

Comparative Democratization
JPM888
(Summer semester 2023)

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Times & Room: Wednesdays 15:30-16:50 312

Zoom: <https://cuni-cz.zoom.us/j/95600157414?pwd=SEZhUjM5Wm1mdDFqbjBTWmFGYkc2dz09>

Meeting ID: 956 0015 7414

Passcode: 107585

Credits: 6

Language: English

Description:

How do democracies emerge, and how do they die? This seminar focuses on the democratization process from a historical and comparative perspective. The course focuses on issues rather than countries, although we will cover many countries and most regions of the world. After the definition of democracy and democratization, the key elements of the three historical "waves" of democratization are addressed. We will then turn to the concept of "democratic consolidation". Finally, the last three sessions of the seminar will turn to the prospects and challenges for democracy and democratization in deconsolidation, how democracies die and the democratization of democracy.

Course requirements:

The communication platform for this seminar will be Moodle.

All readings will be shared via Moodle.

Required readings are to be completed by every student for the seminar session.

The recommended reading aims to encourage students to understand the presented topics more deeply.

Students are also encouraged to use the library and other resources available at the university. You are welcome to ask for a recommendation in a specific direction during consultations.

1. Active course participation is a requirement for the successful completion of the course. However, there is a difference between presence and active participation. Active participation means active engagement (commenting, discussing with peers, asking meaningful questions).

2. Written assignment: Students must write a short paper on the topic of their choice selected from the course themes. (Times New Roman, font size 10-12, minimum 1500 words, maximum 2000 words – including literature and footnotes – More is not necessarily better!). This paper must be submitted via email and is a necessary condition for the oral exam.

3. Oral exam: Based on the topic of your paper, this exam will be conducted as a dialogue between lecturer and student revolving around the topic of the paper. In keeping with the general idea of the course, the questions will be aimed at testing whether students became acquainted with the theoretical tools to understand and study democratization and the extent to which they can apply this knowledge. The date of the oral exam will be set during the course.

The idea behind this set of different assignments is that you familiarize yourself with many different questions and issues at the forefront of democratic theory and practice. This should train students to think along theoretical lines and allow them to see democratic innovations from a theoretically-informed perspective.

Consultations:

Tuesdays 16.00-17.30 or upon email request.

Block I. Democracy and Democratization		
Session	Date	Topic
1.	15.2.2023	<p>Introduction</p> <p>Course Overview Course Requirements</p> <p>Recommended reading: Carothers, T. (2002). The end of the transition paradigm. <i>Journal of democracy</i>, 13(1), 5-21. Guasti, P. 2018. „Democracy under Stress: Changing Perspectives on Democracy, Governance and Their Measurement“. <i>Democracy Under Stress</i>, in Guasti, P. & Mansfeldova Z. Democracy under Stress: Prague: ISASCR.</p>
2.	22.2.2023	<p>Studying Democratization around the World</p> <p>Required reading: Bunce, V. (2000). Comparative democratization: Big and bounded generalizations. <i>Comparative Political Studies</i>, 33(6-7), 703-734.</p> <p>Recommended reading: Bogaards, M. (2018). Microscope or Telescope? The Study of Democratisation across World Regions. <i>Political Studies Review</i>, 16(2), 125-135.</p>
3.	1.3.2023	<p>What is Democracy?</p> <p>Required reading: Schmitter, P. C., & Karl, T. L. (1991). What democracy is... and is not. <i>Journal of democracy</i>, 2(3), 75-88.</p> <p>Recommended reading: Gagnon, J. P. 2018. “2,234 Descriptions of Democracy: An Update to Democracy’s Ontological Pluralism.” <i>Democratic Theory</i> 5(1): 92–113.</p>
4.	8.3.2023	<p>The Role of Actors and Institutions in Democratization</p> <p>Required reading: Mahoney, J., & Snyder, R. (1999). Rethinking agency and structure in the study of regime change. <i>Studies in Comparative International Development</i>, 34(2), 3.</p> <p>Recommended reading: Kitschelt, H. (1992). Political regime change: structure and process-driven explanations?. <i>American Political Science Review</i>, 86(4), 1028-1034.</p>
Block II. Democratization in a historical perspective		
5.	15.3.2023	The First Wave Democratization

