

# **Autocratic Diversity: New Distinctions and Neglected Issues**

## **Workshop theme**

A third of all countries are currently subjected to autocratic rule – and this is even the lowest share in world history. Hence, studying the trajectories, manifestations, and perspectives of autocratic rule has enduring relevance. After a period of stagnation, research on autocracies has in recent years become revitalized. Much of this research has a comparative orientation, and a range of global datasets that have become available and new ones are in the making, which enable the systematic assessment of theoretical expectations. Within this expanding literature, the variation and clustering of institutional characteristics of the regime and the state and their consequences for stability, peace, and development are some of the main themes in the debate. Against this backdrop, the workshop brings together young scholars investigating how we can better understand the diversity among autocratic political regimes and its consequences for various important outcomes, such as regime stability, violent conflict, and redistribution. The purpose is to provide an opportunity for the participants to share their thoughts on these issues and to receive detailed comments from peers on work in progress.

## **Location**

Aarhus Institute of Advanced Studies, Aarhus University (Høegh-Guldbergs Gade 6B, Building 1632), September 28-29, 2017

## **Hosts/sponsors and organizer**

Aarhus Institute of Advanced Studies (AIAS)

Conflict and Democratization (CODE) project

Professor, PhD, Svend-Erik Skaaning ([skaaning@aias.au.dk](mailto:skaaning@aias.au.dk)), Jens Christian Skou Fellow at AIAS

## **Format**

Very short presentations (5 minutes, no slides, just a few words about the background), discussant (7-10 minutes), plenum (30-33 minutes).

**Thursday, September 28** (Conference Room)

8:50-9:00 Welcome

9:00-10:00 Suthan (Aarhus University) & Jakob Tolstrup (Aarhus University) ***Economic Crisis, Food Prices, and Anti-regime Protests***

Discussant: Tore Wig

10:00-10:45 Sebastian Ziaja (University of Heidelberg) ***An Empirical Typology of Political Regimes***

Discussant: Andrej Kokkonen

10:45-11:00 Coffee break

11:00-11:45 Dag Tanneberg (University of Potsdam) ***Dealing with Horizontal Threats: Does Political Repression Prevent Coups d'état in Authoritarian Regimes?***

Discussant: Suthan Krishnarajan

11:45-12:30 Matilde Thorsen (Aarhus University) ***Fighting Poverty in Autocracies: When Dictators Are Ideologically Motivated***

Discussant: Anna Lührmann

12:30-13:15 Lunch

13:15-14:00 Tore Wig (University of Oslo) ***Regime Support Coalitions and Inter-state Conflict***

Discussant: Alexander Grundholm (AU)

14:00-14:45 Anna Lührmann (University of Gothenburg/V-Dem Institute) ***Varieties of Autocracy (V-Aut)***

Discussant: Jakob Tolstrup (AU) tbc

14:45-15:00 Coffee break

15:00-15:45 Alexander Schmotz (WZB) ***Elections vs Constitutionalism: Institutional Tension and Hybrid Regime Survival***

Discussant: Svend-Erik Skaaning

15:45-16:30 Bertel Teilfeldt Hansen (University of Copenhagen) ***Arms Trade, International Alignments, and International Conflict***

Discussant: Jørgen Møller (AU)

18:30 Workshop dinner

**Friday, September 29** (Conference Room)

9:30-10:15 Fenja Søndergaard Møller (Aarhus University) ***Freedom of Speech and Violent Intrastate Conflict***

Discussant: Sebastian Ziaja

10:15-11:00 Saara Inkinen (Humboldt University/WZB) ***One for Me, One for You? Party System Properties and the Distribution of Concessions***

Discussant: Lasse Lykke Rørbæk (AU)

11:00-11:15 Coffee Break

11:15-12:00 Vilde Djuve (Aarhus University) ***Conceptualizing Political Instability in Autocratic Polities***

Discussant: Alexander Schmotz

12:00-13:00 Lunch

13:00-13:45 Andrej Kokkonen (Aarhus University) ***Succession and Civil War in Monarchies***

Discussant: Bertel Teilfeldt Hansen