

Democracy and Democratization

Section 5

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Gov 20: Foundations of Comparative Politics

Fall 2025

1. Housekeeping
2. Discussion
3. Looking Ahead

Housekeeping

Paper #1: Due 10:30am on 7. October

- Requires a clear, falsifiable argument
- Evidence can either support argument or disprove alternative explanations
- Focus on mechanisms and assumptions in readings
- Citation format

Normative vs. Positive Claims

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- Normative: Women should be allowed to vote.
- Positive: Politicians support women's suffrage when they expect women to vote for them.

Normative vs. Positive Claims

- Normative: Women should be allowed to vote.
- Positive: Politicians support women's suffrage when they expect women to vote for them.
- Normative: Governments should respond to voters' demands.
- Positive: Certain institutions make governments more or less responsive.

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Our Aims

- Understand the definition(s) of democracy
- Discuss what matters for the emergence of democracies
- Separate structuralist and voluntarist approaches

Defining Democracy

1. Levitsky

Defining Democracy

1. Levitsky
2. Lipset

Defining Democracy

1. Levitsky
2. Lipset
3. Dahl

What Causes Democracy?

Modernization (Lipset)

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Does the evidence support this claim? (Przeworski and Limongi)

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Endogenous vs. exogenous explanations

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Modernization (Lipset)

Does the evidence support this claim? (Przeworski and Limongi)

Endogenous vs. exogenous explanations

What are alternative explanations? (Teele, Varshney)

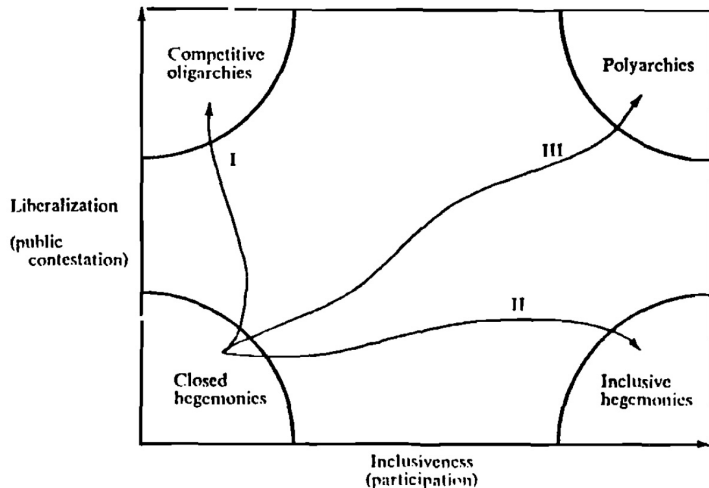


FIGURE 1.2 Liberalization, Inclusiveness, and Democratization

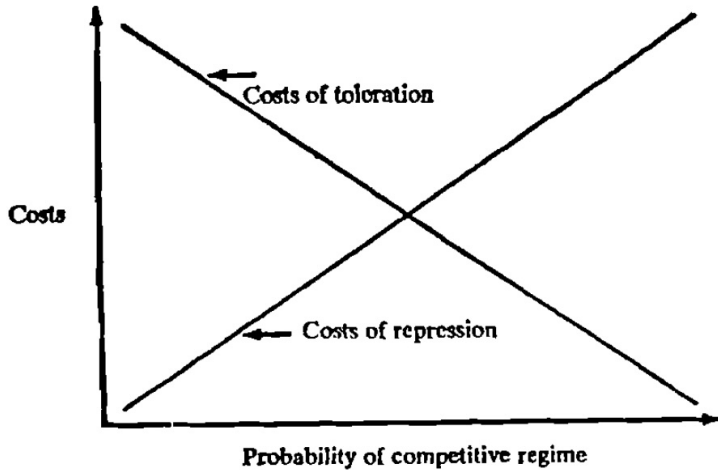


FIGURE 1.4

1. Housekeeping
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Looking Ahead

Best of luck with your papers!