

## II. Empirical Layer — Political Science

**“How does politics actually work?”**

Subfields:

- Comparative politics (regimes, parties, elections)
- International relations (realism, liberalism, constructivism)
- Political economy (capital, class, institutions)
- Public administration (bureaucracy, governance)
- Elite theory (Mosca, Pareto, Michels)
- Systems & institutional theory

This layer explains:

- state formation
- elite circulation
- regime durability
- bureaucratic inertia
- global governance
- institutional power

It studies what politics *is*.