

LECTURE / DISCUSSION / DEBATE
STATES, CITIZENS, AND REGIMES

Terms and concepts to know:

Citizen	Neopatrimonial authority
Civil rights	One-party regime
Corporatism	Participatory democracy
Dictatorship of the proletariat	Personalist regime
Electoral authoritarian regime	Regime
Islamism	Sharia
Jihad	Social contract theory
Liberal democracy	Social democracy
Military regime	Theocracy
Mode of production	Totalitarian state
Neofascist	Vanguard party

Study and discussion questions:

1. What does Rockhill mean when he states that the U.S. did not defeat fascism after WWII, and instead “internationalized” it? Do you agree with this assessment? What evidence does the author provide and is it compelling?
2. How do different ideologies balance the rights of citizens with the state’s ability to compel obedience?
3. On what grounds do different regimes give citizens an opportunity to participate in politics? Who rules where citizens do not seem to have such an opportunity? Can this be justified?
4. To what extent does ideology explain how different regimes are organized and justify themselves? What else helps to explain how different kinds of regimes actually function?
5. Where do different regime types emerge and why?
6. While Fisher discusses various factors that weaken liberal democracies, he curiously leaves out the U.S. as an example. Why do you think he does this and is it fair?
7. Freeman notes that there is an important difference between the growth of “authoritarian” governments, and the retreat of “representative” democracies. What is the difference, and do you think it’s important in our era?

Readings:

Orvis / Drogus – Chapter 3

Video:

What is Democracy?