



Definitions & Types of Political Parties

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Political Parties

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Political Parties

Political party, a group of persons organized to acquire and exercise political power. Political parties originated in their modern form in Europe and the United States in the 19th century, along with the electoral and parliamentary systems, whose development reflects the evolution of parties. The term *party* has since come to be applied to all organized groups seeking political power, whether by democratic elections or by revolution.(Encyclopaedia Britannica).

Political Parties

The 20th century saw the spread of political parties throughout the entire world. In developing countries, large modern political parties have sometimes been based on traditional relationships, such as ethnic, tribal, or religious affiliations. (Encyclopaedia Britannica).

One-Party System

 Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Kim Jong-un, Chairman
 People's Republic of China	Xi Jinping, General Secretary
 Republic of Cuba	Raúl Castro, First Secretary
 State of Eritrea	Isaias Afwerki, Chairperson
 Lao People's Democratic Republic	Bounnhang Vorachith, General Secretary
 Socialist Republic of Vietnam	Nguyễn Phú Trọng, General Secretary

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ONE PARTY SYSTEM AND TWO PARTY SYSTEM



Countries where only one party is allowed to run the government



Countries where power usually changes between two parties

Two-Party System



Political systems in which only two political parties effectively compete for government office. Minor parties may operate in such a system, although in some cases, as in the United States, they may have to surmount significant barriers to be placed on the ballot paper. Some theorists argue that two-party systems offer a superior form of electoral democracy because unless there are only two parties, there can be no guarantee that any party will have a legislative majority, without which government policy is formed on the basis of bargaining between political élites, which is seen as less accessible to popular control. (Oxford, 2003: 505).

Two-Party System

However, in a two-party system much policy formation takes place within the political parties, also away from popular control. Two-party systems are most often found in association with first-past-the-post electoral systems, as in the United States and New Zealand, although Austrian politics was dominated for much of the post-war period by the two leading political parties. (Oxford, 2003: 505).

Multiparty System

Regime where more than two political parties are in serious contention for power, alone or in coalition. (Oxford, 2003: 326).

Political Parties

Questions?

Political Parties

Seminar's Questions:

- What are the pros and cons of a Two-Party Politics for a democratic system? Give examples.
- A third party still has a chance in a Two-Party system. Discuss.

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