
Varieties of Capitalism (VoC) literature focus on the national characteristics of industrialized countries and states that cross-national differences manifest themselves on distinct innovative capacities. VoC theory argues that liberal-market economies will direct their efforts in radical innovation and coordinated market economies will conduct their innovation activities in incremental technological innovation. Thus, the aim of this study is to examine empirically the arguments stated by VoC theory. The main focus of the empirical test is countries that are classified by VoC theory and years of 1990 to 2000. The analysis includes specialization of countries on certain industries based on their patent counts and measurement of characteristics of countries as predefined, such as labor market indicators, corporate finance characteristics and social contexts of countries. Main findings suggest that VoC theory partially reveals the technological innovation argument.

Keywords: Varieties of Capitalism theory, innovation.

2. State-level analysis of the Occupy Wall Street Movement in the United States by Birce Altiok

The main aim of this study is to investigate and explain the emergence of the 2011 Occupy Wall Street movement in the United States. The paper presents a new dataset dubbed as OCPYUS which contains new data on the 2011 Occupy Wall Street as well as the 2009 Tea Party movement in the United States that are extracted using protest event analysis. The dataset also aggregates other economic and socio-politic indicators collected from various other sources. To answer this study’s aim, this paper also contains a multi-level regression analysis of the Occupy movement and hypothesizes on the protestors’ claim of inequality. The study focuses on the youth – aged between 18 to 29 – and empirically finds out that inequality levels in each state seriously affect the severity of the Occupy protests. Furthermore, in the 2008 presidential elections, youth’s Republican or Democrat preference also signals a very strong correlation and can be used to explain protestors’ preferences and demands.
3. Multiparty Impact on Mediation Outcomes in Civil Wars by Aytaç Denk

Given the essential role it plays in conflict resolution, mediation has attracted a good deal of interest by scholars and practitioners in security studies. Yet, few scholars have paid much attention to whether single-party or multi-party mediations differ in their impact on mediation outcomes. By employing a few datasets, this paper examines the effect of civil war multiparty mediation events between 1946 and 2004 on the outcome of mediations. As resources provided by the mediators as well as international security guarantees offered to the warring parties are critical elements of conflict management efforts, the lack of these elements may have adverse implications on the mediation outcome. Multi-party mediation, when effectively conducted, may involve burden-sharing in both political and economic terms, and thus induce disputants to come to terms with one another with more confidence. Therefore, one anticipated finding of the paper is that multi-party mediations are more likely than single-party mediations to yield successful mediation outcomes. Second, as multi-party mediation requires coordination between mediators, mediations involving mediators with rivalries may dampen the effectiveness of mediation efforts. Hence, the second anticipated finding is that civil war multi-party mediations involving mediators with conflictual relations are less likely to yield successful mediation outcomes than multi-party mediations consisting of states with cooperative relations.

Keywords: Conflict management, mediation, multi-party mediation, mediation outcomes, civil war

4. Identities in Conflict: Examining Minority Organizations in the Context of Violence by Melissa Meek

Ethnoseparatism has been widely observed to relate to violence, but the scholarly community still struggles to define the exact nature of this relationship. The Minorities at Risk (MAR) dataset has made much progress in the quantitative study of ethnicity and group behavior within political, social, and cultural environments, and is continuing to expand in scope. My study utilizes new and more inclusive MAR data to examine the relationship between ethnoseparatism, group identity, and ethnic protest, both in terms of violent rebellion and demonstration against a political entity. While there was speculation that a wider inclusion of cases may have changed previous findings, the significant relationships I observe have only served to strengthen these known relationships and may offer a more robust analysis. I have found that ethno-separatism does indeed predict higher levels of violent rebellion and larger-scale organization for anti-government protest, while features of identity, including group religion and language, have a more nuanced effect.

Keywords: Occupy movement, protests, tea party, US, data
Keywords: conflict, ethno-separatism, rebellion, protest, religion, ethnic identity

5. The Relevance of Centre-Periphery Relations for the European Economies during Turbulent Times by Aylin Yardimci

Fernando Henrique Cardoso has identified the quantifiable essence of dependency theory as financial penetration by the economically developed centers into the periphery and semi-periphery. Dependency theory has therefore traditionally argued that multinational capital (MNC) penetration generates unbalanced economic structures in peripheral countries. Borrowing the research design of Volker Bornschier (1980), Arno Tausch (2011) has tested this argument using aggregate macroeconomic data from 114 countries, and reached statistically significant results showing the relationship between MNC penetration and unemployment, inequality and growth. Tausch has further hinted that a similar empirical study is also applicable to explain the structural inequalities between the central and peripheral countries of the EU. Hence, using models produced by OLS regression, this study seeks to test whether higher MNC penetration in peripheral EU countries generates unbalanced economic structures, namely high unemployment rates, greater inequality and slower economic growth.

Keywords: dependency theory, centre-periphery relations, economic globalization, inequality

6. Consolidation of Non-Consolidation for Hybrid Regimes by Kerem Yildirim

This research tries to evaluate different mechanisms of consolidation for hybrid regimes. These regimes account for a regime type that falls between ideal categories of democratic and autocratic regimes. Previous literature shows that hybrid regimes are able to consolidate given that they move closer to either side of the autocracy-democracy divide. This research tests the argument that hybrid regimes need transition for consolidation. In this respect, I try to explain consolidation of different regime categories by their degree of inclusiveness, oppression and severity of internal opposition. The main argument of this research is that hybrid regimes cannot consolidate as liberal democracies or dictatorships, given their propensity to fall into the traps of ‘feckless pluralism’ and/or relatively extreme oppression of their internal opposition. Because of this trap about inclusion and oppression, I expect hybrid regimes to swing between autocracy and democracy in an unconsolidated manner over time. My anticipated findings relate to this precarious situation as well as the severity of internal opposition in this regime type.

Keywords: Regime Consolidation, Hybrid Regimes, Inclusion, Oppression, Internal Opposition