

# Democratic Backsliding and LGBTI Acceptance: Why Anti-LGBTI Attacks Matter for Democracy

Dr. Ari Shaw, Director of International Programs  
at The Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law

March 28th, 5pm

Sterling Law Building, Room 128

or via Zoom: <https://yale.zoom.us/j/95460338417>

By some measures, democracy is under threat worldwide. At the same time, authoritarian leaders increasingly employ rhetoric and policies that directly target lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI) persons—from an anti-LGBTI “moral panic” in Indonesia, to the creation of “LGBT-free zones” in Poland, to a record-setting number of anti-LGBTI bills in U.S. state legislatures. This talk will discuss the findings from a new report by the Williams Institute at UCLA School of Law examining the relationship between democratic backsliding and changes in attitudes towards LGBTI people and their rights.



## About the Speaker

Ari Shaw is Director of International Programs at the Williams Institute, specializing in international human rights, LGBTI politics, and U.S. foreign policy. He was previously on the senior staff at Columbia World Projects, a startup initiative that leveraged academic research at Columbia University to develop concrete solutions to fundamental global challenges.

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