

Lecture #2: Intro to Comparative Politics

I. Basic typology of government (Aristotle)

A. Rule by the-

1. One (**autocracy**)
 - a. Monarchy
 - b. Dictatorship
2. Few (**oligarchy**)
 - a. Different types and definitions
3. Many (**republic** [democracy])

II. Legitimacy (How do governments/states justify their power?)

A. Monopoly of Coercion

1. Legitimate use of violence or its threat (all states must have)
 - a. Might makes right?
 - b. Peace and stability
 - c. “The Good” (Plato)

B. Divine Right of Kings

C. Consent of the Governed

1. Social Contract

D. Historical Dialectic Process and “Rule of the Proletariat” (Marx/Lenin)

E. National or Religious Identity

F. Others?

III. Liberal Democracy vs. Dictatorship

IV. **Totalitarianism** vs. **Authoritarianism**

A. **Key differences between and examples thereof**

V. **Totalitarianism**

A. **Fascism** (right-wing)

1. “hyper-nationalism”
2. national, racial, religious, ethnic, tribal “chauvinism”
3. examples thereof

B. **Communism** (left-wing)

1. “Rule of the Proletariat” (party/state rules for the masses)
2. Socialism (and it’s offshoots) not the same thing
3. examples thereof

III. Dahl’s Graph: Comparing regimes/societies

A. Contestation

B. Participation

C. Definitive models at corners

D. From left to right/bottom to top = progression towards modernity?