

# Size and Democracy (Part 2)

**Steve L. Monroe**

YSS4274

# Why are smaller states more likely to be democratic?



Are smaller states more likely  
to be democratic?

# How is this debate measuring size?

# Seminar Objectives: To Discuss

- Size and Democracy

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- Size and Democracy (**Corbett, Veenendaal, and Ugye; Diamond and Tsalik; Gerring and Veenendaal; Veenendaal and Corbett**)

# Outline of Seminar

- 1 Announcements
- 2 Reading Presentation
- 3 Is smaller better for democracy?
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# Op-Ed 1 (Feb 23)

- Must discuss small state(s) (however defined) in relation to: development, decentralization, democracy or diversity
- Word count: 800
- Target audience: educated non-academic reader (Straits Times; New York Times)
- Op-Ed 1 + Op-Ed 2 = 25% of final grade
- Rubric + Examples from last year are on canvas (Files -> Rubric)
- Prof Monroe will not look at drafts, but can come to office hours to discuss the op-ed
- Next week we will go over op-ed writing

# Reading Presentations

Please send me a pdf / powerpoint of your presentation when you get a chance.

No Class on Monday

Happy LNY!

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No Office Hours on Monday.

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“Why Monarchy Persists in Small States: The Cases of Tonga, Bhutan, and Liechtenstein,” by Jack Corbett, Wouter Veenendaal, and Lhawang Ugyel.

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# To Note

- There are two democracy debates
  - ▶ Democratic *emergence* (Autocracy → Democracy)
  - ▶ Democratic *endurance* (Democracy → Democracy)

# Why might smaller size facilitate democratic emergence?

Why might smaller size facilitate democratic emergence? (Take five minutes to write your thoughts)

# Size and Democratic Emergence: Pro

- Easier representation
- Homogenous interests
- Access to policymakers
- Greater trust
- Collective Action

# Size and Democratic Emergence: Con

- Conservatism and Risk Aversion
- Entrenched elites
- Top-down sanctioning
- Human capital constraints
- Personalism > Ideology
- Less Contestation

## What causes democratic endurance?

# HOW DEMOCRACIES DIE

Levitsky and Ziblatt, 2019

# Why might smaller size facilitate democratic endurance?



Why might smaller size facilitate democratic endurance? (Take five minutes to write your thoughts)

# Size and Democratic Endurance: Pro

- Accountability
- Personalism
- Homogenous interests
- Access to policymakers
- Greater trust

# Size and Democratic Endurance: Con

- Personalism
- Weak Contestation
- Top-down sanctioning
- Clientelism
- Human capital constraints
- Weaker civil society
- Personalism > Ideology
- Less Contestation

Are the democratization and decentralization debates the same thing?!?!?

# Your Turn

Is smaller better for  
democracy?

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- Size and Democracy (**Corbett, Veenendaal, and Ugye; Diamond and Tsalik; Gerring and Veenendaal; Veenendaal and Corbett**)

# Next Seminar (Feb 15)

- Size and Diversity (Part 1)
  - ▶ Are small states really more homogenous?



Have a great weekend and  
LNY!