

Political Regimes

Types of Political Regimes (1)

- Robert Dahl (1971)'s 'polyarchy'
 - A polyarchy: A form of government with political power rested with the people

- 2 Dimensions

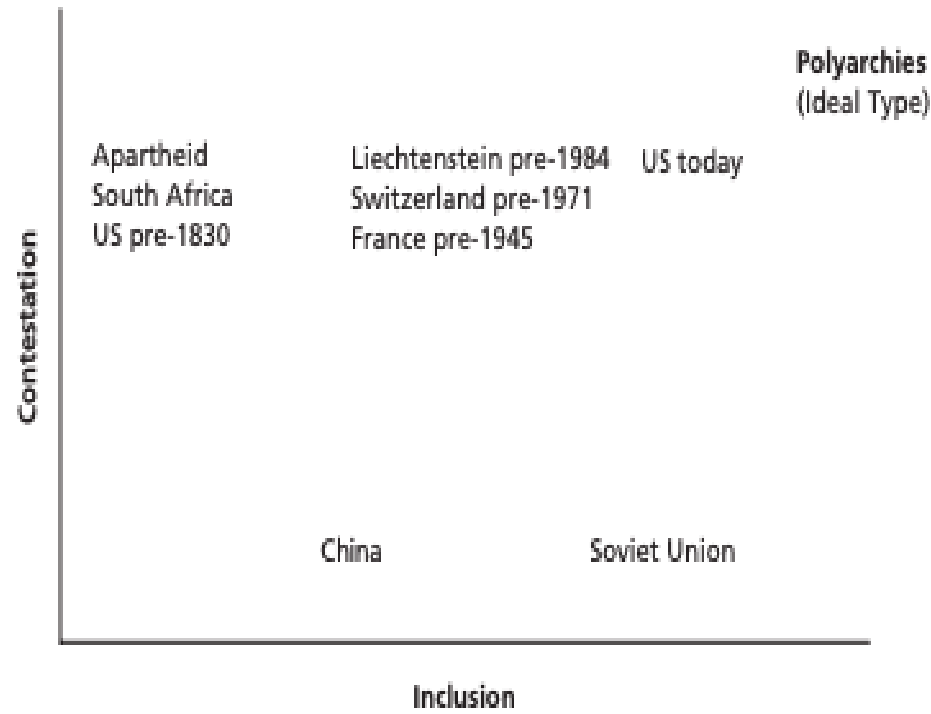
- **Contestation** captures the extent to which citizens are free to organize themselves into competing blocs in order to press for the policies and outcomes they desire.
- **Inclusion** has to do with who gets to participate in the democratic process.

1. **Elected officials:** Control over government decisions about policy is **constitutionally vested** in elected officials.
2. **Free and fair elections:** **Elected officials are chosen in frequent and fairly conducted elections** in which coercion is comparatively uncommon.
3. **Inclusive suffrage:** Practically all adults have the right to **vote** in the election of officials.
4. **Right to run for office:** Practically all adults have the right to **run for elective offices** in the government, though age limits may be higher for holding office than for the suffrage.
5. **Freedom of expression:** Citizens have a right to **express themselves** without the danger of severe punishment on political matters broadly defined, including criticism of officials, the government, the regime, the socio-economic order, and the prevailing ideology.
6. **Alternative information:** Citizens have a right to **seek out alternative sources of information**. Moreover, alternative sources of information exist and are protected by laws.
7. **Associational autonomy:** To achieve their various rights, including those listed above, citizens also have a right to **form relatively independent associations or organizations**, including independent political parties and interest groups.

Types of Political Regimes (1)

FIGURE 5.1

**Dahl's Two Dimensions of Democracy:
Contestation and Inclusion**











- A polyarchy is a political regime with high levels of both contestation and inclusion.

Measuring Political Regimes (1): Democracy-Dictatorship Measure

- Cheibub, Gandhi, Vreeland (2010)'s Democracy-Dictatorship measure
 - A country is classified as a democracy only if all of the following conditions apply:
 - 1. The chief executive must be chosen by popular election or by a body that was itself popularly elected.
 - 2. The legislature must be popularly elected.
 - 3. There must be more than one party competing in the elections.
 - 4. An alternation in power under identical electoral rules has taken place.
 - “We take Przeworski's (1991,10) dictum that "Democracy is a system in which parties lose elections" quite literally: whenever in doubt, we classify as democracies only those systems in which incumbent parties actually did lose elections. Alternation in office constitutes prima facie evidence of contestation Alvarez, Cheibub, Limongi and Przeworski (1996).”

