

## Week 2: Comparing democracies I: majoritarian versus consensus democracy

### Differing approaches to comparing democracies

- **Almond (1956)**— wanted to classify systems around the world, identified three types of political systems.
  1. Anglo-american : political culture was secular and homogenous, moderate, stable, centralised.
  2. Continental : political culture was fragmented, had perspectives that weren't compatible. Unstable and polarised.
  3. Scandinavian
- **Lijphart (1980)** — built on Almond's work but challenged it. Majoritarian vs Consensus democracies. Lijphart had Ten Core Differences.

### Majoritarian vs Consensus Democracies

- **Majoritarian**: "government by the majority of the people." winning parties or coalition could exercise basically limitless power in the political system, executive authority not really constrained. Winner takes all type beat.
- **Consensus**: power more likely to be shared rather than contested, minorities formally included in decision making processes. Executive power limited by constitutional courts, decentralised system of territorial governance. IT's not fair to let one group govern all the shit

### Lijphart's Patterns of Democracy

- **Executive Parties** dimension : primarily considers developments within the electoral, party and government systems. 1-5
- **Federal Unitary** dimension : mainly addresses specific features concerning composition of state. 6-10

### Ten Core Differences between these democracies

1. *Concentration of executive power in one-party and bare-majority cabinets vs executive power sharing in broad multiparty coalitions* - consensus is latter
2. *cabinet dominance vs executive-legislative balance of power* - cabinet is supposed to be dependent on the confidence of the legislature, but really cabinet is made up of leaders from the parliament, consensus has formal separation of powers
3. *Two-party system vs multiparty systems* - consensus is latter, not just left-right systems
4. *Majoritarian and disproportional system of elections vs proportional representation* - so like FPTP, elected in single member districts according to plurality, consensus is PR

# Comparing Democracies 2

**M Walker**



## Comparing Democracies 2:

**Comparing Democracies 2** Lawrence LeDuc, Richard G Niemi, Pippa Norris, 2002-03-13 This excellent collection of essays provides a highly knowledgeable and insightful overview of current knowledge in the sub field of elections and voting in the world's democracies Coherent in organization and wide ranging in content and perspective this is a book that should be read by anyone interested in political science Anthony Mughan The Ohio State University In this major new edition the world's leading international scholars have again produced an indispensable guide and up to date review of the whole field Each of the chapters the majority of which are completely new provide a broad theoretical and comparative understanding of all the key topics making this essential reading for students and lecturers of elections and voting behavior comparative politics parties and democracy

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[Comparing Democracies 2](#) Lawrence LeDuc, Richard G. Niemi, Pippa Norris, 2002

[Comparing Democracies](#) Lawrence LeDuc, Richard Niemi, Pippa Norris, 1996-08-29 11 Leaders Ian McAllister

[Comparing Democracies](#) Lawrence LeDuc, Richard G Niemi, Pippa Norris, 2014-04-07 This book provides you with a theoretical and comparative understanding of the major topics related to elections and voting behaviour It explores important work taking place on new areas whilst at the same time covering the key themes that you'll encounter throughout your studies Edited by three leading figures in the field the new edition brings together an impressive range of contributors and draws on a range of cases and examples from across the world It now includes New chapters on authoritarian elections and regime change and electoral integrity A chapter dedicated to voting behaviour Increased emphasis on issues relating to the economy

**Comparing Democracies** Fourth Edition will remain a must read for students and lecturers of elections and voting behaviour comparative politics parties and democracy

**Comparing Democracies** Lawrence LeDuc, Richard G Niemi, Pippa Norris, 2009-12-15 The benchmark first and second editions of *Comparing Democracies* represented essential guides to the global study of elections Reflecting recent developments in the field this timely third edition gives an indispensable state of the art review of the whole field from the world's leading international scholars With a completely new thematic introduction which explores how democracy is built and sustained thoroughly updated chapters many of which are also new the third edition provides a theoretical and comparative understanding of the

major topics related to elections and introduces important work on key new areas Comparing Democracies third edition will remain a must read for students and lecturers of elections and voting behaviour comparative politics parties and democracy Contents Introduction Building and Sustaining Democracy Lawrence LeDuc Richard G Niemi and Pippa Norris PART I ELECTORAL INSTITUTIONS AND PROCESSES Electoral Systems and Election Management Elisabeth Carter and David M Farrell Political Parties and Party Systems Susan E Scarrow Party and Campaign Finance Ingrid van Biezen Election Campaigns Christopher Wlezien Campaign Communications and Media Claes H de Vreese PART II PUBLIC OPINION AND VOTING Ideology Partisanship and Democratic Development Russell J Dalton Political Participation Andr Blais Elections and the Economy Timothy Hellwig Women and Elections Marian Sawer Conclusion The Consequences of Elections G Bingham Powell **European Journal of Political Research** ,2009 pt. 2. (Continued) Some Democracies in Their Working United States James Bryce Bryce (Viscount),1921 *Democratic Values in Central and Eastern Europe* Detlef Pollack,2004 **Comparing Democracies** ,2014 *Democratic Paths and Trends* Barbara Wejnert,2010-07-16 Presents the issues of democratic trends This title addresses worldwide changes and developments of democratization from historical and contemporary perspectives It also presents discourses on the diffusion of democracy paths of democratic transitions worldwide trends towards democratization as well as discussion about democracy in retreat **Direct Democracy** Virginia Beramendi,Jennifer Somalie Angeyo,2008 While many books on direct democracy have a regional or national approach or simply focus on one of the many mechanisms associated with direct democracy this Handbook delves into a global comparison of direct democracy mechanisms including referendums citizens initiatives agenda initiatives and recall A detailed look into each of these instruments is discussed in a chapter by chapter analysis of each tool including comprehensive definitions how each instrument can be used to shape political decisions and an outline of the steps most often involved in planning any given procedure **African Social Research** ,2003 **The Dynamics of Referendum Campaigns** Claes H. de Vreese,2007-10-24 Direct democracy is popular Referenda are an increasingly important means of enacting or preventing legislation in countries around the world This book focuses on the key actors in a referendum the political elites parties the media and citizens and is centered around themes such as campaign style campaign effects electoral mobilization and turnout as well as vote choice The contributors specifically address the role of referendum campaigns and their impact and show why referendum campaigns may matter more than any other political election campaigns **The Politics Companion** Robert Leach,2008-04-15 This student companion covers all the main aspects of political science from the nature and main components of the subject and key theories thinkers and concepts to study skills and learning resources Truly international in scope it will be the ideal complement for students around the world to Palgrave s highly successful range of course texts Internationale Bibliographie der Rezensionen wissenschaftlicher Literatur ,2003 Working Papers on Comparative Legislative Studies Lawrence D. Longley,1994 The British National Bibliography

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