



Department of Social and Political Sciences

1st term Research Seminar

Fall 2016

Foundations of democracy

Hanspeter Kriesi

Tuesdays 9:00 AM-11:00 AM, Badia Seminar Room 4

Registration with Maureen Lechleitner (Maureen.Lechleitner@EUI.eu)

Description

This seminar surveys some of the literature on democracy to answer questions such as these: What are the relevant theoretical, institutional and innovative models of democracy? How can we measure democracy? What are the social, economic, cultural and political prerequisites of democracy/democratization? What effect does the political and economic performance have on the support for democracy? What are contemporary ‘disfigurements’ of democracy?

These questions are approached both from the macro-perspective of institutions and context conditions as well as from the micro-perspective of the citizens and their understanding and evaluation of the way democracy works. The literature on these questions is, of course, huge, and the selection of the texts for the seminar is, as always, highly idiosyncratic. This is the selection of a comparative political sociologist who is trying to understand the conditions under which democracy as we know it develops and flourishes, and the conditions under which it is put into question. The selection combines classical texts with more recent empirical assessments of the core issues. It also tries to take into account some debates between competing views. At the same time, several of the selected texts provide the methodological tools to approach these questions empirically. The texts are available on the special website of the seminar. By choosing to take this class you are taking on the obligation to do all the reading.

As usual in my seminars, the students are expected to submit three 500-word response papers to the readings for a given session and post that paper on the course website by noon on the day before class at the latest. These response papers are fundamental for the holding of a good discussion of the materials, as is a thorough reading of the assigned texts. These response papers have to be turned in at the latest by noon the day before the seminar meets.

Writing a term paper is encouraged. Those who wish to write a term paper should submit it to me by email and in paper copy, with a cc to Maureen Lechleitner.

Sessions, topics and readings

1. Introduction: Models of democracy in theory (October 4)

- Held, David. 2006. *Models of Democracy*. Cambridge: Polity Press, 3rd Edition, Introduction, Chapters 1-3, 5-7, 9-10

2. Measuring democracy: macro-level (October 11)

- Goertz, Gary. 2006. *Social Science Concepts*, Chapter 4: 'Increasing Concept-Measure Consistency', Princeton University Press, 95-127.
- Munck, Gerardo L. and Jay Verkuilen 2002. 'Conceptualizing and Measuring Democracy. Evaluating Alternative Indices', *Comparative Political Studies* 35, 1: 5-34.
- Bühlmann, Marc, Wolfgang Merkel, Lisa Müller and Bernhard Wessels 2012. The democracy barometer: a new instrument to measure the quality of democracy and its potential for comparative research, *European Political Science* (advance online publication): 1-18.
- Teorell, Jan, Michael Coppedge, Svend-Erik Skaaning, and Staffan I Lindberg 2016. *Measuring electoral democracy with V-dem data: introducing a new polyarchy index*, University of Gothenburg, Varieties of democracy institute, Working paper, Series 2016: 25.

3. Measuring democracy: micro-level (October 18)

- Easton, David 1975. A Re-Assessment of the Concept of Political Support, *British Journal of Political Science* 5: 435-457.
- Ferrín, Monica and Hanspeter Kriesi (eds.) 2016. *How Europeans View and Evaluate Democracy*, Oxford U Press: Chapters 1, 2, 4, 9, 11, 14)

4. Institutional models of Democracy (October 25)

- Lijphart, Arend 1999. *Patterns of Democracy. Government Forms and Performance in Thirty-Six Countries*. New Haven: Yale University Press, Chapters 1-4, 7, 14, 17
- Vatter, Adrian 2009. Lijphart expanded: three dimensions of democracy in advanced OECD countries?, *European Political Science Review* 1,1: 125-154.
- Daniel Bochsler and Hanspeter Kriesi 2013. Varieties of Democracy, pp. 69-102 in *Democracy in the age of globalization and mediatization*, edited by Hanspeter Kriesi, Sandra Lavenex, Frank Esser, Jörg Matthes, Marc Bühlmann, Daniel Bochsler, Basingstoke : Palgrave.

5. Democratization: political and international context (November 2) (please note Wednesday!)

- Dahl Robert A. 1971. *Polyarchy. Participation and Opposition*, New Haven, Yale University Press, pp. 1-47.
- Huntington, Samuel P. 1991. *The Third Wave. Democratization in the late Twentieth Century*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press. Chapters 1-2.
- Doorenspleet, Renske 2000. Reassessing the Three Waves of Democratization, *World Politics* 52: 384-406.
- Wejnert, Barbara 2005. 'Diffusion, Development, and Democracy, 1800-1999', *American Sociological Review* 70: 53-81.