Japan's Ruling Party

	Ichiro Hatoyama 鳩山 一郎 Rep for Tokyo 1st (1883–1959)	10 December 1954	23 December 1956	1955 —	Liberal Democratic
2 years and 14 days					
	Tanzan Ishibashi 石橋 湛山 Rep for Shizuoka 2nd (1884–1973)	23 December 1956	25 February 1957	—	Liberal Democratic
65 days					
	Nobusuke Kishi 岸 信介 Rep for Yamaguchi 2nd (1896–1987)	25 February 1957	19 July 1960	1958 —	Liberal Democratic
3 years and 146 days					
	Hayato Ikeda 池田 勇人 Rep for Hiroshima 2nd (1899–1965)	19 July 1960	9 November 1964	1960 1963 —	Liberal Democratic
4 years and 114 days					
	Eisaku Satō 佐藤 榮作 Rep for Yamaguchi 2nd (1901–1975)	9 November 1964	7 July 1972	1967 1969 —	Liberal Democratic
7 years and 242 days					
	Kakuei Tanaka 田中 角榮 Rep for Niigata 3rd (1918–1993)	7 July 1972	9 December 1974	1972 —	Liberal Democratic
2 years and 156 days					
	Takeo Miki 三木 武夫 Rep for Tokushima At-large (1907–1988)	9 December 1974	24 December 1976	—	Liberal Democratic
2 years and 16 days					
	Takeo Fukuda 福田 赳夫 Rep for Gunma 3rd (1905–1995)	24 December 1976	7 December 1978	1976	Liberal Democratic
1 year and 349 days					

	Masayoshi Ōhira 大平 正芳 Rep for Kagawa 2nd (1910–1980)	7 December 1978	12 June 1980	1979 —	Liberal Democratic
1 year and 189 days ^[1]					
During this interval, Chief Cabinet Secretary Masayoshi Ito was the acting Prime Minister.					
	Zenkō Suzuki 鈴木 善幸 Rep for Iwate 1st (1911–2004)	17 July 1980	27 November 1982	1980	Liberal Democratic
2 years and 134 days					
	Yasuhiro Nakasone 中曾根 康弘 Rep for Gunma 3rd (1918–2019)	27 November 1982	6 November 1987	1983 1986 —	Liberal Democratic
4 years and 345 days					
	Noboru Takeshita 竹下 登 Rep for Shimane At-large (1924–2000)	6 November 1987	3 June 1989	—	Liberal Democratic
1 year and 210 days					
	Sōsuke Uno 宇野 宗佑 Rep for Shiga At-large (1922–1998)	3 June 1989	10 August 1989	—	Liberal Democratic
69 days					
	Toshiaki Kaifu 海部 俊樹 Rep for Aichi 3rd (1931–2022)	10 August 1989	5 November 1991	1990 —	Liberal Democratic
2 years and 88 days					
	Kiichi Miyazawa 宮澤 喜一 Rep for Hiroshima 3rd (1919–2007)	5 November 1991	9 August 1993	—	Liberal Democratic
1 year and 278 days					
	Morihiro Hosokawa 細川 護熙 Rep for Kumamoto 1st	9 August 1993	28 April 1994	1993	New
263 days					

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Measuring Political Regimes (1): Democracy-Dictatorship Measure

- <https://sites.google.com/site/joseantoniocheibub/datasets/dd>

Types of Political Regimes (2): Liberal Democracy

- Reality: more and more dictators hold elections
- Election + α
 - Now in addition to election, set of values of a country is important for defining democracy
 - $\alpha(1)$ Civil Liberty (Dahl, 1989, p. 221)
 - : Freedom that governments commit not to abridge

5. **Freedom of expression:** Citizens have a right to **express themselves** without the danger of severe punishment on political matters broadly defined, including criticism of officials, the government, the regime, the socio-economic order, and the prevailing ideology.
6. **Alternative information:** Citizens have a right to **seek out alternative sources of information**. Moreover, alternative sources of information exist and are protected by laws.
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Types of Political Regimes (2): Liberal Democracy

- $\alpha(2)$ Rule of Law (Diamond, 2002, p. 213)
 - All citizens are treated equally
 - \leftrightarrow Rule by decree: laws are made by a small number of people (or one person) and applied differently to different people

Measuring Political Regimes (2): Freedom House Index


Political Rights (0–40 points)

- A. ELECTORAL PROCESS
 - A1. Was the current head of government or other chief national authority elected through free and fair elections?
 - A2. Were the current national legislative representatives elected through free and fair elections?
- B. POLITICAL PLURALISM AND PARTICIPATION
 - B2. Is there a realistic opportunity for the opposition to increase its support or gain power through elections?
- C. FUNCTIONING OF GOVERNMENT
 - C1. Do the freely elected head of government and national legislative representatives determine the policies of the government?

