

RESEARCH SEMINAR
Empirical research in Social Sciences
(based on research projects of IIMS/ICSID)

2019 – 2020

Instructors:

Andrei Yakovlev

ayakovlev@hse.ru

Anton Kazun

akazun@hse.ru

Amanda Zadorian

azadorian@hse.ru

Kyle Marquardt

kmarquardt@hse.ru

Yuliya Rodionova

yrodionova@hse.ru

PLAN OF THE COURSE

1. Introduction (Andrei Yakovlev) and Lecture 1 (Anton Kazun)

Introduction (Andrei Yakovlev) (18th Sept.)

Course logic overview. Description of research projects of IIMS/ICSID (<https://iims.hse.ru/en/> ; <https://iims.hse.ru/en/csidi/>). Information about the rules of the course and requirements for students.

Lecture 1. Rule of Law and Legal Mobilization (Anton Kazun) (18th Sept.)

The experience of different countries shows that lawyers often become key actors in social transformations. Lawyers played a crucial role in the liberalization of the United States (Halliday et al. 2007; Boukalas 2013), Europe (Bell 1994; Halliday 1982, 1987; Ledford 2006), several countries in Asia (Epp 2012; Rajah 2012; Munger et al. 2014), Latin America (Brinks 2007), and Africa (Gould 2006). In other countries lawyers hinder social reforms, for example, in Nazi Germany, in Japan in 1930–1945 and in Italy in 1926–1945 (L. Karpik and Halliday 2011, 224). A present-day example is the case of China, where lawyers remain passive toward the tightening of control by the authorities (Liu & Halliday 2011). This observation raises an important question: *why does the legal profession become the initiator of positive changes in some countries, whereas in others it undermines the principle of rule of law?* We will discuss possible answers to this question considering the experience of different countries of the world (Tunisia, Taiwan, Pakistan, France, United States, Russia etc.).

2. Lecture 2. Public procurement process in Russia and EU-countries (Yuliya Rodionova) (18th Sept.)

Public procurement regulation is an extremely important issue for economic development because public procurement constitutes a significant component of public bodies' activities. Moreover, public procurement plays an important role in the national economies of both developed and developing countries (Klemperer, 2002; Dlamini & Ambe, 2012). It accounts for 10–15% of the GDP in developed countries and even more in developing nations (Lewis & Bajari, 2011). The efficiency of public procurement is a vital problem for public administration at the national and municipal levels. This subject has been addressed in many papers in recent years (see, for instance, Singer et al., 2009; Dimitri, 2013; Bovis, 2013; Guccio et al., 2014; Yakovlev et al., 2015). Many countries have undertaken reforms of their public procurement systems with a view to reduce the level of corruption and increase procurement competition, transparency and efficiency (European Commission, 2014). During the past decade, Russia's system of public procurement has also undergone a number of serious reforms. There is evidence of increasing interest in improving public procurement, which accounts for significant proportions of countries' total spend. Today, however, there is little understanding of the nature of public procurement and how and why, it differs across countries.

3. Lecture 3. Financialization in Emerging Markets (Amanda Zadorian) (2th Oct.)

Scholars have identified *financialization* as a key characteristic of advanced capitalist economies over the past forty years. The term refers to the increasing importance of finance both as an interest group and as a regulatory ideal. Some scholars focus on “financialization of the everyday,” in which the finance industry has penetrated the lives of citizens by promoting consumer debt and investment vehicles in the face of falling wages (van der Zwan 2014, Standing 2012). Others have demonstrated that finance and related industries like real estate absorb a larger percentage of national income since the 1970s (Krippner 2005). A third dimension explores financialization processes within firms: non-financial corporations earn a larger proportion of their profits from financial activities relative to productive activities (Krippner 2005), and shareholder value maximization has become the primary objective of firms' managers (Nölke and Perry 2007; Aglietta 2000, Lazonick and O'Sullivan 2000). Processes of financialization have been tied to economic crisis, growing income and wealth inequality, and deterioration of democratic institutions in OECD countries (Blyth 2013, Epstein 2005, Hacker and Pierson 2010, Piketty 2014, Streeck and Schaeffer 2013). Though we can observe patterns of financialization in emerging markets, fewer studies have considered the implications for democracy and economic growth there. The lecture will focus on one dimension of financialization in emerging markets: the introduction of shareholder value maximization corporate governance at state-owned enterprises in the oil sectors of Russia and Brazil.

