



COURSE PLAN

2.10.2024	Introduction
9.10.2024	Civil society and social movements
16.10.2024	<i>Discussion 1</i>
23.10.2024	Course assignment
30.10.2024	Industrialisation and urbanisation in South Korea
6.11.2024	Democratisation and civil society in South Korea
13.11.2024	Local communities and community movements in Seoul
20.11.2024	Documentary screening: Dancing Forrest
27.11.2024	<i>Discussion 2</i>
4.12.2024	<i>Discussion 2</i>
11.12.2024	Conclusion
25.12.2024	—
1.1.2025	— (<i>Final presentation</i>)
8.1.2025	<i>Final presentation</i>
15.12.2025	<i>Final presentation</i>

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COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

→ Students are expected to:

- attend all lectures, discussions and presentations;
- understand, speak and write in fluent English;
- engage in discussion during the lectures;
- prepare and present two group presentations;
- prepare and present their course assignment;
- submit final course assignment (PDF, about 10-12 pages).

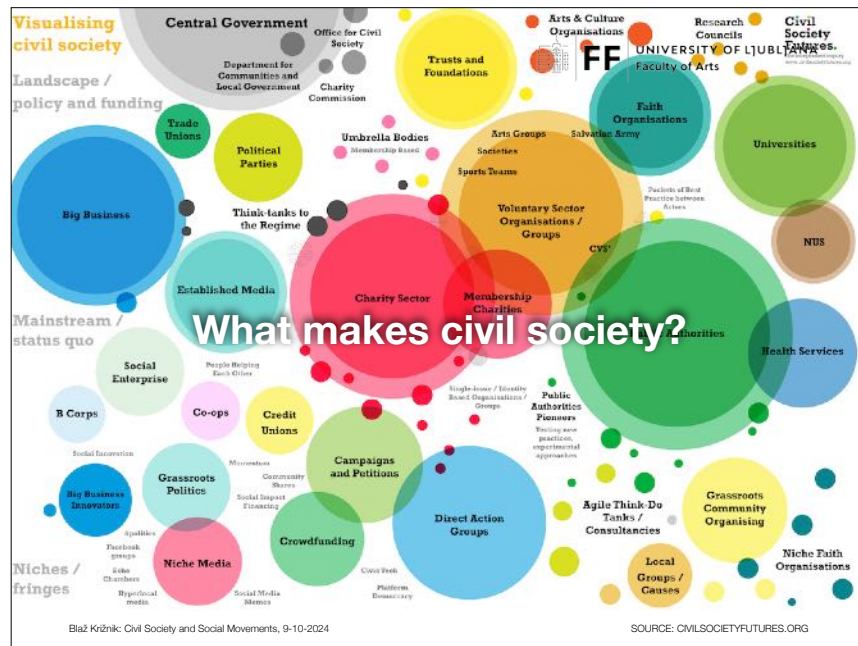
→ Final grade consist of:

- discussion (40%);
- course assignment presentation (20%);
- individual course assignment report (40%).

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- WHAT IS CIVIL SOCIETY?
- WHAT ARE SOCIAL MOVEMENTS?
- WHAT ARE COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS?

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“Civil society is a broad and elusive concept. It refers to the organizational dimension of social life, based on shared values, norms, and social networks among voluntary social groups, associations, and organizations outside the realm and control of the state or markets.”

Im Sik Cho, Blaž Križnik and Jeffrey Hou. 2022. Emerging Civic Urbanisms in Asia. Hong Kong, Seoul, Singapore and Taipei beyond developmental urbanisation.

WHAT IS CIVIL SOCIETY?

→ Civil society refers to organisational dimension of social life, based on shared values, norms and social networks among voluntary social groups, associations and organisations.

→ Civil society consists of different civic society organisations (CSO):

- non-governmental organisations (NGO)/not-for-profit organisations (NPO);
- community organisations (CO, e.g. neighbourhood associations);
- labour unions (e.g. teachers, students unions);
- faith-based and religious organisations (e.g. churches);
- advocacy groups (e.g. environmental activists);
- professional organisations (e.g. lawyers associations);
- research organisations/think-tanks (e.g. citizens institutes).

→ Civil initiatives (CI) are also a part of civil society, in contrast to CSO they focus on single and short-term goals, they lack permanent organisation.

→ Often, the boundary between CSO and CI is unclear, while CSO can have multiple roles (e.g. religious organisation can start a CI that later evolves into CO).

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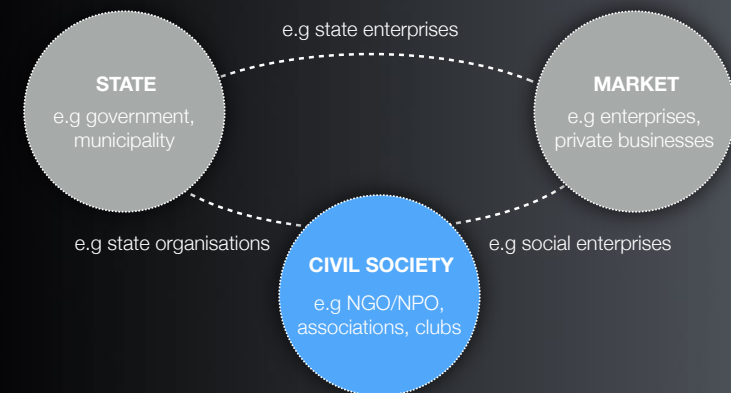


“[C]ivil society is almost invariably defined in terms of its relation to the state. Civil society is separate from and often in conflict with the state.”

