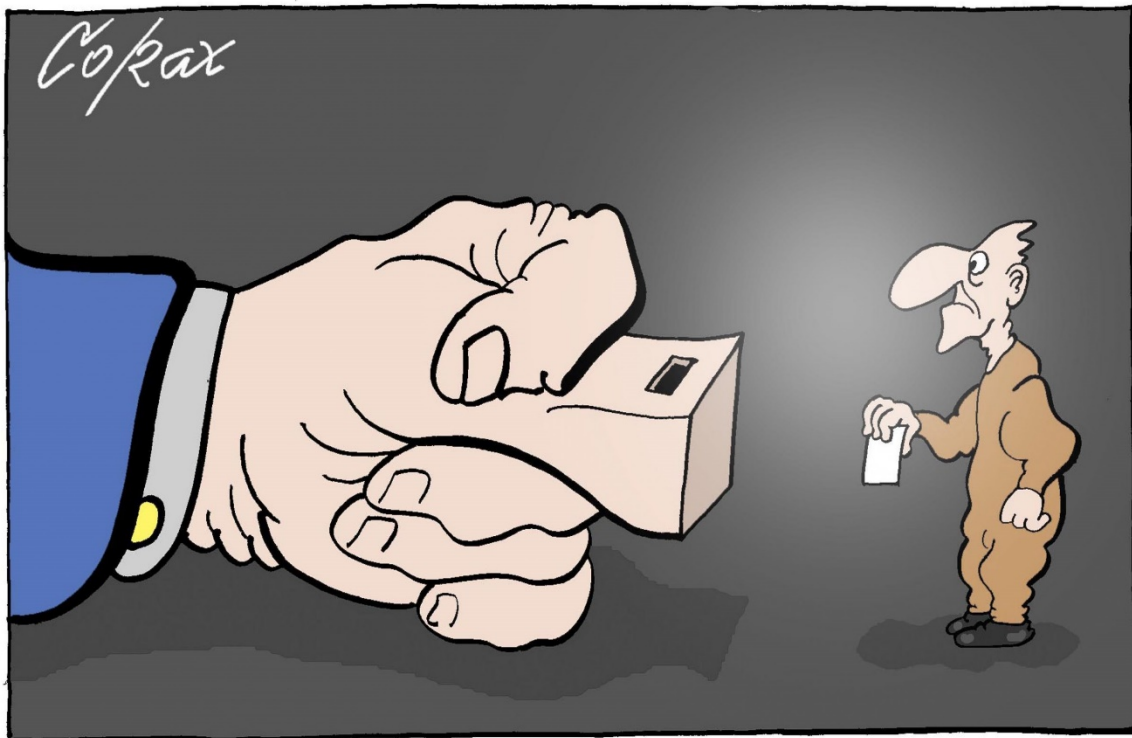


Florian Bieber

## Democratization of Southeastern Europe in the Context of EU Enlargement

Sommer Semester 2020



Corax, 6.3.2020 (<https://www.danas.rs/corax/corax-za-6-mart-2020/>)

Lecture offered in the framework of the Jean Monnet Chair in the Europeanisation of Southeastern Europe"

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This class will focus on the concept of democratization and its interlinkages with EU integration in the Balkans, tracing these processes since the fall of Communism. The purpose of this course is to introduce to the students the challenges of the democratization processes of social transformations in the post-communist/post-war societies in the Western Balkans, through the development of three topics:

1. Late Democratization and Electoral Revolutions
2. Failure of Democratic Consolidation
3. Authoritarian Patterns and Decline of Democracy

The class will enable students to be familiar with concepts of democratization theory and the links to EU enlargement processes. The case studies from the Balkans will illustrate the challenges of democratization processes, in particular in post-conflict societies. Students will be familiar with the basic political history of Southeastern Europe, the role of the EU in the region and the actors and structures contributing to or inhibiting democratization processes.

