

UNIVERSITÄT
LUZERN

RECHTSWISSENSCHAFTLICHE
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OBWALDNER INSTITUT FÜR
JUSTIZFORSCHUNG



PRESIDENT TRUMP AND THE CHANGING AMERICAN CONSTITUTIONAL ORDER

PROF. ANUJ DESAI

(VOLKMAN-BASCOM PROFESSOR OF LAW AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN)

12. MAI 2026, 17.15–18.45 UHR

UNIVERSITÄT LUZERN, FROHBURGSTRASSE 3, RAUM 3.B58

ORGANISIERT DURCH DAS OBWALDNER INSTITUT FÜR JUSTIZFORSCHUNG (IJF) IN
KOOPERATION MIT DEM JURISTENVEREIN DES KANTONS LUZERN

JURISTENVEREIN
DES KANTONS LUZERN

President Trump and the Changing American Constitutional Order



Since his second inaugural in January 2025, U.S. President Donald Trump has challenged many of the basic assumptions of the American constitutional order. Through what are known as “Executive Orders” and other presidential acts, he is revamping the relationship between the Executive (the President) and the Legislature (the U.S. Congress) and the relationship between both of those branches and the courts. He is also raising fundamental questions about the relationship between the President and the administrative bureaucracy that executes and implements law on a day-to-day basis. In his lecture, Prof. Desai will look at some of the ways in which President Trump is trying to further his agenda through this reconceptualization of the structure of American government and to situate his actions within the broader context of American constitutional and public law as it operated prior to 2025.

Anuj C. Desai is the Volkman-Bascom Professor of Law at the University of Wisconsin Law School, where he has taught since 2001. His scholarship explores statutory interpretation and the institutional relationships among courts, legislatures, and administrative agencies, emphasizing the social and historical contexts of American law. He is co-author of *Learning Legislation and Regulation*, a leading textbook. Professor Desai has taught and conducted research internationally in New Zealand, China, Taiwan, and Germany, and previously worked in South Africa. From 2012 to 2018, he served as a U.S. Senate-confirmed Commissioner of the U.S. Foreign Claims Settlement Commission and later as an administrative appellate judge on the U.S. Department of Labor’s Administrative Review Board. He is a member of the American Law Institute and holds degrees from Harvard, Columbia, and the University of California at Berkeley.

Programm

17.15–17.30	Begrüssung und Einführung <i>Prof. Dr. Nicolas Diebold (Universität Luzern)</i>
17.30–18.15	Vortrag <i>Prof. Anuj Desai (University Wisconsin):</i> President Trump and the Changing American Constitutional Order
18.15–18.45	Panel-Diskussion <i>Prof. Anuj Desai (University Wisconsin),</i> <i>Bundesrichterin Prof. Dr. Julia Hänni (Bundesgericht Lausanne),</i> <i>Prof. Dr. Bernhard Rütsche</i> (Ordinarius für Öffentliches Recht und Rechtsphilosophie, Universität Luzern), <i>Prof. Dr. Nicolas Diebold</i> (Ordinarius für Öffentliches Recht und Wirtschaftsrecht, Universität Luzern)
Ab 18.45 Uhr	Apéro im Foyer der Universität Luzern

Die Veranstaltung findet auf Englisch statt. Die Teilnahme ist kostenlos. Aufgrund begrenzter Platzzahl bitten wir um vorgängige **Anmeldung über den [Link](#) zum Anmeldeformular.**