

European Democracy and Political Culture

Course syllabus

Course consists of 20 hours of lectures. These will be delivered as follows:

1. Democracy and political culture in Europe: characteristics of poliarchy as 'real' democracy, culture as a basis for political action (Hours 1-4)
2. Cultural conditions for stabilization of democracy, democratic compatibility of different cultural and civilizational spheres (Hours 5-8)
3. Perspectives on European democracy: a variety of political and developmental visions - etatism vs. pluralism, centralization vs. decentralization (Hours 9-11)
4. Political culture in Europe: cultural zones, rootedness of democratic values, support for democracy, trust in political institutions, presentation of relevant research (ESS, WVS, Eurobarometer) (Hours 12-14)
5. (In) compatibility 'Eastern' and 'Western' political culture: political and cultural traditions of Central and Eastern Europe – modernisational lag, civilization (in) competence, the possibility of convergence in the sense of creating 'European' political culture (Hours 15-17)
6. European integration processes, intercultural contacts in the political field and their cultural consequences: fields of contacts (diplomacy, public administration), the nature of contacts between the different actors, different cultural patterns, reciprocity or unidirectionality of cultural influences (Hours 18-20)

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