A.5. LIST OF COURSES/MODULES

Ordinal number:

**Title of course/module**: Democratic Transition and Consolidation of Democracy in Croatia

in Comparative Perspective

**Status of course/module (required/elective)**: elective

**Name of course/module teacher**: Nenad Zakošek

**Names of course/module teacher/associate teacher**:

**Language of instruction in course/module**: English

**Number of instruction hours**:  30 - 10 sati predavanja ui 20 sati seminara

**Outline of course/module content**

The political system of Croatia has been thoroughly transformed since 1989 through the processes of democratization, state-building and war. After conceptual debate of democratic transition and consolidation of democracy the course focuses on the stages and aspects of political development since 1989. Institutional structure, electoral dynamics, development of the party system and civil society are analyzed. While the dynamics and conditions of regime change have resulted in a system of “illiberal democracy” during the 1990s, after 2000 a more robust democratic system has emerged, which has developed some features of consolidated democracy but nevertheless also has some significant flaws, which are analyzed and debated in the course.

The course consists of 10 meetings focusing on the following topics:

1. Course introduction: historical background of democratic transition in Croatia
2. Theories of transition
3. Consolidation of democracy: theoretical approaches and comparative perspectives
4. State-building, war and democratization
5. The emergence and structure of political institutions: Constitution, President, Parliament, Government cabinet
6. Elections, parties and the party system in Croatia
7. Organized interests and civil society
8. Outcomes of regime change: Croatia in comparison with Central European and South East European countries
9. Presentation and discussion of student papers: nationalism, state-building, war and democratic transition
10. Presentation and discussion of student papers: features of the contemporary political system and prospects of development

Reading list (mandatory and recommended)

Mandatory

Boduszinsky, Mieczyslaw (2010) *Regime Change in the Yugoslav Successor States. Divergent Paths Toward a New Europe*, Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press.

Čepo, Dario (2020): Structural Weaknesses and the Role of the Dominant Political Party: Democratic Backsliding in Croatia since EU Accession, *Southeast European and Black Sea Studies*, 20 (1): 141-159.

Fisher, Sharon (2006) *Political Change in Post-Communist Slovakia and Croatia: From Nationalist to Europeanist*, New York and Basingstoke: Palgrave.

Henjak, Andrija, Zakošek, Nenad and Čular,Goran (2013) Croatia, In: Berglund, Sten, Ekman, Joakim, Deegan-Krause, Kevin and Knutsen, Terje (eds.) *The Handbook of Political Change in Eastern Europe*, 3rd edition, Cheltenham (UK) and Northampton (MA): Edward Elgar: 443-480.

Zakošek, Nenad (2008) Democratization, State-building and War: The Cases of Serbia and Croatia, *Democratization*, 15 (3): 588-610.

Recommended

Aasland, Aadne, Berit Grodeland, Ase, Pleines, Heiko (2012) Trust and Informal Practice among Elites in East Central Europe, South East Europe and the West Balkans, *Europe-Asia Studies*, 64 (1): 115–143.

Anderson, Lisa (ed.) (1999) *Transitions to Democracy*, New York: Columbia University Press.

Capoccia, Giovanni, Ziblatt, Daniel (2010) The Historical Turn in Democratization Studies: A New Research Agenda for Europe and Beyond, *Comparative Political Studies* 43 (8/9): 931-968.

Carothers, Thomas (2002) The End of the Transition Paradigm, *Journal of Democracy*,13 (1): 5-21.

Casal Bertoa, Fernando (2014) Party Systems and Cleavage Structures Revisited: A Sociological Explanation of Party System Institutionalization in East Central Europe, *Party Politics*, 20 (1): 16-36.

Castaldo, Antonino, Pinna, Alessandra (2019): After Competitive Authoritarianism. Hybrid Regime Legacies and the Quality of Democracy in Croatia, *Journal of Contemporary European Studies*, 27 (4): 486-502.

Victor Cebotari (2016) Civic, Ethnic, Hybrid and Atomised Identities in Central and Eastern Europe, *Identities*, 23 (6): 648-666.

Czarnota, Adam, Krygier, Martin, Sadurski, Wojciech (eds.) (2005) *Rethinking the Rule of Law after Communism*, Budapest and New York: Central University Press.