Civil Liberties (0-60 points)

- D. FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND BELIEF
 - D1. Are there free and independent media?
- E. ASSOCIATIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL RIGHTS
 - E2. Is there freedom for nongovernmental organizations, particularly those that are engaged in human rights– and governance-related work? (Note: This includes civic organizations, interest groups, foundations, think tanks, gender rights groups, etc.)
- F. RULE OF LAW
 - F1. Is there an independent judiciary?
 - F4. Do laws, policies, and practices guarantee equal treatment of various segments of the population?
- G. PERSONAL AUTONOMY AND INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS
 - G1. Do individuals enjoy freedom of movement, including the ability to change their place of residence, employment, or education?

Measuring Political Regimes (2): Freedom House Index

 Status		Political Rights score						
		0-5*	6-11	12-17	18-23	24-29	30-35	36-40
Civil Liberties score	53-60	PF	PF	PF	F	F	F	F
	44-52	PF	PF	PF	PF	F	F	F
	35-43	PF	PF	PF	PF	PF	F	F
	26-34	NF	PF	PF	PF	PF	PF	F
	17-25	NF	NF	PF	PF	PF	PF	PF
	8-16	NF	NF	NF	PF	PF	PF	PF
	0-7	NF	NF	NF	NF	PF	PF	PF

KEY: F = Free, PF = Partly Free, and NF = Not Free

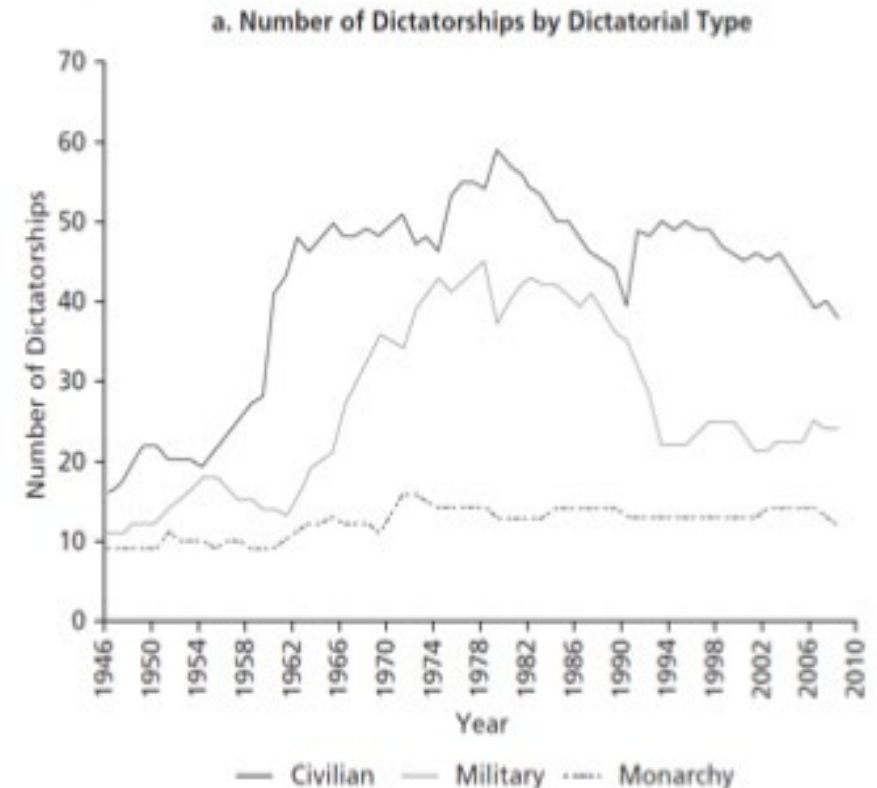
- (Liberal) Democracy scores

[Aggregate Category and Subcategory Scores FIW 2003-2024.xlsx \(live.com\)](#)

Types of Dictatorships (Authoritarian Regimes)

- Hereditary head of government
 - Monarchic dictatorship
 - King or Queen has absolute governmental power
- Non-hereditary head of government
 - Military dictatorship
 - Civilian dictatorship
 - Dominant-party dictatorship
 - Personalistic dictatorship

