

SECTION 1



Education For Heroic Citizenship!

LIBERAL DEMOCRACY UNDER SIEGE – A LOT KEEPING US BUSY!

“Liberal Democracy in the Rearview Mirror?”: Our April 15 Massey College conference on the state and fate of liberal democracy. (with Thomas Homer-Dixon and the Hon. Elizabeth Dowdeswell).

*Launching soon: **SIDE** STUDENTS IN DEMOCRACY EDUCATION. A new initiative that will involve young people around the country in forming their own Section 1 democracy groups and in leading their own conversations focused on learning together – and teaching their friends*

and neighbours – what Heroic Citizenship really means and how they can actualize it in their own lives and communities.

Welcoming 4 New Section 1 Team Members! (Alper, Jaden, Marcella and Sai)

Dear Friends of Section1 and of Liberal Democracy,

We have been remiss in not reporting to you sooner. So consumed have we been with processing the events of the day - which have been some of the defining events of our age - that we have neglected our most important responsibility, namely, engaging with YOU!

To the south of the 49th parallel (the Canada-U.S. border), we have observed, as though in high speed time-lapse, the transformation into an electoral autocracy what was once the world's standard bearer for liberal democratic government. Without a shot being fired or a comma in the U.S. Constitution being amended, the January 6 insurrection has finally succeeded and the coup against the U.S. constitutional order is proceeding deliberately at break-neck speed.

Everything is changing in the result: not merely U.S. foreign and domestic policy, but the American system of government itself and with it, the post-war international order is dissolving and a new, illiberal, order is taking shape. This new order rests not on shared conceptions of justice, human rights, the sovereignty and inviolability of nation states, fair distribution of resources and of prosperity, or reverence for and defense of the natural world and the environment. Instead, it is predicated on the supremacy of power as ordering mechanism and principle. It understands a global order as being the product of predatory motivations and imperialistic aspirations. Might rather than morality will be the key to global defense and security frameworks, as it will to the emerging new logic of international trade and commerce.

At this consequential time – a time that has been referred to as a “constituent” or “hinge” moment, we are reminded of our **10th Fundamental** (Section 1's secular decalogue of liberal democratic fundamental principles):

10. Without the stewardship and vigilance of Heroic Citizens, just laws and strong institutions will inevitably fail to safeguard freedom and democracy.

Heroic Citizens like you are the only reliable agents and instruments of genuine political accountability. Liberal democracy depends far less for its vitality on the laws and institutions that were established to advance and ensure the cause of a free and democratic society, than on the character, good will and moral courage of free citizens who are inclined to come to the defense of liberal constitutional principles and values. As Section 1 we refer to such individuals as “Heroic Citizens”. YOU are the bulwark against democratic backsliding!

PLEASE HELP US IN OUR MISSION TO TURN EVERY STUDENT INTO A
“HEROIC CITIZEN” AND TO COMBAT DEMOCRATIC BACKSLIDING. DONATE
TODAY

WELCOME TO OUR NEW SECTION 1 TEAM MEMBERS!

We are thrilled to announce that the ranks of our Team and of our Advisory Board continue to grow and deepen. We welcome the following BRILLIANT new Team Members:

Alper Yilmaz and **Jaden Braves**, our newest Junior Fellows

Marcella Azuekwu, our new Social Media Manager

Sai Man, our newest Advisory Board Member



OUR TEAM!!

Check out ALPER, JADEN, MARCELLA and SAI, and the entire Section 1 Team, [HERE!](#)

COMING SOON . . .

***SIDE* STUDENTS IN DEMOCRACY EDUCATION.** Launching soon: **A new initiative that will involve young people around the country in forming their own Section 1 democracy groups and in leading their own conversations focused on learning together – and teaching their friends and neighbours – what *Heroic Citizenship* really means and how they can actualize it in their own lives and communities.**

SIDE will be coordinated by incoming Section 1 Junior Fellow, **Jaden Braves**, and will aim to generate structured, but self-directed, democracy discussion and civic engagement amongst young people in schools, communities and neighbourhoods across the country. ***Heroic Citizenship*** is EVERYONE's promise and duty and can be every citizen's destiny! ***SIDE***, along with Bootcamp for Heroic Citizenship, is part of the strategy to get us there!

SAVE THE DATE APRIL 15. Massey College in Toronto

“Liberal Democracy in the Rearview Mirror?”: A **Section 1** Conference in collaboration with with the **Canadian International Council** and **Massey College**. Leading experts address the crisis of democratic backsliding and the state of liberal constitutionalism at home and around the world.

Keynote speakers:

Thomas Homer-Dixon (Professor and Executive Director, the Cascade Institute.) "Defending Canadian Democracy: A strategic framework for revitalizing our society".

Peter L. Biro, (Founder and President, Section1 and Massey College Senior Fellow.) "From Liberal Democracy to Electoral Autocracy: On the rotten foundation of fabricated mandates to decommission accountable government"

Panelists: **The Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell** (former Lieutenant Governor of Ontario), **Lucan Way**, (U of T Political Science), **Michael Bonner** (In Defense of Civilization), **Sanjay Ruparelia**, (Jarislowsky Democracy Chair, Toronto Metropolitan University), **Sabine Anne Sparwasser** (former German Ambassador to Canada), **Dennis Pilon** (Chair, Department of Politics, Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, York University),

George Takach (Lawyer, author of *Cold War 2.0*), **Nicholas Rouleau** (Constitutional litigator and CIC co-Chair), **Mendelsohn Aviv** (immediate past ED and General Counsel, CCLA), **Sascha Priewe**, (Director of Collections and Public Programs at the Aga Khan Museum), **Sabreena Delhon**, (Executive Director, Samara Centre for Democracy), **Seána Glennon**, (University of Ottawa Faculty of Law)

REGISTRATION DETAILS HERE

Finally, check out my recent conversation on the Brian Crombie Hour in which I argue that the January 6 Insurrection succeeded and the U.S. has transitioned from liberal democracy to electoral autocracy.



With gratitude for your interest and support and with our pledge to serve the cause of public education for liberal democratic citizenship as bulwark against the scourge of democratic backsliding.

Peter

Peter L. Biro
Founder and President

PLEASE HELP US IN OUR MISSION TO COMBAT DEMOCRATIC
BACKSLIDING. PLEASE SUPPORT OUR WORK TODAY!



Section 1

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