

**Regime Types:  
Autocracy, Democracy and the State**

Uni Mannheim, Spring 2014

Thursdays 1.45 pm - 3.15 pm

Location: A5,6 Bauteil B 243

Instructor: Nikolay Marinov

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Office Hours: Monday 1:30-3 pm

- **Course Description:** Lecture. How do different political regimes arise and change? This course will look at the different regime types in the world, their definitions, historical roots and evolution. The course will pay special attention to the regime type that has predominated in the history of humankind's political organization: authoritarianism. Some of the main readings in political science on authoritarian regimes and their breakdown will be considered. Explaining authoritarian resilience and fragility will be a part of the course. The role of elections will be discussed. Emphasis is on concepts and arguments, not on memorizing mechanical facts.

**Course Readings and Topics:**

Please note that you will have to read what I tell you in class. Regular attendance will ensure that you know what we are selecting to read, and what we emphasize in each reading. The list of readings by week may be a comprehensive list that I will draw on - you will only be asked to read a subset of them, to be determined by me throughout the course.

**Lecture 01**

**Regimes Types and Society's Political Organization**

The problem of governance. Wealth, taxes, information. Selecting and replacing rulers.

Charles Tilly. War making and state making as organized crime. In Dietrich Rueschmeyer

Peter Evans and Theda Skocpol, editors, *Bringing the State Back In*, pages 169–191.

Cambridge, New York, 1985

## Lecture 02

### Origins of Regimes: Class and Big Picture Explanations

*The role of classes. Who said Marx is dead? Trade coalitions*

Wiener review of Tilly, read pp 146-148.

Chapter 1 in Robert A. Dahl. *Polyarchy: Participation and Opposition*. Yale, New Haven, CT, 1971

## Lecture 03

### A Basic Model of Regimes: The Winning Coalition and the Ruler's Dilemmas

Who is in charge? How do I get the job? Who do I thank?

Chapter 2 and all pages to page 99 in Chapter 3 from Bruce Bueno de Mesquita, Alastair Smith, Randolph M. Siverson, and James D. Morrow. *The Logic of Political Survival*. MIT Press, Cambridge, 2003

Chapter 2 Daron Acemoglu and James Robinson. *Economic Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy*. Cambridge University, New York, 2006

## Lecture 04

### The Path to Consolidated Dictatorship

A Lone and thankless job; Meet comrade Joe Stalin

Milan Svolik. *The Politics of Authoritarian Rule*. Cambridge University Press, New York, 2012 Chapters 1-2

## Lecture 05

### Powersharing and Control in Dictatorships

How to live longer in a dictatorship, and Politburo matters

Milan Svolik. *The Politics of Authoritarian Rule*. Cambridge University Press, New York, 2012 Chapter 5

\* Gorlizki, Yoram and Khlevniuk, Oleg. 2006. Stalin and his circle. In Ronald G. Suny, editor, *The Cambridge history of Russia*, Volume 3, pages 243-267. New York: Cambridge University Press.

## Lecture 06

### Parties in Dictatorships

*If only we could throw a Party: Who do we invite?*

Jennifer Gandhi. *Political Institutions under Dictatorship*. Cambridge University Press, New York, 2008, Chapter 2

## Lecture 07

Economic growth and Regime Type

Chapter 2, "Suharto. Inc." in

Barry Weingast. The political foundations of democracy and the rule of law. *American Political Science Review*, 91:245–263, 1997

## Lecture 08

*Regime Type and Political Accountability: Delegating and Controlling Power*

Elster on Athens

## Lecture 09

*Is Democracy for the Rich? From Income to Democracy*

Seymour Lipset. Some social requisites of democracy: Economic development and political legitimacy. *American Political Science Review*, 53:69–105, 1959

A. Przeworski and F. Limongi. Modernization - theories and facts. *World Politics*, 49(2):155–183, 1997

FINAL EXAM