

Lesson Plan – Week 12: States, State-Building, and State Weakness

Announcements

1. No section next week
2. There will be section on 12/4 and 12/5, although not required
3. A lot of material for those sections, we will cover both civil society and Iraq
4. Paper due on Tuesday
 - a. Submit to the dropbox by 10am! Email as well if you can't bring hard copy.
 - b. Extra office hours on Monday from 12-1:30pm
 - c. Email if you want a slot this week, I can add an extra hour on Friday until 5
5. Final on Dec 17 at 2pm, will be 3 hours, 2 essays, and several terms
6. Review sessions the week before – there will be 4 to choose from

Section Goals

This week we turn to state-building, which ties in a lot of the things that we have already thought about. The readings we have had on democratization, development, and institutions are all hugely important for conceptualizing how states form and strengthen.

Discussion Questions

1. **Define State-building:** What is the state? What is state-building?
 - a) Fukuyama: “the creation of new governmental institutions and the strengthening of existing ones”
 - b) Weber: the state has the monopoly of the legitimate use of violence
 - c) According to Fukuyama, what are the dimensions of state-building? (scope and strength) Where does the U.S. fall? Other examples on this spectrum?
 - d) According to Tilly, what are the four activities that lead to state-building and what do they produce? (war-making => army; state-making => police; protection => courts; extraction => tax)
 - e) What are the detailed outputs of state-building? How can we measure it? (Military, governmental institutions, bureaucracies, tax capacity)
 - f) Should the outcome of state-building (not the process) look the same in all countries? Fukuyama says “At issue is the question of whether the institutions and values of liberal West are indeed universal or whether they represent merely the outgrowth of cultural habits of a certain part of the northern European world.”
2. **Readings Summary:** Fill out readings summary on board.
3. **War and the State:** Do you buy Tilly's claim that war made states?
 - a) What is a protection racket?
 - b) How does Tilly explain why states remain strong even after war has ended? (organizational residue)
 - c) Does this help us to explain state-building outside of Western Europe?
 - d) Are Centeno's and Herbst's arguments in opposition or agreement with Tilly?

4. **Other Explanations for State-Building:** What are the other variables that lead to state-building? Look at board.
 - a) Bates argues that economics are at the center of this. What do y'all think?
5. **Domestic Actors and State-Building:** Who is responsible for state-building? Who leads this process?
 - a) What role do leaders play in this process? (think about Bates, Liberia and DRC)
 - i. Slater: elites
 - ii. Tilly: warlords
 - iii. Centeno: the state?
 - iv. Bates: the actors (leaders)
6. **International Actors and State-Building:** What role have international actors played in state-building?
 - a) Colonial powers?
 - i. Do precolonial politics still affect state-building as Herbst argues?
 - b) Foreign aid and support?
 - c) MNCs, such as Firestone?
 - d) UN Peacekeepers?
7. **Regime and State-Building:** What is Slater's argument for state-building?
 - a) Slater assumes that state-making happens under authoritarian rulers. Do y'all agree?
 - b) How does Bates' argument fit into this?
 - c) Would state building look different with an authoritarian v. a democratic regime?
8. **Prospects for State-Building:** Is state-building possible in Latin America and Africa? What would we recommend to these regions to encourage state-building? Especially when no wars, very poor, high inequality, vast rural areas, etc.
 - a) Do we recommend war?
 - b) What do we recommend to international actors?