American government has become dysfunctional but that’s not just because we elect the wrong people; it’s because we’ve created a political system that rewards intransigence and incivility and punishes cooperation and compromise. We’ve allowed political parties to manipulate our elections and even our governing systems for their own partisan advantage. To fix the problem and get government working again, we have to change the political system itself.

Mickey Edwards, former Republican congressman from Oklahoma (1977-1992) who is currently Vice President of the Aspen Institute, has authored several books including The Modern Conservative Movement, Reclaiming Conservatism and, most recently, The Parties Versus The People. Since leaving the Congress, he has taught at Harvard, Princeton, and George Washington universities and has chaired various task forces for the Constitution Project, the Brookings Institution, and the Council on Foreign Relations. He serves as a regular political commentator on NPR’s All Things Considered.

Courtesy of The Book Den, copies of The Parties Versus The People will be available for purchase and signing at this event.

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