POLITICAL CULTURE AND COMPARATIVE POLITICS pdf

1: The Journal of Comparative Politics

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Rather, individual choices at pivotal moments in time pushed Russia towards a more autocratic path in the s and then produced a reordering of preferences and power in favor of continuity with this new autocratic arrangement. Actors, not structures, were the drivers of these changes, first towards democracy and then away from it. What has Russia become? The regime is best characterized as a conservative populist autocracy. It eschews all transformational visions, be they restorative or progressive, while pursuing elite appropriation and reproduction of the political status quo as overriding aims. The ruler relies for legitimation on populist appeals to great power nationalism and traditional folk morality, but he eschews the ethnocentricity often found in populism of the right. His judicious populist politics and skillful campaign to centralize and concentrate power have helped forge a stable, popular autocracy that yields bounty for the ruler and his favorites. How the Quest to Restore Order After the Soviet Collapse Shaped Russian Popular Opinion This article argues that despite the chaos and uncertainty of the post-Soviet period, Russian political outlooks were highly coherent because they were driven by a near consensual desire to achieve greater stability. Based on over-time and cross-section dimensional analyses of a unique dataset of surveys, covering the â€" period, I show that the popular obsession with restoring order facilitated the consolidation of authoritarianism in Russia. In particular, stability-centric outlooks structured political competition in ways that favored strong-armed incumbent behavior and fostered divisions and extremism among the opposition. Hale, How Crimea Pays: The present study builds on the core logic of leading explanations of rallying in democracies to develop theory on how rallying works in authoritarian contexts. Herrera, and Theodore P. Gerber, Xenophobia on the Rise? Temporal and Regional Trends in Xenophobic Attitudes in Russia In this article we consider the trajectory of xenophobia in Russia since the disintegration of the Soviet Union. We also statistically analyze the degree to which correlates of xenophobia have changed between and We find that Muscovites have become more xenophobic toward many groups over time relative to residents of other regions. This change is particularly striking in comparison to , when Muscovites were generally less xenophobic than residents of other regions. Finally, we find that a strong lack of confidence in Russian President Putin is associated with higher levels of xenophobia across time, complicating the perceived link between the Russian government and xenophobic sentiment. Remington, Russian Economic Inequality in Comparative Perspective This article considers Russian income inequality in relation to the trend toward rising inequality in the U. Income and wealth inequality in Russia has been rising except in periods when the economy is in recession, and wealth inequality in Russia is now highest in the world. The analysis shows that inequality trends in Russia share some characteristics with other developed and developing economies, including technological change, increased integration in the global economy, and the capitalization of rent streams. Financialization and dependence on natural resource extraction contribute strongly to both cross-sectional and cross-regional inequality in Russia. The absence of institutions for aggregating broad competing social interestsâ€"whether corporatist or partisanâ€"restricts the capacity of the political system to set agreed rules governing the distribution of the burdens and benefits of economic growth. Natalia Forrat, Shock-Resistant Authoritarianism: This mechanism complements the currently dominant explanation of authoritarian resilience focused on material redistribution. The article argues that public sector organizations may significantly increase the ability of an autocrat to implement political decisions on the ground. The article finds that if the factors contributing to the pressure on teachers were eliminated, Vladimir Putin might not have won the election in the first round. Tucker, Turning the Virtual Tables: Government Strategies for Addressing Online Opposition with an Application to Russia We introduce a novel classification of strategies employed by autocrats to combat online opposition generally, and opposition on social media in particular. Our classification distinguishes both online from offline responses and censorship from engaging in opinion formation. For each of the three optionsâ€"offline action,

