

**Contents:**

Analysing intra-party conflict and its consequences for the political process has become a prominent research area in comparative political science. In this seminar, we will discuss institutional origins of intra-party conflict, its manifestation in the behaviour of parties and their representatives, and its consequences for government formation, the selection and de-selection of cabinet members and for the outcome of the legislative process. We will also discuss recent theoretical and methodological approaches in the analysis of party unity and its various consequences for patterns of (coalition) governance and decision-making of political actors. The overall goal of the seminar is that the participants formulate an innovative research question related to the topic of the course, which they answer on the basis of a theoretical approach and/or new empirical material.