Nation-States and Diversity, Power-Sharing and Conflict, in the Age of Human Rights (HR)

- Links from HR: rights-based democracy and popular sovereignty
    - Democracy: majoritarian v. consociational
    - Sovereignty: demos v. ethnos

- Few large-scale polities (if any) are uni-ethnic, hence they are all multicultural
- Human rights are multidimensional (civic, political, social, cultural); i.e., they include the sentimental collective) aspect of existence
- Building democracy is respecting, protecting, fulfilling individual rights and reconciling or accommodating group existence

- Political Science here: describing and prescribing formulas for successful power-sharing (preventing or at least minimising HR violations)

Nation-States and Diversity; power-sharing and conflict

Literature

- Lijphart 1977: Majority rule v. democracy in deeply divided societies
  - The Westminster (FPTP) paradigm or adversarial decision-making v. consensual decision-making in plural societies: a democratic alternative

- Eide 2000: Citizenship and IHRL

  'nationality' and 'citizenship' as legal/political concepts, and how IHRL encompasses them

- Butenschön 2018: Israeli ethnocracy
  - The impossibility of an ethnically (or cultural-religiously) defined demos

- Butenschön et al 2015: Power-Sharing in Conflict-Ridden Societies
  - Institutional and constitutional designs for overcoming cleavages

- Binningsbø 2013: Power-sharing, peace and democracy
  - Evaluating relations and possible causal links

Nation-States and Diversity; power-sharing and conflict

(Literature)

- Binningsbø 2013: Power-sharing, peace and democracy
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  - Conceptualisations of power-sharing
  - Domain: in all countries? In plural societies? In post-conflict societies?

  - Power-sharing leading to democracy
  - Power-sharing leading to peace
  - Democracy leading to peace
  - Peace leading to democracy

  - Systematic comparison in order to determine weight of specific factors

Nation-States and Diversity; power-sharing and conflict

(Lijphardt:)

- Explaining the dominance (power) of the British paradigm: its appeal as '*the* spontaneous definition' of democracy as 'majority rule' ('the people's will'), and how such a democracy de facto is premised on alternation and near absence of 'deep divisions'. Its corollary is adversarial decision-making in a two-party systems

- Introducing the 'Continental European System' or 'Plural Societies' (Netherlands, Belgium, Switzerland, Austria) as Consociational

- Consociationalism has four principles deviating from majority rule
    - Grand coalition government (joint elite consensus on common, top-level issues)
    - Mutual or minority veto (when vital group interests are at stake)
    - Proportionality is the basic standard for political representation, public appointments and allocation of funds
    - Delegation of as much decision-making as possible to the segments (the subsidiarity principle)

Nation-States and Diversity; power-sharing and conflict

(Lijphardt:)

- Lessons from comparing majoritarian and consociational democracies
- Consociational democracies offer better chances for stable democracy (in societies that are around 50 % plural), however

  – Consociational arrangements can only achieve 'negative peace' or peaceful coexistence among segments in the absence of 'fraternal' bonds among citizens
    - Cf Nottebohm case: 'a social fact', a genuine connection of existence, interests and sentiments, reciprocal rights and duties

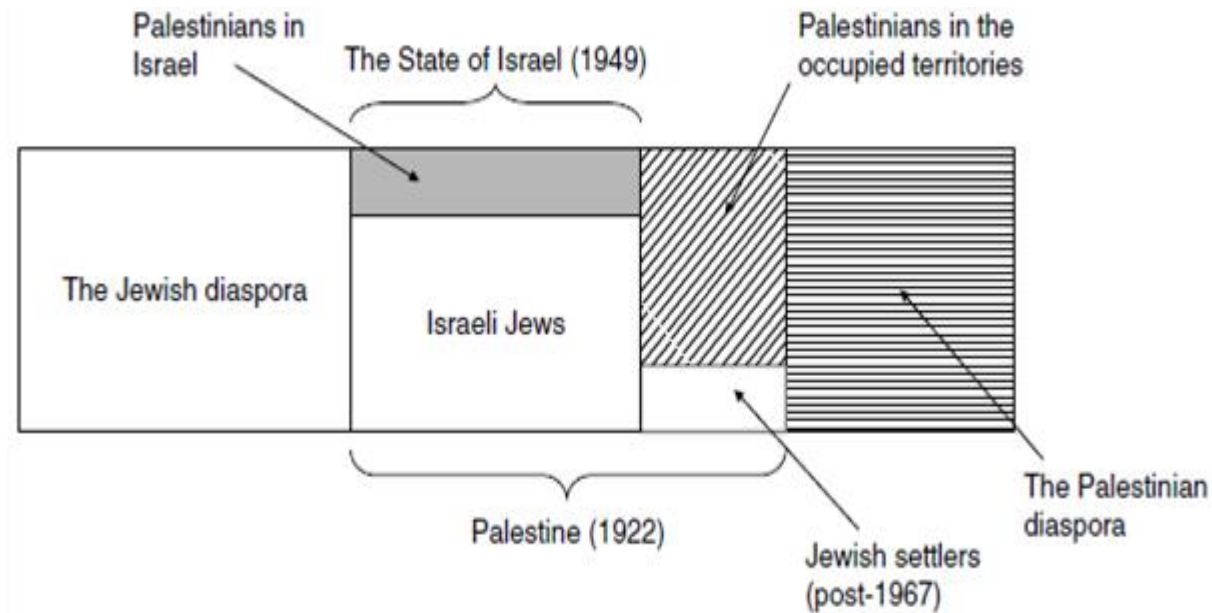 – Consociational arrangements are less efficient (at least in the short run)

(Exercise:)

Is your home nation-state 'majoritarian' or consociational?

Nation-States and Diversity; power-sharing and conflict

(Butenschön: Israeli ethnocracy and the Israel-Palestine citizenship complex)

- Identifying the basic principles of Israeli citizenship in the context of Jewish nationalistic (Zionist) state-building in Palestine., i.e., the formation of the social contract between inhabitants and state in its historical context
  - Israel: a European implant in the Middle East (settlers, colonisers)
  - Through the adversities of its moment of birth: citizenship was defined in terms of a common destiny between state and Jewish citizens (cf. Nottebohm: 'a social fact')
  - Zionism as a revolutionary or millenaristic movement
  - The modernisation perspective of Israeli sociologists
  - Israel evolving into an ethnically defined democracy

- Where to locate sovereignty?
  - In a divine will, in a revelation, in a royal family?

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- Gradual socio-political integration (after Marshall):
  - Civil citizenship
  - Political citizenship
  - Social citizenship
  - Cultural (solidaric, identitarian) citizenship
  - (world citizenship?)
- The citizenship approach:
  - The study of the contractual relationship between the state and the inhabitants under its jurisdiction
  - Under what conditions are such relationships created, how are rights and obligations codified and perceived, what are the modalities for changing the terms, what are the available instruments for retribution to the parties in case of conflict?