technical restrictions on access to content, and online engagement—we provide a detailed account for the evolution of Russian government strategy since Although this approach garners less than unanimous support, I argue that it is the best starting place for inquiry. For the hybridity paradigm to be of maximum use, however, we need more of a conversation about its theoretical underpinnings and empirical manifestations. The present essay takes up these matters with reference to the Russian experience since I urge scholars to apply a pair of criteria for what constitutes a political regime and pay more attention to what we mean by a hybrid regime and to its actual, observable components. When it comes expressly to Russia in the Putin years, I argue for the importance of the educative aspect of erecting the hybrid system. Borges, Neoliberalism with a Human Face? Thus, ideology did influence the spread of CCTs. This is supported by research on left-party attitudes, the design of ten programs, and three country case studies. Sandra Botero, Judges, Litigants, and the Politics of Rights Enforcement in Argentina Under what conditions can courts produce political and social change? My claim is that courts can be most consequential when they act in concert with other actors to create political spaces for ongoing discussion and engagement with regard to rights. In explaining judicial impact, I focus on the novel and understudied oversight mechanisms—like follow-up committees and public hearings—that some assertive high courts deploy to monitor adherence to some of their rulings. The analysis is based on comparative case studies of two landmark socioeconomic rights cases handed down by the Argentine Supreme Court. I show that the deployment of oversight mechanisms can create institutional spaces where the court, elected leaders, and private and civil society actors converge to generate change, resulting in greater impact. Stability and Change in Sub-National Support for African Incumbent Parties We analyze geographic dimensions of African voting to suggest that the salience of previous explanations of vote choice, including clientelism, performance evaluation, and local strong-arming varies across different types of constituencies. Analysis of Government-to-Opposition Swing GOS voting in seven countries over time reveals that GOS varies not only across the urban-rural divide but also across different types of rural constituencies. GOS is most likely in densely-populated rural constituencies and less likely in sparsely-populated rural constituencies that are often among the poorest in the country. We infer that political and economic geography shapes prospects for autonomous vote choice, performance voting, and quality of democracy. Analysis of original data from elite interviews and archival research in Senegal shows that on an uneven playing field, most party leaders are primarily concerned with negotiating patronage; few are regular vote-seekers and fewer consistently oppose the ruling party in elections. Party leaders rely on personal resources for party-building and rarely possess the endowments that facilitate consistent opposition: A Micro-Level Analysis of Preferences Scholarly opinions diverge as to which citizens in autocratic regimes actually prefer democracy to the status quo. While some argue that citizens with higher levels of socioeconomic status are more likely to prefer democracy because they desire political equality, others argue that the poor should prefer democracy most because they will have more relative power to affect redistributive policies. Analyzing public opinion data for tens of thousands of respondents living in autocracies around the world, we show that all types of citizens in authoritarian countries—rich and poor alike—prefer democracy to autocratic rule. Drawing on two case studies, we also show that political and economic factors are more likely to mobilize different types of people to protest for democracy. Since the first post-Communist election in , Ukraine has used three different electoral systems: The empirical results find that PR systems consistently nominated and elected more women than did the SMD systems. In addition, there is little evidence of gender bias among voters against female candidates in either PR or SMD elections. Parkinson and Sherry Zaks, Review Article, Militant and Rebel Organization s An emerging trend in research on militant groups asks how structures, dynamics, and relationships within these organizations influence key wartime and postwar outcomes. While the analytical pivot toward organizations advances the field in essential ways, scholars still lack a unified conceptual approach to organization-centric analyses of militancy. This article distills four key dimensions for analysis from organizational sociology: It then reviews four new works on militant organizations and outlines their place in this emergent research trajectory. These books, we argue, underscore how situating research at the organizational level sheds new light on political outcomes such as rebel resilience, social service provision, and deployment of violence. We then highlight two related and promising organizational research

