual
SEYMOUR MARTIN LIPSET LECTURE
ON DEMOCRACY IN THE WORLD

WELCOME
Damon Wilson
President & CEO,
National Endowment for Democracy

Kirsten Hillman
Ambassador of Canada to the United States

VIDEO PRESENTATION
Digital Subversion

INTRODUCTION
Christopher Walker
Vice President for Studies and Analysis,
National Endowment for Democracy

LECTURE
Ronald Deibert
Director, The Citizen Lab, Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy,
University of Toronto

Digital Subversion: The Threat to Democracy

CONVERSATION
Moderated by Eileen Donahoe, Executive Director,
Global Digital Policy Incubator (GDPI) at Stanford University

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Ronald Deibert is professor of political science and director of the Citizen Lab at the Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy at the University of Toronto. He is the author of *Black Code: Surveillance, Privacy and the Dark Side of Cyberspace; Parchment, Printing, and Hypermedia: Communications in World Order Transformation; and Reset: Reclaiming the Internet for Civil Society*, as well as several edited volumes.


He has received several awards, including the University of Toronto’s President’s Impact Award (2017), the Neil Postman Award for Career Achievement in Public Intellectual Activity (2014), and the Advancement of Intellectual Freedom in Canada Award from the Canadian Library Association (2014). In 2013, Deibert was appointed to the Order of Ontario and awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee medal for recognizing and mitigating the “growing threats to communications rights, openness and security worldwide.”

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**Recent Lectures**

2020 Minxin Pei, *Totalitarianism’s Long Dark Shadow over China*

2019 Alina Mungiu-Pippidi, *The Rise and Fall of “Good Governance” Promotion*

2018 (delivered February 2019) Anwar Ibrahim, *Confronting Authoritarianism*

2017 William Galston, *The Populist Challenge to Liberal Democracy*

2016 Ghia Nodia, *The Crisis of Postnationalism*

2015 Andrew J. Nathan, *The Puzzle of the Chinese Middle Class*

2014 Lilia Shevtsova, *Russia’s Political System: The Drama of Decay*

2013 Donald L. Horowitz, *Ethnic Power Sharing and Democracy: Three Big Problems*

2012 Alfred C. Stepan (with Juan J. Linz), *Democratization Theory and the Arab Spring*

2011 Abdou Filali-Ansary, *The Arab Revolutions: Democracy and Historical Consciousness*
Seymour Martin Lipset was one of the great social scientists and public intellectuals of the twentieth century. His scholarship on such themes as the conditions for democracy, political parties, voting behavior, extremist movements, ideologies, and public opinion constitutes one of the most prolific, insightful, and widely read bodies of work on democracy ever produced by a single author.

One of his major scholarly interests throughout his career was the question of why socialism never took hold in the United States. This led him to write his doctoral dissertation at Columbia University on the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation (CCF), a Canadian agrarian socialist party that at the time was experiencing significant electoral success in Western Canada. The work marked the beginning of a lifelong interest in Canada and comparative study of the two great democracies of North America.

Lipset wrote, co-authored, and edited fifty books and hundreds of articles. His academic affiliations included Columbia, Berkeley, Harvard, and Stanford. Until his death in 2006, he was a senior fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford and a senior scholar at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. He was also the Hazel Professor of Public Policy at George Mason University.

Elected to academic and honorific societies in the United States and abroad, Lipset was the only person to have been president of both the American Sociological Association (1992–93) and the American Political Science Association (1979–80).

The Seymour Martin Lipset Lecture on Democracy in the World was inaugurated in 2004 by the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) and the Munk School of Global Affairs of the University of Toronto as an important forum for discourse on democracy and its progress worldwide.

The lecture, which is delivered in both the United States and Canada, is a platform for men and women who, like Lipset, have made important contributions to our thinking about key issues of democracy through their writings and other accomplishments. The lecture is published each year in NED’s Journal of Democracy.