### Classes

Do [28.05.2020](#) 09:00 13:00 [SR 15.33 \(015B030037\)](#)

Do [28.05.2020](#) 14:00 18:00 [SR 15.34 \(015D030059\)](#)

Mi [03.06.2020](#) 09:00 13:00 [SR 15.32 \(015B030024\)](#)

Do [04.06.2020](#) 09:00 13:00 [SR 15.33 \(015B030037\)](#)

Do [04.06.2020](#) 14:00 18:00 [SR 15.34 \(015D030059\)](#)

Mi [10.06.2020](#) 09:00 18:00 [SR 15.32 \(015B030024\)](#)

### Office Hours:

Tuesday 10.00-11.00, select slot via doodle <https://doodle.com/poll/e8rrgfpak46bybet>

Schubertstrasse, 1<sup>st</sup> floor

### Requirements

1. Presentation of topic based on a country study (30%) (maximum length 20 minutes), hand out and power point.
2. Active Participation (20%), discussion, reading background materials.
3. Research Paper (50%), Paper with the approximate length of 6000-7000 words, references (at least 10 different titles), deadline 1 October 2020 (submission via email). Based on the presentation topic (including a research question, literature review and a broader context)

### Schedule

#### **1. Democratization: What does it mean?**

This class will exam different theories of democratization and discuss the state of the art in the field, as well as the linkages between democratization and EU integration.

## **2. *Authoritarian Legacies and War***

This class will explore the rise of authoritarian and nationalist regimes in the 1990s, focusing on the post-Yugoslav space.

## **3. *The Difficult Transition***

Here the class will seek to identify patterns why the democratic consolidation was more challenging during the 1990s in Southeastern Europe than in Central Europe, including the Baltics, focusing on Romania and Albania.

## **4. *Democratic Breakthroughs***

In this class, the end of authoritarian regimes of the 1990s through so-called break-through elections is discussed, as well as the challenges facing the second wave of democratization in the context of post-conflict societies.

## **5. *Theory: Hybrid Regimes and Concepts of Incomplete Democratic Consolidation***

As a second more theory-based class, concepts to describe varying types of hybrid regimes (defect democracies, formal democracy, competitive authoritarianism, illiberal democracy, etc.) are going to be discussed.

## **6. *EU Conditionality and Democratization***

This class will examine how EU conditionality shaped the emerging democratization processes, in particular how EU integration both incentivized, but also curtailed some aspects of democratic pluralism.

## **7. *Democratic Backsliding: Global Trends***

In this class, the global trends of democratic backsliding will be explored, but as an empirical phenomena and also identify patterns and features of the regimes that emerge.

## **8. *Democratic Crises in the Balkans: Systems of Government***

In three units, the class will explore different dimensions of de-democratization in some Balkan countries and explore them in a larger comparative context. This class will discuss how democratic institutions and the judiciary function in unconsolidated democracies

## **9. *Democratic Crisis in the Balkans. Media Landscapes***

In this class, the media landscape as it emerged since the 1990s will be the focus.

## **10. *Democratic Crisis in the Balkans: Informality and Corruption***

In the final unit on the crisis of democracy, the role of informal networks, nepotism, clientalism and corruption will be explored, considering the broader debated on the repercussion on democracy

## **11. *Conclusion: EU and Democratization in Southeastern Europe***

The concluding discussion will examine the nature of EU accession in the context of the crisis of democracy and the interrelationship between the two.

## Reading List

Beha, Adem. 2017. *Between Stabilisation and Democratisation. Elections, Political Parties and Intra-Party Democracy in Kosovo*. Prishtina: CPC & FES.

Bermeo, Nancy. 2016. "On Democratic Backsliding," *Journal of Democracy* 27(1): 5-19.

Bertelsmann Transformation Index. 2016. <https://www.bti-project.org/de/index/>

Bieber, Florian and Irena Ristić. 2012. "Constrained Democracy: The Consolidation of Democracy in Yugoslav Successor States", *Southeastern Europe* 36(3): 373-397.