agendas for future studies. Vote Prices and Political Support in a Dominant-Party Regime While electoral clientelism is common, we know little about what determines vote prices, which often vary significantly within country-elections. Extant literature offers differing predictions of whether supporters of the incumbent or outsiders receive higher-value outlays. The Example of Zambia Just as voters have ethnic identities, they also have economic interests. Government policies create winners and losers, favoring some economic groups or sectors and disfavoring others. And to the extent that economic interests divide populations into different blocs as ethnic identities do, politicians have options for building coalitions. Using the example of Zambia, I show that the recipes for successful coalition building have varied from election to election, and that shifting bases of partisan competition eventually brought about party turnover in power. With a demonstration of multidimensional party strategies, a clear contribution of the work lies in enhancing our ability to explain partisan change and alternation in power, despite a static ethnic map. Salience and Autonomy in the Policymaking Process What explains the changing policymaking process for abortion law in Mexico over the past century? From the s until the s, abortion laws across the thirty-two federal entities in Mexico were nearly identical. Between and , almost half of the states liberalized abortion laws, but very little attention was paid to the reforms. Abortion suddenly emerged as a central polarizing conflict in the aftermath of the presidential elections that ushered in multiparty democracy. This article provides a comparative analysis of criminal codes and abortion law through time and across the Mexican states. It builds on the theoretical insights of U. The article argues that policy salience and policy autonomy are key variables for understanding different types of policymaking processes. Argentina in Comparative Perspective This article develops and tests a political-economy explanation for the most common type of financial crisis: I argue that currency crises often reflect pressures from powerful interest groups to adopt unsustainable financial policies that generate short-term booms followed by painful currency crises. To test the theory, this article uses a multi-method research design that combines cross-national statistical analyses with a case study of Argentina that draws on extensive primary sources. The quantitative analyses demonstrate that currency crises are more likely in countries with organized labor movements and large industrial sectors, and that imprudent financial policies are an important channel through which interest groups contribute to currency crises. These findings suggest that interest group pressures help explain why currency crises are so common. Explaining Repression in Kleptocratic Regimes This article investigates variation in the governing strategies of wealth-seeking autocrats. Why do some kleptocrats grant political opponents significant leeway to organize, while others enforce strict limits on such activities? In contrast, rulers who can extract bribes from foreign companies based on natural resource wealth can pursue aggressive repression without jeopardizing their illicit profits. Coercion, Corruption, and Deterred Defection in Uzbekistan Kompromat, or compromising material used against political elites, is widely considered to be essential in shoring up authoritarian durability. While it is useful in preempting or penalizing individual challengers, however, kompromat is a highly targeted and selective tool that does little to deter widespread elite defection in authoritarian regimes in the middle of a crisis. Instead, where autocrats have previously contracted on violenceâ€"coopted security for their use in repressionâ€"ruler concessions concentrate rent seeking under the national executive, creating winner-take-all stakes that makes defection prohibitively risky. Comparative Lessons from Twenty Years of South African Democracy Reviewing four books on South African politics, this article explains outsize scholarly interest in South Africa by referencing contradictions of its democratic transitionâ€"contradictions that provide generalizable insights on democratization, law, and rights. Broadly, the literature suggests that rights form the foundation of robust democracies by stabilizing political systems, reducing violence, and lessening inequality. By contrast, proliferating rights in South Africa have had contradictory effects and, unexpectedly, enable political disorder. Yet, citizens also use contrasting meanings of rights to justify violence against others, particularly foreigners. To explain these contradictory usages of rights, the article advances a meaning-making approach to the study of rights.

2: Theory of Political Culture - Oxford Scholarship

Political culture is important in comparative politics because it can be used to help us understand why different countries have such different political systems. For example, one of the most.