6. Democratization: economic development (November 8)

- Lipset, Seymour Martin 1959. 'Some social requisites of democracy: Economic development and political legitimacy', *American Political Science Review* 53: 69–105.
- Lipset, Seymour Martin 1994. "The Social Prerequisites of Democracy Revisited", *American Sociological Review* 59 (1), 1-22.
- Boix, Carles and Susan C. Stokes 2003. Endogenous democratization, *World Politics* 55, July: 517-49.
- Boix, Carles 2011. Democracy, Development, and the International System, *American Political Science Review*, 104(4): 809-828.

7. Democratization: cultural change (November 15)

- Fuchs, Dieter 2007. The political culture paradigm, pp. 161-84 in *The Oxford Handbook of Political Behavior*, edited by Russell J. Dalton and Hans-Dieter Klingemann, Oxford U Press.
- Inglehart, Ronald and Christian Welzel 2005. *Modernization, cultural change, and democracy. The human development sequence*, Cambridge U Press, Chapters 7 and 8: The causal link between democratic values and democratic institutions (pp. 149-209)
- Welzel, Christian and Alejandro Moreno Alvarez 2014. Enlightening People. The Spark of Emancipative Values, pp. 59-88 in *The civic culture transformed. From allegiant to assertive citizens*, edited by Russell J. Dalton and Christian Welzel, Cambridge U Press.
- Tarrow, Sidney 1996. Making social science work across space and time: a critical reflection on Robert Putnam's Making Democracy Work, *American Political Science Review* 90, 2: 389-397.
- Solt, Frederick 2004. Civics or structure? Revisiting the origins of democratic quality in Italian regions, *British Journal of Political Science* 34: 123-135.

8. Political and economic performance (November 22)

- Scharpf, Fritz 1999. *Governing in Europe*. Oxford U Press, Chapter 1.1: Two faces of democratic self-determination, (pp. 6-28)
- Magalhães, Pedro C. 2014. Government effectiveness and support for democracy, *European Journal of Political Research* 53: 77-97.
- Dahlberg, Stefan and Sören Holmberg 2014. Democracy and bureaucracy: how their quality matters for popular satisfaction, *West European Politics* 37, 3: 515-37.
- Armingeon, Klaus and Kai Guthmann 2014. Democracy in crisis? The declining support for national democracy in European countries, 2007-2011, *European Journal of Political Research* 53: 423-442.
- Hobolt, Sara B. and James Tilley 2014. *Blaming Europe? Responsibility without accountability in the European Union*, Oxford U Press. Chapters 1, 2, 9.

9. Democracy disfigured (November 29)

- Dewey, John 1969[1888]. The ethics of democracy, pp. 227-249 in *John Dewey. The Early Works, 1882-1898, 1: 1882-1888*, Carbondale and Edwardsville: Southern Illinois University Press.
- Urbinati, Nadia 2014. *Democracy disfigured. Opinion, truth, and the people*. Cambridge, Mass: Harvard U Press, Introduction, Chapters 1-3.

10. Democratic innovations: the model of direct democracy (December 6)

- Kriesi, Hanspeter 2005. *Direct democratic choice. The Swiss experience*. Lanham: Lexington Books, pp. 1-11.
- Lupia, Arthur 1994. Shortcuts versus Encyclopedias: information and voting behaviour in California insurance reform elections, *American Political Science Review*, 88, 1: 63-76.
- The Bartels-Lupia debate on the 2001 Bush tax cuts:
 - Bartels, Larry M. 2005. Homer gets a tax cut: inequality and public policy in the American mind, *Perspectives on Politics* 3, 1: 15-31
 - Lupia, Arthur, Adam Seth Levine, Jesse O. Menning and Gisela Sin 2007. Were Bush tax cut supporters 'simply ignorant?' A second look at conservatism and liberalism in 'Homer gets a tax cut', *Perspectives on Politics* 5, 4: 773-785
 - Bartels, Larry M. 2007. Homer gets a warm hug. A note on ignorance and extenuation, *Perspectives on Politics* 5, 4: 785-790.

- Druckman, James N., Erik Peterson and Rune Slothuus 2013. How elite partisan polarization affects public opinion formation, *American Political Science Review* 107, 1: 57-79.
- Colombo, Céline 2016. Justification and citizen competence in direct democracy: a multilevel analysis, *British Journal of Political Science*, DOI: 10.1017/S0007123416000090, Published online: 10 May 2016