Kim Sunhyuk. 2011. Democratization and Social Movements in South Korea: A Civil Society Perspective.

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CIVIL SOCIETY AND THE STATE



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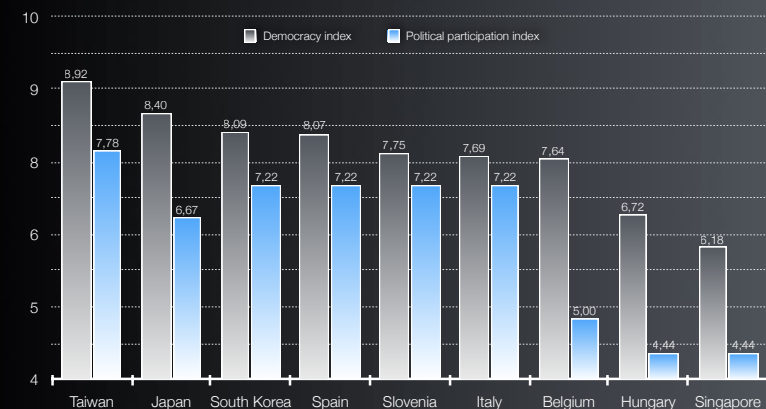
CIVIL SOCIETY AND THE STATE

- Civil society is considered the “third sector” of society along with the state and markets. Ideally, civil society is separated and autonomous from the state.
- The state can engage with the civil society in different ways:
 - oppression (common in authoritarian regimes);
 - ignorance (lack of support for CSO);
 - co-optation (using CSO to implement state agendas);
 - collaboration (through engagement and partnerships with CSO).
- On one hand, civil society provides services for the state (e.g. Red Cross, volunteering), on the other hand civil society challenges the state by advocating for citizens (e.g. Environmental Association, LGBTQ+ group).
- Civil society affects democracy, human rights, and social justice by enabling citizens to organise, express their views, and engage with the state.
- Strong civil society is expected to foster civic engagement and empowers individuals and communities in a democratic society.

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COMPARING CIVIL SOCIETY IN EUROPE AND EAST ASIA

Source: The Economist Democracy Index, 2022



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COLLECTIVE ACTION AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

- Collective action refers to the activities undertaken by a group that is working together towards a common goal or address shared interests.
- Collective action can take place temporarily (e.g spontaneous blockade of road) or permanently as organised social movements (e.g organised protests).
- Repertoires of collective action are different strategies that help groups achieve their aims, such as protests, riots, sit-ins, demonstrations, petitions, public forums, festivals, online campaigns, boycotts, etc.
- Social movements refer to collective action with continuity, permanency of organisation, means, available resources and with articulated long-term goals.
- Traditional social movements were class-based (e.g labour union, student movements), new social movements are often identity-based (feminism, environmentalism, food safety, heritage or community activism).
- Social movements evolve over time and are affected by their social, cultural and political contexts (importance of political opportunity structures).

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Social movements “tend to operate outside conventional party politics, with a low degree of hierarchy and formal organisation; they encourage a good deal of direct participation, and engage in forms of direct action and protest.”

Day, Graham. 2006. Community and Everyday Life.

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URBAN SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

- Urban social movements are organised forms of collective action that challenge social, economic and political relations in cities.
- They are place-based forms of collective action that struggle over the meaning of neighbourhoods and cities.
- Typically, urban social movements focus their collective action on:
 - demands over collective consumption (e.g housing provision, provision of public services, expansion of public space, food safety, gentrification, etc);
 - defending cultural identity (e.g. heritage preservation, community development, education, etc.);
 - expansion of political rights (e.g local autonomy, community self-management, participatory budgeting, etc.).
- Community movements are one of the most common forms of collective action in cities (urban social movements).
- They were always part of urban life, although community movements in Western cities expanded considerably after the 1960s.

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Community movements are collective “actions voluntarily practiced at the neighbourhood or community level and aimed at improving the community’s physical, relational or sociological aspects.”

Seongmin Kim, 2017. From Protest to Collaboration: The Evolution of the Community Movements amid Sociopolitical Transformation in South Korea.

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Rise of community movements in Asia: machizukuri (Japan), maeul mandeulgi (Korea), shequ yingzao (Taiwan)



COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

- Community movements can evolve from protests towards more pragmatic and institutionalised community organisations.
- They are civil society organisations (CSO) that aim to address specific needs or shared interests within a local community.
- Community organisations are often managed by community members rather than external entities.
- They engage in advocacy for policy changes, provide social services for local communities and organise cultural and education events and programs for them.
- Community organisations have important role in improving quality of life in local communities and cities.
- Community organisations also mediate between the local community and the state for which they need to collaborate with the state (e.g. community capacity building, CDT/CDC, state-community partnerships, etc.).

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