Somelung Tikhak Comparative politics Traditional approaches: The traditional approaches to Political Science was broadly predominant till the occurrence of the Second World War. These approaches were mainly associated with the traditional outlook of politics which underlined the study of the state and government. Consequently, traditional approaches are principally concerned with the study of the organization and activities of the state and principles and the ideas which motivate political organizations and activities. These approaches were normative and principled. Characteristics of Traditional approaches: Traditional approaches are mostly normative and stresses on the values of politics. Prominence is on the study of different political structures. Traditional approaches made very little attempt to relate theory and research. These approaches consider that since facts and values are closely interlinked, studies in Political Science can never be scientific Modern Approach: Thus, to minimize the deficiencies of the traditional approaches, various new approaches have been advocated by the new political thinkers. Many thinkers regard these approaches as a reaction against the traditional approaches. These approaches are mainly concerned with scientific study of politics. The first breakthrough in this regard comes with the emergence of the behavioural revolution in Political Science. Characteristics of Modern Approaches These approaches try to draw conclusion from empirical data. These approaches go beyond the study of political structures and its historical analysis Modern Approaches believe in inter-disciplinary study They emphasize scientific methods of study and attempt to draw scientific conclusions in Political Science Approaches to the Study of Comparative Politics 1. Introduction Three approaches have dominated the study of comparative politics: In this essay I will be addressing a series of question and topics within each literatureâ€"seminal works, assumptions, strengths and weaknesses, and applied areas of research. Institutional Approach The study of institutions has been central not only to the field of comparative politics, but to the political science field as a whole. Many authors have argued that institutions have shaped political behavior and social change. The new institutionalism body can be divided into three analytical approaches: These three theoretical islands developed independently from each other. I will provide a review of the three analytical approaches. Historical Institutionalism This approach developed in response to group theories of politics and structural- functionalism Hall and Taylor From group theory, historical institutionalists borrowed the assumption that conflict among rival groups for resources is at the heart of politics Hall and Taylor From the structural-functionalists, historical institutionalists borrowed the assumption that the state is made up of interacting parts. The big contributors to this approach are Steinmo and Thelen. Steinmo and Thelen see institutions as a constraint upon individuals and their choices Koelble They argue that institutions are a determinant of choices and preferences. Steinmo and Thelen critique the rational choice approach for viewing affect the behavior of individuals, historical institutionalists use two approaches â€" the calculus and the cultural approaches. When it comes to the one of the big questions of institutional analysis, how institutions The calculus approach emphasizes the aspects of human behavior that are based on strategic calculation â€" individuals seek to maximize their goals given by their preference and they act strategically in the pursuit of those goals Hall and Taylor It is important to note that preferences and goals are exogenously to the analysis. Institutions affect human behavior mainly by providing actors decreasing the level of uncertainty about the behavior of other actors by providing information, rules and norms. Also, institutions provide moral or cognitive templates for interpretation which in turn affect the identities, self-images, and preferences of individuals. Historical institutionalists are attentive to the relationship between institutions and ideas. They emphasize the importance of institutions but they do not posit institutions as the only causal force in politics; other factors play a role such as socioeconomic development and diffusion of ideas. Some of the weaknesses of this approach is that it does not incorporate some aspects of individual decision making to its analysis. Some of the strengths of this approach include its emphasis on the effect of political struggle on institutional outcomes and how institutional outcomes then affect political struggles. This approach should be more useful

to the analysis of institutional development and policymaking Koelble Rational Choice Institutionalism The rational choice institutionalism was born out of the study of American congressional behavior Hall and Taylor These scholars were trying to explain why congressional outcomes were considerably stable and they decided to look at institutions. They found that institutions of the Congress lowered transactions costs among legislators making the passage of legislation stable. Some of the big names of this approach are North, Levi and Rothstein. They argue that if individuals do not realize their interest, it is because they do not have complete information and are subject to transaction costs Koelble Rational choice institutionalists assume that individuals have a fixed set of preferences and they behave in manner that maximizes the attainment of these preferences. One of the unique assumptions of rational choice institutionalists see politics as a series of collective action problems Hall and Taylor Individuals are constraint to take actions in the absence of institutional arrangements that pose guarantees complementary behavior of other individuals. Some of the weaknesses of the rational choice institutionalism include: The rational choice institutionalist approach ought to be more useful for the analysis of interactions between organizations and individuals Koelble Sociological Institutionalism This approach emerged from organizational theory. These scholars wanted to challenge the view that some parts of the world reflect a formal rationality while some others reflect culture. Sociological institutionalists define institutions more broadly than any other approach. They argue that institutions affect behavior of individuals by socializing individuals into particular institutional roles and individuals consequently internalize norms related to these roles. One of the weaknesses of this approach is that it does not explain how institutions originate. Another weakness is the operationalization of culture. Some of the strengths of this approach are: Rational Choice Approach The rational choice approach derives from the neoclassical economic model and it has been applied to a variety of subfields of political science including interest groups and bureaucracy, formation of coalition in government, electoral politics and so forth. Many scholars have contributed to the rational choice approach. Mancur Olson was one of these scholars. In his The Logic of Collective Action , Olson emphasizes strategic interaction and the individual decision making process. Olson explained that rational individuals will not ct to achieve a common goal because he knows that his efforts will not have an effect on the situation, and he will be able to enjoy any improvement brought about by the other actors whether or not he supports the organization. Members of a group have a common goal but they have no common interest in paying the costs of providing that collective good. These assumptions led scholars to investigate conditions under which individuals will come together in an effort to influence government or each other Levi Olson also brought up to light the discussion of the fee rider problem which called into question the assumption that interests are automatically translated into organization. Douglas North is another contributor to the rational choice approach. North emphasis on transaction cost theory, economic institutionalism, and the role of relative bargaining power have stimulated investigation of the variation in state action and state outcomes. The model of rational choice conceives individuals as goal-oriented actors who act to pursue the best available outcome. This approach is methodologically individualist and purposeful action Kim but it also focuses on the aggregation of individual choices. Thus all group choice ultimately is explained by individual choice. One of the core assumptions of the rational choice theory is that individuals are rational actors. This assumption is the subject of much criticism. There is little agreement on what it means to be rational. Another assumption is that individuals act strategically in order to attain their goals. Here an important evaluation or consideration of behavior of other relevant actors takes place before decision-making process. In order to make decisions, a strategic player should have expectations about other players. Another key assumption regards the forms of constraints on human behavior. Constraints come in two major forms. First is scarcity of resources. An individual that wants to spend his vacation time in Hawaii, cannot realize his objective if he does not have the capital to afford the trip. Another source of constraint is institutional or organizational. Institutions shape individual choices in order to produce equilibrium outcomes. On the other hand, some may also argue that institutions may facilitate action. According to Margaret Levi, the strengths of the rational choice approach includes: Among the weaknesses of this approach are: As a matter of fact, political culture scholars argue that the conceptual weakness of rational choice theory can be corrected through the use of political cultures; political culture when conceptually clear and empirically defined is able to specify

