IS LIBERTY DIVISIBLE? THE CHALLENGE OF ‘ILLIBERAL DEMOCRACY’ AND ‘CAPITALIST AUTHORITARIANISM’

A LECTURE BY

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MONDAY, MARCH 16, 5:30 P.M. / AUDITORIUM, NADOR U. 9

ABSTRACT / The new authoritarians in Russia and Eastern Europe have gambled that market freedoms and political freedoms, private and public liberty, are divisible, and that authoritarian rule can be stable so long as it allows citizens private liberty alone. Are they right?

BIO / Michael Ignatieff is a writer, teacher and former politician. Born in Canada, educated at the University of Toronto and Harvard University, he has written award-winning books, worked as a television presenter and documentary filmmaker, editorial columnist and university teacher. He has taught at the University of British Columbia, Cambridge University, the London School of Economics and Harvard University, where he was Director of the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy at the Kennedy School of Government between 2000 and 2005. He is a member of the Queen’s Privy Council for Canada and holds eleven honorary degrees. Between 2006 and 2011, he was Member of Parliament for Etobicoke Lakeshore, Deputy Leader and Leader of the Liberal Party of Canada. Between 2011 and 2013, he held a professorial appointment at the Munk School of Global Affairs, University of Toronto. In 2014, he rejoined the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University as Edward R. Murrow Professor of the Practice of Politics and the Press. He also serves as Centennial Chair of the Project on Global Ethics at the Carnegie Council on Ethics and International Affairs in New York.

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