

# The Political System

# Vocabulary

- Simplify – упростить
- Link – ссылка
- Involve – затрагивать, вовлекать
- Conversion - преобразование
- bilateral relations –двусторонние отношения
- a coup – переворот
- virtually complete group autonomy – практически полная автономия
- customary law – обычное право
- insofar - если
- virtue – сила, добродетель
- ascribed status – статус по рождению
- to alter – изменить
- increasingly- все
- permit – разрешение
- comprise – включать
- welfare state – государство всеобщего благосостояния
- intervene - вмешаться
- contemporary empirical political systems – современные политические эмпирические системы
- nonetheless – тем не менее
- approximate - приблизительный
- exemplify – служить примером
- pure - простой

# The Political System

- A political system is a system A political system is a system of politics A political system is a system of politics and government A political system is a system of politics and government. It is usually compared to the legal system A political system is a system of politics and government. It is usually compared to the legal system, economic system A political system is

# The structure and functions of the political system

- The structure of the political system always points to the basic elements that form it directly, as well as their relationship. The basic components of the political system:
  - Institutional elements (the state, the state apparatus, political and social organization);
  - Cultural element (the political culture and ideology);
  - Communicative element (link political institutions and society);
  - Regulatory element (regulatory framework, which governs the interaction of society and the state);
  - Functional element (direct methods of the political power).

# Functions of the political system:

- Conversion function (political decisions based on the requirements of the public);
- Watchdog function (protection of the public interest, public order, as well as the basic political values);
- Mobilization (systematization of human and material resources to achieve social and political goals);
- Foreign policy (the development of bilateral relations)

# The state in the political system

- The state is a key element of the political system. That state is the key subject of the political system. However, not all of his positions remain dominant.
- A striking example of the weakening of the state as the central subject of the political system is a coup, when the supreme state power in the country goes to the army.

# Political regimes

- Political regime – a set of forms and methods of the exercise of power in the state. There are some kinds of political regimes: democratic and authoritarian regime.
- In a democratic regime all the functions of the state are aimed at satisfying and protecting the interests of citizens and human beings.
- When authoritarian regimes, the state power is often concentrated in the hands of a single person or political force, and is used to meet the needs of a narrow circle of people.

# The libertarian political system

- One type is the libertarian political system, which is an open system, with virtually complete group autonomy, customary law, and present goals. Laws are limited to a few (by virtue of group autonomy and openness) customary principles and rights, with the judiciary limited to matching these principles to concrete cases. The goals of the elite are representational, fixed to present popular interests and needs insofar as they do not conflict with traditional rights and principles (e.g., sanctity of private property and contracts, freedom of religion, freedom of the press, and so on).



# The second type

- A second pure type is the authoritarian political system. It is closed, with authoritative political positions open to only a few by virtue of birth or other ascribed status, and based on customary law. Groups are autonomous so long as they do not try to alter the traditional status quo, and the elite's goals are concerned with conserving traditions

# The third type

- A third pure type is the totalitarian political system. It is closed and customary law is permitted only insofar as it does not interfere with the elite's interests. Law is generally positivist, constructed to satisfy the elite's future oriented goals, and laws are seen as a measure to achieve some reconstruction of society. Groups have no autonomy.

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- Most political systems are a mixture of these types. The United States comprises more a libertarian system, but increasingly is oriented in the totalitarian direction as the modern welfare state and the political elites, with their mixed present and future goals, intervene in the activities of all groups. England, in which loss of group autonomy and the reconstruction of society in some futurist's image has gone much further, reflects even more of a libertarian-totalitarian mixture

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- Then there is totalitarian-authoritarian Syria or Egypt, and libertarian-authoritarian Brazil or Lebanon. Recognizing that all contemporary empirical political systems reflect such mixtures, some nonetheless closely approximate the pure types. Thus, we can exemplify the libertarian type by Switzerland and West Germany, the traditional by Saudi Arabia and Emperor Selassie's Ethiopia, and the totalitarian by Communist China and the Soviet Union.