

# CIVIL SOCIETY AND POLITICS EXAM THEMES AND QUESTIONS

## *A. Study of Social Mobilization and Social Movements*

**Are there any roles civil society, social movements and political mobilization have played in post-communist transitions? Please, discuss.**

Císař, Ondřej. 2018. "Social Movements after Communism." In *Routledge Handbook of East European Politics*, eds. Adam Fagan and Petr Kopecký. London: Routledge, 184-196.

Císař, Ondřej. 2020. "Social Movement Diffusion in Eastern Europe." In *Routledge Handbook of Contemporary European Movements*, eds. Cristina Flesher-Fominaya and Ramon Feenstra. London: Routledge, 237-250.

Císař, Ondřej and Kateřina Vráblíková. 2019. "National Protest Agenda and the Dimensionality of Party Politics: Evidence from Four East-Central European Democracies." *European Journal of Political Research* 58(4): 1152-1171.

Petrova, Tsveta and Sidney Tarrow. 2007. "Transactional and Participatory Activism in the Emerging European Polity: The Puzzle of East Central Europe." *Comparative Political Studies* 40(1): 74-94.

Foa, Roberto Stefan and Grzegorz Ekiert. 2017. "The Weakness of Postcommunist Civil Society Reassessed." *European Journal of Political Research* 56(2): 419-439.

**What are the ways individuals can use to try to influence politics? Are there any differences among different social groups in their political participation? What are they and how can they be explained? Are there any changes in time you can discuss?**

Dalton, Russel J. 2020. *Citizen Politics. Public Opinion and Political Parties in Advanced Industrial Democracies*. Washington, DC: CQ Press, 39-86.

Stolle, Dietlind and Marc Hooghe. 2011. "Shifting Inequalities: Patterns of Exclusion and Inclusion in Emerging Forms of Political Participation." *European Societies* 13(1): 119-142.

Bennett, Lance and Alexandra Segerberg. 2012. "The Logic of Connective Action." *Information, Communication and Society* 15(5): 739-768.

Boulianne, Shelley and Yannis Theocharis. 2020. „Young People, Digital Media, and Engagement: A Meta-Analysis of Research.“ *Social Science Computer Review* 38(2): 111-127.

Dalton, Russel J. 2022. "Political Action, Protest, and the Functioning of Democratic Governance." *American Behavioral Scientist* 66(4): 533-550.

## *B. Nations and Nationalism*

**1) Approaches to the conceptualization of ethnicity and nationalism (primordialism, perennialism, modernism, situationism, ethnosymbolism, social constructivism, the concept of**

**groupism) and their representatives. Examples of what questions the academic community asks when researching nationalism.**

Brubaker, Rogers. 2004. *Ethnicity Without Groups*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press. Especially: 7–20 and 64–87.

Hearn, Jonathan. 2006. *Rethinking Nationalism: A Critical Introduction*. New York: Palgrave.

Mußotter, M. 2022. We do not measure what we aim to measure: Testing Three Measurement Models for Nationalism and Patriotism. *Qual Quant* **56**, 2177–2197. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11135-021-01212-9>.

Smith, Anthony, D. 2010. *Nationalism: Theory, Ideology, History*. Cambridge UK, Malden MA: Polity Press. Especially chapters 1–5.

**2) State nationalism, ethno-cultural nationalism, banal nationalism, methodological nationalism and transnationalism. Explain these terms and answer the question of whether the concept of nationalism is evolving, whether the idea of the state/nation nexus is changing and whether the meanings of nation and nationalism are changing as society globalizes.**

Brubaker, Rogers. 2002. *Ethnicity Without Groups*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press. Especially: 132–146.

Gellner, Ernest. 1997. *Nationalism*. London: Weidenfeld & Nicolson. Especially 1–62

Uherek, Zdeněk. 2022. From Interdependence to Disjunction: Gellner's Theory and the Development of the Interrelationship Between the Concepts of Nation and Nationalism. In: Petr Skalník (ed.), *Ernest Gellner's Legacy and Social Theory Today*. Cham: Palgrave MacMillan: 501–519.

Wimmer, Andreas, Glick Chiller, Nina. 2003. Methodological Nationalism, the Social Sciences, and the Study of Migration: An Essay in Historical Epistemology. *The International Migration Review*, Vol. 37, No. 3: 576–610.

***C. Civil Society in Central Europe***

**1. What are the causes of low civil engagement in the Central European Countries in comparison with Western European Countries?**

Piotrowski, Grzegorz. 2020. Civil Society in Illiberal Democracy: The Case of Poland. *Czech journal of political science / politologický časopis*. Vol. 2, pp. 196-214.

Fagan, Adam. 2005. Taking Stock of Civil-Society Development in Post-communist Europe: Evidence from the Czech Republic. *Democratization*. Vol.12, No.4, pp.528–547.

Zakaria Patti. 2012. Is Corruption an Enemy of Civil Society? The case of Central and Eastern Europe. *International Political Science Review*

**2. What are the explanations for why government and the civil society organizations should work together, and what are the theories and models of cooperation (partnership) between the state and the civil sector?**

Hadenius and Ugglå. 1996. Making civil society work, promoting democratic development: What can states and donors do? *World Development*, vol. 24, issue 10: 1621–1639.

Salamon L. M., Anheier, H. K. 1996. *The Emerging Nonprofit Sector: An Overview*. Manchester: Manchester University Press.

Young, Dennis R. 2000. Alternative Models of Government Nonprofit Sector Relations: Theoretical and International Perspectives. *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly*, 29 (1): 149–172.

***D. Sociological Theories of Populism***

**1. In the research on populism, an approach that conceptualises populism as a specific form of political ideology has been gaining ground in the last two decades. The Dutch political scientist Cas Mudde is an example of this approach. Describe what the main argument and core ideas of this approach.**

Mudde, C. 2004. The populist zeitgeist. *Government and opposition*, 39(4): 541–563.

Taggart, P. 2004. Populism and representative politics in contemporary Europe. *Journal of political ideologies*, 9(3): 269–288.

Laclau, E. 2005. *On populist reason*. Verso.

Moffitt, B. 2016. *The global rise of populism: Performance, political style, and representation*. Stanford University Press.

**2. The idea that populist parties construct and exploit crisis in society is part of several theories of populism, including the work of Paul Taggart or Ernesto Laclau. In what sense, according to these authors, is populism linked to the crisis and the concept of "crisis"?**

Mudde, C. 2004. The populist zeitgeist. *Government and opposition*, 39(4): 541–563.

Taggart, P. 2004. Populism and representative politics in contemporary Europe. *Journal of political ideologies*, 9(3): 269–288.

Laclau, E. 2005. *On populist reason*. Verso.

Moffitt, B. 2016. *The global rise of populism: Performance, political style, and representation*. Stanford University Press.