

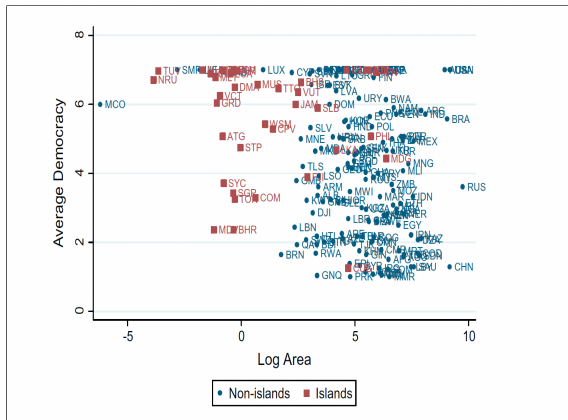
Size and Democracy (Part 1)

Steve L. Monroe

YSS4274

Why are smaller states more likely to be democratic?

Size and Democracy



Source: Fors, Fig.1

Are smaller states more likely
to be democratic?

How is this debate measuring size?

Seminar Objectives: To Discuss

- Defining Democracy
- Size and Democracy

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- Defining Democracy (**Schmitter and Karl; Prof. Monroe; Group Activity**)
- Size and Democracy (**Diamond and Tsalik; Veenendaal and Corbett**)

Outline of Seminar

- 1 Announcements
- 2 Defining Democracy
- 3 Is smaller better for democracy?
- 4 Next Seminar: To Dos

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Announcement: No Class Next Monday

- Happy LNY!

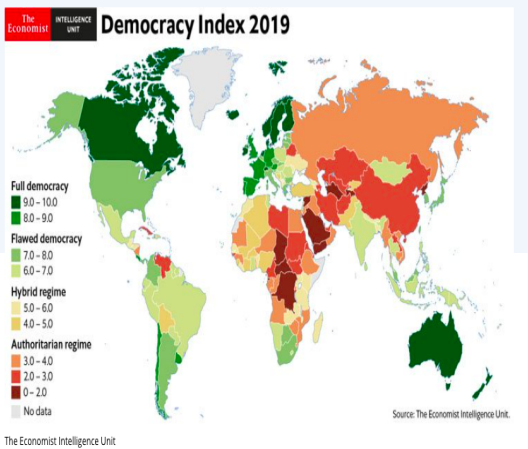
Op-Ed 1 (Feb 23)

- 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
- Prof Monroe will upload rubric shortly
- Prof Monroe will not look at drafts, but can come to office hours to discuss the op-ed

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Economist Democracy Index (2019)



Source: The Economist

Definitions

What is democracy?

Definitions

What is democracy? And how to measure it?

Definitions

“Modern political democracy is a system of governance in which rulers are held accountable for their actions in the public realm by citizens, acting indirectly through the competition and cooperation of their elected representative.” - Schmitter and Karl.

Definitions

Thin (electoral freedom;
electoralism) and thick (civil
liberties)

Free and fair elections

Definitions: Thin

The two-turnover test:
Democracies are consolidated
if there are two turnovers of
power (Huntington 1993).

The two-turnover test: Pros?

The two-turnover test: Cons?

Definitions: Thin

The uncertainty principle:
There should be some
uncertainty over who will win
(Schmitter and Karl, 1991).

Definitions: Thin

The uncertainty principle:
There should be some
uncertainty over who will win
(Schmitter and Karl, 1991).
Why?

Thin Definitions: Strengths

What are some benefits of using a “thin” definition of democracy?

Thin Definitions: Weaknesses

What are some limitations of using a “thin” definition of democracy?

Definitions: Less Thin (Freedom House)

- A competitive, multiparty political system
- Universal adult suffrage
- Regularly contested elections conducted on the basis of secret ballots, reasonable ballot security and the absence of massive voter fraud
- Significant public access of major political parties to the electorate through the media and through generally open campaigning

Definitions: Thick (Economist Democracy Index)

- Electoral processes and pluralism
- Civil Liberties
- Functioning government
- Political Participation
- Political Culture

Think Definitions: Strengths

What are some benefits of using a “thick” definition of democracy?

Think Definitions: Weaknesses

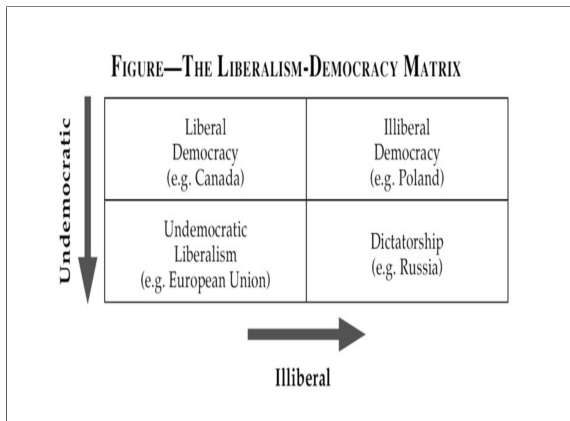
What are some limitations of using a “thick” definition of democracy?

To Note

“Thick” definitions combine liberalism and electoralism.

Liberalism vs. Electoralism

Liberalism vs. Electoralism



Source: Mounk, 2018

Case Study 2

Is your country a democracy?

Case A: Botswana



Elephants, Source: National Geography

Case B: Guyana



Guianan cock-of-the-rock; Source: e-bird

Case C: Kosovo



Balkan Lynx; Source: Karmactive

Case D: Solomon Islands



Renell Shrikebill; Source: e-bird

Case Study 2: Instructions

- Get into your group
- Read case study instructions (Canvas -> Case Studies -> Case Study 2)
- You may use the small state manual and google and chatGPT!
- Answer questions
- Present to class

Case Study 2: Instructions

- Get into your group
- Read case study instructions (Canvas -> Case Studies -> Case Study 2)
- You may use the small state manual and google and chatGPT!
- Answer questions (**10 minutes**)
- Present to class (**5 minutes**)

Case A: Botswana



Elephants, Source: National Geography

Case B: Guyana



Guianan cock-of-the-rock; Source: e-bird

Case C: Kosovo



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To Note

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

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

What causes democratic emergence?

How does the prevalence of democracy in small states nuance the democratic emergence debate?

What causes democratic endurance?

How does the prevalence of democracy in small states nuance the democratic endurance debate?

Why do Diamond and Tsalik argue that smaller is better for democracy?

Smallness and Democracy (Diamond and Tsalik 1999)

- Citizen Development (Pro-Democratic Behaviour)
- Better Accountability
- More access of under-represented groups
- Enhances checks and balances
- Gives opposition some power

Smallness and Democracy: Pitfalls (Diamond and Tsalik 1999)

- Authoritarian enclaves
- Clientelism
- Geographic inequality
- Waste and redundancy

How are they measuring size?

How are they measuring size? Does it matter for their argument?

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

Your Turn

Is smaller better for democracy?

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

Next Seminar (Feb 8th)

- Size and Democracy (Part 2)
 - ▶ Reading Presentation: Why Monarchy Persists

Have a great week!