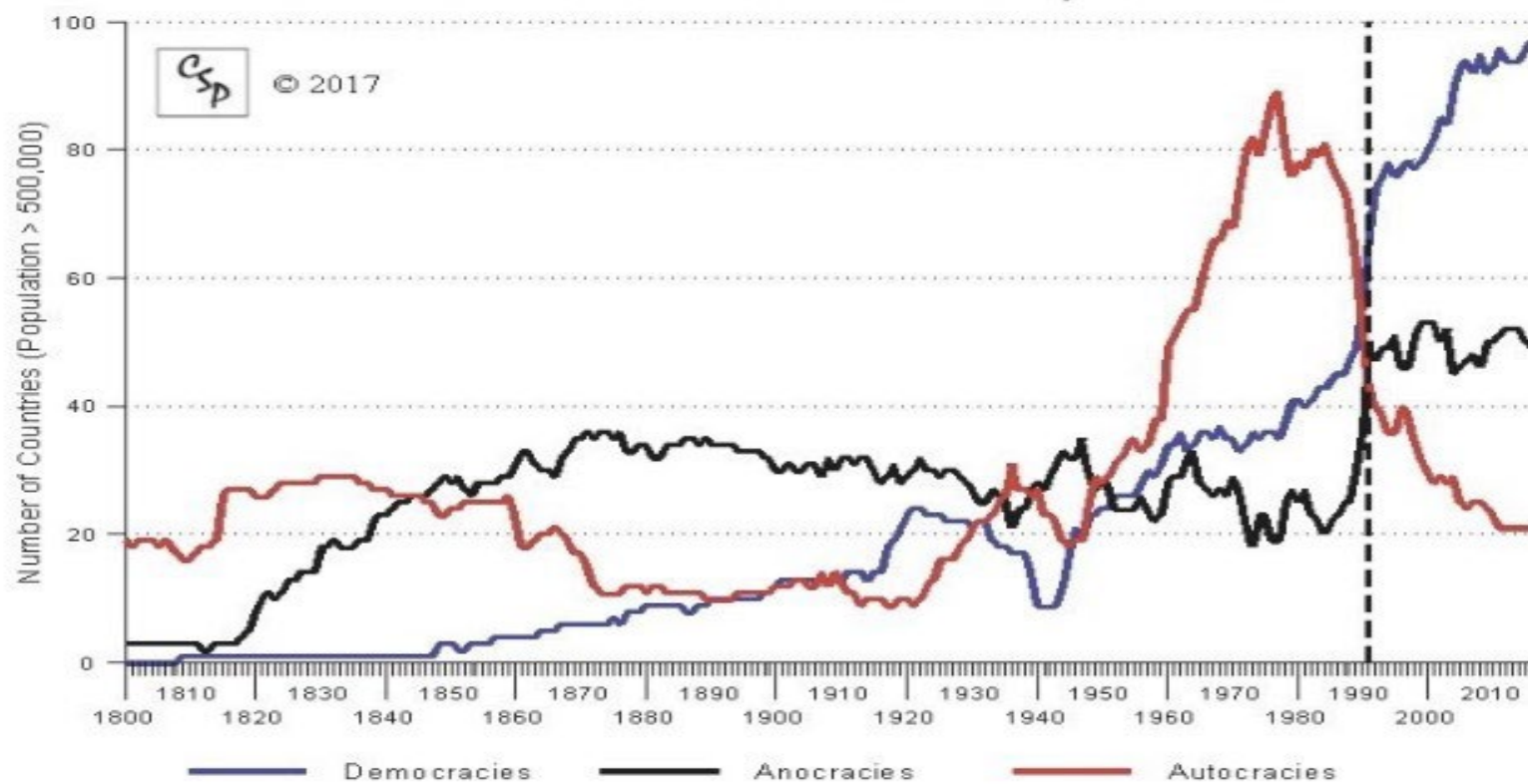
FIGURE 10.2 Monarchic, Military, and Civilian Dictatorships, 1946–2008



Heads in Dictatorships (Authoritarian Regimes)













