The Rise of Authoritarianism

This graduate seminar provides an overview of how authoritarian regimes are structured, how they survive and how they export their influence around the world. We will discuss the various forms of autocratic regimes and discuss not just their interest in their domestic affairs, but the affairs of the world. By the end of this course, students will have an understanding of regime styles and the methods autocrats use to maintain their rule both domestically and externally.

Module Structure

This module is of five weeks duration and is worth 5 ECTS credits. The module will be run as a seminar. That means that everyone is expected to attend every class having completed the readings, ready to participate. Students are expected to carry the discussion forward, the course instructor will chair and, where necessary, focus the debate and pose questions.

Module Assessment

Assessment: This course will be assessed as follows:

- Participation 20%
- Presentation 30%
- Essay 50%

Recommended Readings

Dukalskis, A., Furstenberg, S., Hellmeier, S. and Scales, R., 2024. The long arm and the iron fist: Authoritarian crackdowns and transnational repression. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 68(6), pp.1051-1079.

Gandhi, Jennifer, and Adam Przeworski. 2007. "Authoritarian Institutions and the Survival of Autocrats." *Comparative Political Studies* 40(11): 1279-301.

Wright, J. (2009), How Foreign Aid Can Foster Democratization in Authoritarian Regimes. American Journal of Political Science, 53: 552-571.

Wright, Joseph. (2008). "Do authoritarian institutions constrain? How legislatures affect economic growth and investment." *American Journal of Political Science*, 52(2): 322–343.