Dolenec, Danijela (2012) The Absent Socioeconomic Cleavage in Croatia: a Failure of Representative Democracy?, *Politička misao*, 49 (5): 69-88.

Dolenec, Danijela (2016) Democratization in the Balkans. The Limits of Elite-Driven Reform, *Taiwan Journal of Democracy*, 12 (1): 125-144.

Dolenec, Danijela (2017) A Soldier’s State? Veterans and the Welfare Regime in Croatia, *Anali Hrvatskog politološkog društva*, 14 (1): 55-76.

Danijela Dolenec, Karin Doolan, Tomislav Tomašević (2017) Contesting Neoliberal Urbanism on the European Semi-Periphery: The Right to the City Movement in Croatia. *Europe-Asia Studies*, 69 (9): 1401-1429.

Dolenec, Danijela,Širinić, Daniela (2017) Green Flash in the Croatian Pan: Green Party Survival in Post-Socialist Europe. *East European Politics and Societies*, 31 (4): 840-862.

Dyrstad, Karin (2012) After Ethnic Civil War. Ethno-Nationalism in the Western Balkans, *Journal of Peace Research*,49 (6): 817-831.

Fortin-Rittberger, Jessica (2012) Explaining Post-Communist Founding Elections Results through Initial State Capacity, *East European Politics and Societies and Cultures****,*** 26 (4): 724-742.

Hay, Colin, Wincott, Daniel (1998) Structure, Agency and Historical Institutionalism, *Political Studies*, 46 (5): 951-957.

Jou, Willy (2010) Continuities and Changes in Left-Right Orientations in New Democracies: The Cases of Croatia and Slovenia, *Communist and Post-Communist Studies*, 43 (1): 97–113.

Kasapović, Mirjana (2000) Electoral Politics in Croatia 1990-2000, *Politička misao*, 37 (5): 3-20.

Kasapović, Mirjana (2003) Coalition Governments in Croatia: First Experience 2000-2003, *Politička misao*, 40 (5): 52-67.

Kopecky, Petr, Mudde, Cas (2000) What Has Eastern Europe Taught us about the Democratisation Literature (and Vice Versa)?, *European Journal of Political Research*,37 (4):517–539.

Lührmann, Anna, Lindberg, Staffan I. (2019) A Third Wave of Autocratization Is Here: What Is New about It?, *Democratization*, 26 (7): 1095-1113.

Petak, Zdravko, Kotarski, Kristijan (eds.) (2019) *Policy-Making at the European Periphery. The Case of Croatia*, London: Palgrave Macmillan.

Pierson, Paul (2004) *Politics in Time: History, Institutions and Social Analysis*, Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Ramet, Sabrina P., Matić, Davorka (eds.) (2007) *Democratic Transition in Croatia: Value Transformation, Education, and Media*, College Station: Texas A&M University Press.

Waldron-Moore, Pamela (1999)Eastern Europe at the Crossroads of Democratic Transition: Evaluating Support for Democratic Institutions, Satisfaction with Democratic Government, and Consolidation of Democratic Regimes, *Comparative Political Studies*, *3*2 (1): 32-62.

Zakošek, Nenad, 1994: The Croatian Parliament During the Period of Democratic Transition: Constitutional and Policy Aspects, u: Agh, Attila (ur.), 1994: *The Emergence of East Central European Parliaments: The First Steps*, Budapest: Hungarian Centre for Democracy Studies, 86-96.

**Description of instruction methods**

Lectures, presentations of students papers based on independent research.

**Description of course/module requirements**

Students are evaluated on the basis of a written paper on a self-chosen topic. The supposed length of the paper is 18-20 pages (ca. 4.500 to 5.000 words). The main task of the paper is to present results of an independent research attempt on a chosen empirical topic or an overview of selected literature, complemented by an original discussion of the topic.

**Description of monitoring of teaching quality**

Teaching is monitored though anonymous surveys that will give an opportunity to active participants to estimate its quality. These results will be further examined by the Council of the postgraduate doctoral study and by the Board for the monitoring of the quality of teachings of the Faculty of Political Science, University of Zagreb.

**Appointed ECTS (if any):** 7