Global Trends in Governance, 1800-2016



Persistence of Authoritarian Regimes

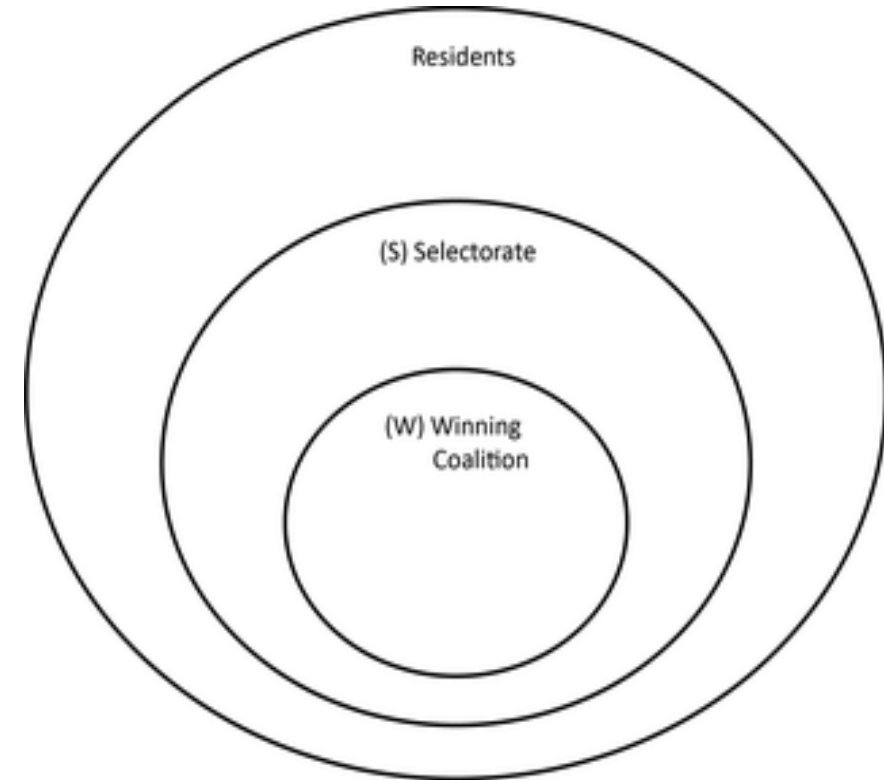
- Despite widespread democratization,
 - 1/3 of the world is under authoritarianism
 - Authoritarianism revived (e.g., Egypt)

Population by Political Regime Type

Type of regime ↕	Score ↕	Countries		Proportion of World population (%) ↕
		Number ↕	(%) ↕	
Full democracies ^[a]	 9.00–10.00  8.00–8.99	24	14.4%	7.8%
Flawed democracies ^[b]	 7.00–7.99  6.00–6.99	50	29.9%	37.6%
Hybrid regimes ^[c]	 5.00–5.99  4.00–4.99	34	20.4%	15.2%
Authoritarian regimes ^[d]	 3.00–3.99  2.00–2.99  1.00–1.99  0.00–0.99	59	35.3%	39.4%

Performance of Authoritarianism

- Lower spending on social programs than democracies
- Higher death rates than democracies
- Higher corruption rates than democracies



- Residents: Those who can choose the leader (registered voters/those who have the right to vote)
- Selectorate (S): Those who *really* choose the leaders (those who cast a vote)
- Winning Coalition (W): Those whose support translates into victory

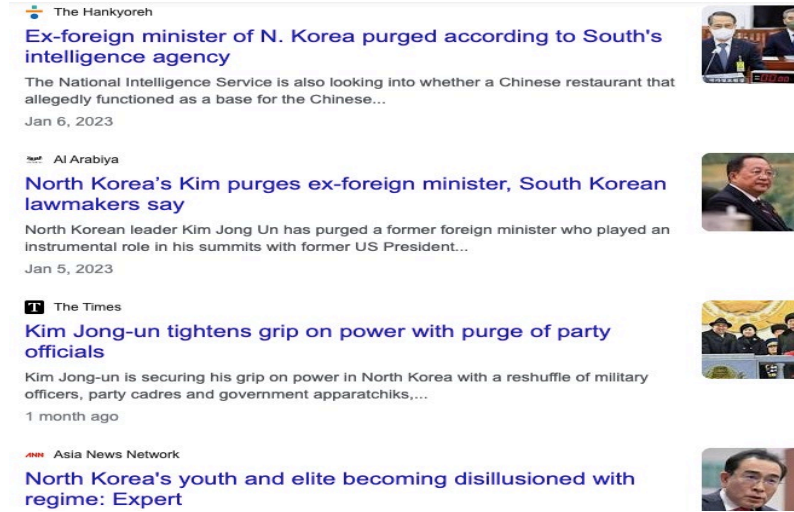
Institutions and Authoritarian Persistence

- Elections

- Authoritarian regimes sometimes hold elections to demonstrate their legitimacy, and those that hold regular elections tend to last longer than those that do not (Gandhi & Przeworski 2007).
 - How are elections held?
 - To stay in power, rulers can create institutions, such as moderate 'opposition' parties (e.g., A Just Russia in Russia), to encourage moderate ideas for policy-making and to pre-empt radical opposition.
 - ➔ Such institutions may blur the divide between democratic and authoritarian regimes

Popular Acceptance and Authoritarian Persistence

- Terror
 - Authoritarian regimes rely on terror to maintain their rule
 - Suppress dissidents
- Reward/Award
 - Elaborate systems of awards for authoritarian rules using sources like natural resources
 - Maintain supporters



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