

POLI 11D: Week Two Section

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In a few sentences, define the following term, explain its significance to this course, and give an example:

political community

Logistics

- No OH on Oct 25th (Wed)
- OH on Oct 27th (Friday) - TBD

Key terms

government
sovereignty
democratization
public goods

Cont. Powersharing

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- grand coalition governments in which nearly all political parties have appointments;
- protection of minority rights for groups;
- decentralization of power;

3. Examples:

- Lebanon, Switzerland, Austria, the Netherlands, Belgium, Fiji and Malaysia

Types of Regimes

Democracy

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Autocracy

Residual category of non-democracies. Oligarchy, totalitarian systems, military dictatorships, etc.

Distribution of Power

Vertical

Power is shared among governments at different levels (municipal or local level, state, federal): Federalism.

Horizontal

Power is shared among different organs of government such as the legislature, executive and judiciary.

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Parliamentary Democracy

Executive and legislative branches are much more interdependent

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- Security and order

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- Community and nation building
- Security and order
- Protecting rights
- Promoting economic efficiency and growth
- Protecting the weak/minorities

When Does Government Become the Problem?

- Rent seeking and corruption
- Violations of basic rights and tyranny

Fitting it Together

Does the type of democracy affect public policy or government effectiveness?