



250 Years of America: From Rome to Washington. Between Origin and Myth



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CDG

On July 4, 1776, the Continental Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence. What followed was nothing short of a big bang for legal studies. The Declaration jump-started one of the most resilient legal orders—one that would stand the test of time and profoundly influence how we understand the relationship between law, politics, and civil society; the nature of constituent power; the idea of checks and balances; federalism; judicial review; and many other critical aspects of modern and postmodern constitutionalism. The workshop will zoom in on some of the prevalent driving forces behind the American Revolution, how they shaped its development, and the extent to which they spread beyond U.S. borders: the idea of freedom, the role of religion, and the place of legal theory.

Welcome addresses

Paola Lambrini - University of Padova

Andrea Pin - University of Padova

Manlio Miele - University of Padova

The Republic of Ancient Rome in the American Revolution. An Introduction

Umberto Vincenti - University of Padova

Going Dutch with the American Founders

John Witte, Jr. - University of Emory

Christian Thought and American Constitutionalism

Nathan Chapman - University of Georgia

Natural Law and American Constitutionalism

Jeffrey Pojanowski - University of Notre Dame

The Global Legacy of American Exceptionalism

Luca Vanoni - State University of Milan



Link zoom:
<https://unipd.link/17June2026>

Chair

Andrea Pin - University of Padova