

24th ECPR PhD Summer School on “Political Parties and Party Systems”

Leuphana University Lüneburg, September 7-13, 2014

Academic Programme: Political Parties in New Democracies

Local Organizers:

Professor Ferdinand Müller-Rommel and Professor Sebastian Elischer

Sunday (7. Sept.)

Afternoon Arrival of participants

20.00 Reception in town

Monday (8. Sept.)

9.00 – 13.00 Presentation and Discussion

Political Parties in New Democracies: Introduction

Professor Paul Webb (University of Sussex)

Since the 'third wave' of democratisation, research on parties in new democracies has burgeoned and brought with it a different emphasis to the older tradition of research on parties in first or second wave systems. Most obviously, the question of the institutionalisation and stabilisation of party politics in new democracies arises, in contrast to the overriding concern with matters of decomposition and change in the older democracies. The analytical tools and measuring instruments deployed in each case are often similar, however (e.g. electoral volatility, the fragmentation of party systems, the cohesion of legislative parties, and so on). This lecture will reflect on these matters, analyse patterns of published research on parties in new democracies, and offer an assessment of the functional performance of parties in new democracies.

14.00 – 18.00 Presentation and discussion of research proposals by participants

Tuesday (9. Sept.)

9.00 – 13.00 Presentation and Discussion

Party System Competition and Private Sector Development in Africa

Professor Anne Pitcher (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor)

The literature on party politics in Africa's relatively recent democracies has been preoccupied with parties as organizations and parties in the electorate but has paid much less attention to the role of parties in government. This oversight is rather surprising given that many African countries were adopting transformative neoliberal economic policies at the same time that they were transitioning to democracy. Have party system dynamics affected economic policy choices and outcomes? Has the growth of new actors in the private sector had an impact on party politics? This lecture discusses how the logic of party system competition has shaped private sector development in Africa.

14.00 – 18.00 Presentation and discussion of research proposals by participants

19.00 Reception at the Centre for the Study of Democracy

Wednesday (10. Sept.)

9.00 – 13.00 Presentation and Discussion

Political Party Systems in Democratizing Asia

Professor Dr. Aurel Croissant (University of Heidelberg)

This lecture analyses the institutionalization and nationalization of political parties and party systems in Asian democracies in national, regional and international comparison. The analysis demonstrates that the degree of territorial homogenization and formal institutionalization of party organizations differs among these nations but is predominantly low, compared to other non-Asian party systems. Building on these findings, potential explanations for these characteristics of the party systems will be discussed as well as the consequences for broader processes of democratization and democratic consolidation.

14.00 – 18.00 Presentation and discussion of research proposals by participants

Thursday (11. Sept.)

9.00 – 13.00 Presentation and Discussion

Party Politics in Central and Eastern Europe

Professor Dr. Ferdinand Mülle-Rommel (Leuphana University Lüneburg)

Dr. Fernando Casal Bertoa (University of Nottingham)

Research on parties in new democracies requires different emphases, and, often, different conceptual and measurement tools than the analysis of established parties and party systems. This lecture will discuss, using the general framework of institutionalization, volatility, closure and fragmentation of party systems, the success of new parties, the relations among party elites, the interplay between demand and supply of party politics, and the contribution of parties to the quality of representation and accountability in the new democracies of Central and

Eastern Europe.

14.00 – 18.00 Presentation and discussion of research proposals by participants

Friday (12. Sept.)

9.00 – 13.00 Presentation and Discussion
Parties in New Democracies „and“ Autocracies
Professor Matthijs Bogaards (Jacobs University, Bremen)

While parties are indispensable for democracy, they are also a useful tool for autocrats. Single parties were prevalent in post-independence Africa and the Communist party state governed Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union for almost half a century. While the third wave of democratization gave rise to many new parties and party systems around the world, regime change also resulted in the spread of so-called competitive or electoral authoritarian regimes. These dictatorships allow for multi-party competition but privilege the ruling party and make it very difficult for the opposition to win. This lecture will examine the role that parties play in new democracies „and“ autocracies.

14.00 – 18.00 Presentation and discussion of research proposals by participants

20.00 Good-by party for Summer School participants
 sponsored by the *Centre for the Study of Democracy (CSD)*

Saturday (13. Sept) Departure of participants