the whole range of human objectives or goals Lane Political Cultural Approach Political culture has been used a conceptual umbrella that wraps around values, perceptions and beliefs, dealing with every political phenomena. Political culture emerged out of the need, emphasized especially by Almond, to deepening and broadening the scope of political explanation. The goal of political culture was to explain the diversity among and continuity within states Lane The origins of the modern political and cultural analysis can be related to the Political Culture and Political Development Pye and Verba Political culture has also adopted a psychologist or individualist approach, an example is The Civic Culture by Almond and Verba The political culture approach, like the other approaches, faces conceptual problems. Latin argues that by focusing only on shared values, Wildavsky misses the point that people with strongly opposed views can share a culture and people with strongly similar views may come from different cultures. Latin argues that to share a culture means to share a religion, language, or history. As one can assume, if the difficulties in reaching a common definition of culture are great, its operationalization is even greater. Ronald Inglehart is one of the major contributors to the political culture approach. In his The Renaissance of Political Culture, Inglehart hypothesized that societies that ranked high on this syndrome are much likelier to be stable democracies than those that ranked low. He also argues that publics of different societies are characterized by durable cultural orientations that have major political and economic consequences which are closely linked to the viability of democracy Inglehart In our unit we saw the political culture approach been applied to explain levels of democracy and postmaterialism attitudes. Edward Muller and Mitchell Seligson develop a model that allows them to make inferences about the possibility of unidirectional or reciprocal causation between civic culture attitudes and democracy.

3: Blog #5-Political Culture | DVHS AP Comparative Government & Politics

Political culture differs from political ideology in that two people can share a political culture but have different ideologies, such as Democrats and Republicans.

4: Comparative Cultures and Politics - James Madison College

Comparative Politics: Approach and Concepts I. What is Comparative Politics? II. Elements of the Political System A. Governmental Institutions B. Political Culture and Identity.

5: political culture | Definition, Features, & Examples | www.enganchecubano.com

Scholarly, comparative politics concentrates on the study and the effects of political culture, institutions and individual decision-making in different political systems around the world.

6: Comparative Politics - The University of Michigan Press

Comparative Politics: Rationality, Culture, and Structure is a revised second edition of the volume that guided students and scholars through the intellectual demands of comparative politics. Retaining a focus on the field's research schools, it now pays parallel attention to the pragmatics of causal research.

7: What is the role of political culture in comparative politics? | eNotes

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8: Comparative politics - Wikipedia

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The course will explore political culture, electoral systems and voting behavior, candidate selection and electoral campaign, dynamics of party competition, government-business relationships, local politics and central-local relationships, the roles of the mass media and civil society, Japan's international relations, etc. Dist: INT or SOC.

9: Gabriel Almond - Wikipedia

Comparative Cultures and Politics (CCP) is a major that studies how culture and politics intersect in global public affairs. CCP's innovative interdisciplinary approach in the humanities and social sciences gives students the skills and competencies they need to address complex and critical global.

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