Bieber, Florian. 2003. "Montenegrin Politics Since the Disintegration of Yugoslavia," in *Montenegro in Transition. Problems of Identity and Statehood*, edited by Florian Bieber, 11-43. Baden-Baden: Nomos.

Bieber, Florian. 2003. "The Serbian Opposition and Civil Society: Roots of the Delayed Transition in Serbia." *International Journal of Politics, Culture and Society* 17(1): 73-90.

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Bieber, Florian. 2017. "What is a stabilitocracy? *Balkan in Europe Policy Blog*, 5 May, <http://www.suedosteuropa.uni-graz.at/biepag/node/245>

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Boduszyński, Mietek. 2010. *Regime Change in the Yugoslav Successor States*. Baltimore, Johns Hopkins University Press.

Bogaards, Matthijs (2009). "How to classify hybrid regimes? Defective democracy and electoral authoritarianism," *Democratization* 16(2): 399–423.

Bunce, Valerie and Sharon Wolchik. 2011. *Defeating authoritarian leaders in postcommunist countries*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Cohen, L. and John Lampe. 2011. *Embracing Democracy in the Western Balkans*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press.

Cvejić, Slobodan. 2016. *Informal Power Networks, Political Patronage and Clientelism in Serbia and Kosovo*. Belgrade: SeConS.

Dawson, James. 2014. *Cultures of Democracy in Serbia and Bulgaria: How Ideas Shape Publics*. Farnham and Burlington: Ashgate.

Diamond, Larry. 2002. "Thinking About Hybrid Regimes." *Journal of Democracy* 13(2): 21–34.

Diamond, Larry and Plattner, Marc F. eds. 2015. *Democracy in Decline?* Baltimore, Johns Hopkins University Press.

Dolenec, Danijela. 2013. *Democratic Institutions and Authoritarian Rule in Southeast Europe*. Colchester: ECPR Press.

Džankić, Jelena and Soeren Keil. 2017. "State-sponsored Populism and the Rise of Populist Governance: The Case of Montenegro." *Journal of Balkan and Near Eastern Studies*.

Džihic, Vedran and Dieter Segert. 2012. "Lessons from "Post-Yugoslav" Democratization. Functional Problems of Stateness and the Limits of Democracy," *East European Politics and Societies* 26 (2): 239-253.

- Fisher, Sharon. 2006. *Political Change in Post-Communist Slovakia and Croatia: From Nationalist to Europeanist*. London: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Freyburg Tina & Solveig Richter: 2010: National identity matters: the limited impact of EU political conditionality in the Western Balkans, *Journal of European Public Policy*, 17:2, 263-281
- Gagnon, V.P. jr. 2004. *The Myth of Ethnic War*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.
- Gordy, Eric. 1999. *The Culture of Power in Serbia*. College Park: Pennsylvania State University Press.
- Günay, Cengiz and Vedran Dzhić. 2016. "Decoding the authoritarian code: exercising 'legitimate' power politics through the ruling parties in Turkey, Macedonia and Serbia," *Southeast European and Black Sea Studies* 16(4): 529-549.
- Irion, Kristina and Tarik Jušić. 2014 "International Assistance and Media Democratization in the Western Balkans: A Cross-National Comparison," *Analitika. Working Papers*, April, <http://www.analitika.ba/en/publications/international-assistance-and-media-democratization-western-balkans-cross-national>.
- Konitzer, Andrew. 2011. "Speaking European: Conditionality, Public Attitudes and Pro-European Party Rhetoric in the Western Balkans." *Europe-Asia Studies* 63(10): 1853-1888.
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- Krastev, Ivan. 2011. "Paradoxes of New Authoritarianism," *Journal of Democracy* 22(2): 5-16.
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- Vachodova, Milada Ana. 2014. "EU Leverage and National Interests in the Balkans: The Puzzles of Enlargement Ten Years On," *Journal of Common Market Studies* 52(1): 122-138.
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- White, Jonathan. 2015. "Emergency Europe," *Political Studies* 63(2): 300-318.