		<p>Required reading: Rustow, D. A. (1970). Transitions to democracy: Toward a dynamic model. <i>Comparative politics</i>, 2(3), 337-363.</p> <p>Recommended reading: Inglehart, R. F. (2008). Changing values among western publics from 1970 to 2006. <i>West European Politics</i>, 31(1-2), 130-146. Haggard, S., & Kaufman, R. R. (2018). <i>The political economy of democratic transitions</i>. Princeton University Press.</p>
6.	22.3.2023	<p>The Second Wave Democratization</p> <p>Required reading: Bunce, V. (1998). Regional differences in democratization: The east versus the south. <i>Post-Soviet Affairs</i>, 14(3), 187-211.</p> <p>Recommended reading: Bermeo, N. (2003). What the democratization literature says-or doesn't say-about postwar democratization. <i>Global Governance</i>, 9, 159. Bermeo, N. (1997). Myths of moderation: confrontation and conflict during democratic transitions. <i>Comparative Politics</i>, 305-322.</p>
7.	29.3.2023	<p>The Third Wave Democratization 1/2</p> <p>Required reading: Huntington, S. P. (1991). Democracy's third wave. <i>Journal of Democracy</i>, 2(2), 12-34.</p> <p>Recommended reading: Pop-Eleches, G., & Tucker, J. A. (2017). <i>Communism's Shadow: Historical Legacies and Contemporary Political Attitudes</i>. Princeton University Press.</p>
8.	5.4.2023	<p>The Third Wave Democratization 2/2</p> <p>Required reading: Rose, R., & Shin, D. C. (2001). Democratization backwards: The problem of third-wave democracies. <i>British Journal of Political Science</i>, 31(2), 331-354.</p>
9.	12.4.2023	<p>The Fourth Wave Democratization?</p> <p>Required reading: McFaul, M. (2002). The fourth wave of democracy and dictatorship: noncooperative transitions in the postcommunist world. <i>World politics</i>, 54(2), 212-244.</p> <p>Recommended reading: Somer, M. (2017). Conquering versus democratizing the state: political Islamists and fourth wave democratization in Turkey and Tunisia. <i>Democratization</i>, 24(6), 1025-1043. Diamond, L. (2011). A fourth wave or false start. <i>Foreign Affairs</i>, 22.</p>
Block III. Consolidation and De-consolidation		

10.	19.4.2023	<p>Consolidation</p> <p>Required reading: Linz, Juan and Alfred Stephan (April 1996): “Towards Consolidated Democracies”. <i>Journal of Democracy</i>, 7(2), 34-51.</p> <p>Recommended reading: Schedler, A. (2001). Taking uncertainty seriously: the blurred boundaries of democratic transition and consolidation. <i>Democratization</i>, 8(4), 1-22. Schedler, A. (1998). What is democratic consolidation?. <i>Journal of democracy</i>, 9(2), 91-107.</p>
11.	26.4.2023	<p>Backsliding</p> <p>Required reading: Bermeo, N. (2016). On democratic backsliding. <i>Journal of Democracy</i>, 27(1), 5-19.</p> <p>Recommended reading: Greskovits, B. (2015). The hollowing and backsliding of democracy in East Central Europe. <i>Global Policy</i>, 6(S1), 28–37. Bustikova, L., & Guasti, P. (2017). The Illiberal Turn or Swerve in Central Europe?. <i>Politics and Governance</i>, 5(4), 166-176. Brusis, M. (2016). Democracies adrift: how the European crises affect East-Central Europe. <i>Problems of Post-Communism</i>, 63(5-6), 263-276.</p>
12.	3.5.2023	<p>Democracies do not die, they get killed</p> <p>Required reading: Levitsky, S., & Ziblatt, D. (2018). <i>How democracy dies</i>. (selected chapter TBA)</p> <p>Recommended reading: Jones, E. (2017). From the End of History to the Retreat of Liberalism. <i>Survival</i>, 59(6), 165-174. Jones, E. (2018). Democracies Don't Die; They Are Killed. <i>Survival</i>, 60(2), 201-210. Jones, D. M. (1998). Democratization, civil society, and illiberal middle class culture in Pacific Asia. <i>Comparative Politics</i>, 147-169.</p>