4. Lecture 4. Measuring difficult concepts (Kyle Marquardt) (2th Oct.)

Many of the most important concepts in political economy are difficult to directly measure. Even the definitions of concepts like ethnic identity and democracy remain contentious, to say nothing of their actual measurement (Chandra, 2006; Hale, 2017; Coppedge et al, 2011; Bernhard, Örsün and Bayer 2017). These debates about measurement have important implications, as differences in measurement can lead to contradictory findings in research. For example, Cederman and Girardin (2007) found that including exclusion to the measurement of ethnic diversity results in strong evidence of cross-national relationship between ethnic diversity and conflict onset, counter to the classic work of Fearon and Laitin (2003) (see also the response in Fearon et al. 2008). In his research on the measurement of human rights, Fariss argues that it is important to

take the possibility of changing standards in human rights reporting into account; in doing so, he finds evidence that human rights have increased worldwide since the 1970s, contrary to work that argues that human rights have stayed largely constant (Fariss, 2014, 2019; Cingranelli and Filippov 2018). In this lecture, I describe these two cases in light of the larger literature on the measurement of these concepts; I also contextualize these debates in light of prominent work on illustrating measurement validity (Adcock and Collier, 2001).

5. Discussion of literature review: 4 seminars (16th Oct., 6th Nov.)

Students should choose **2 scientific articles** from **different topics** and prepare a presentation.

6. Data analysis: 4 seminars (20th Nov, 4th Dec.)

A series of seminars on how to collect and analyze data.

7. Group work (November 2019 – December 2019)

Students should choose one of the themes and divide into groups:

Group 1. Rule of Law and Legal Mobilization: choose any country (except Russia) and the problem associated with the rule of law. Assess what position the state and various parts of the legal community (judges, lawyers, human rights activists, etc.) are in relation to this problem. Based on open data (media, statistics etc.), analyze how the legal community respond (or does not respond) to the problem. Based on the scientific literature make a forecast about possible scenarios for the selected country.

Group 2. International Comparisons of Public Procurement Regulation: choose any country and prepare a detailed analysis of its public procurement system compared to Russia. The objectives are to explore, explain and understand how public procurement is regulated within your country, the basic principles and rules, where they come from, and how they interact to provide a comprehensive system of regulation. Based on open data, analyze the fundamental differences and similarities in the natures of the public procurement systems, the main major reform involving public procurement, barriers and constraints occurring.

Group 3. Financialization in Emerging Markets: Choose two non-OECD countries and produce a comparative study of financialization in their economies. The study can focus on macroeconomic dimensions like the sectoral makeup of national income, or microeconomic dimensions like corporate governance norms, or cultural dimensions like the development of entrepreneurial self-identity. Based on literature from at least two social science disciplines, consider the implications of this financialization process for democracy and economic growth in the two countries.

Group 4. Measuring difficult concepts: Choose an important concept in political economy, and compare and contrast how scholars have measured this concept. Performing this task will involve both providing a broad overview of measurement debates about the concept, as well as a detailed comparison of 2-3 specific quantitative measures (preferably cross-national). The detailed comparison will discuss both how each of the measures relates to the concept, how these measures conceptually diverge, and the empirical implications of this divergence.

8. Presentation of preliminary results (2 module)

Each group of students presents the results of their work: formulation of research problem, literature review, results of data collection, data analysis.

WRITTEN REQUIREMENTS AND DEADLINES:

Task	Date	Format
Review of the literature (individual work)	November 2019	Power Point presentation (10-15 slides)
Presentation of group project (in groups)	December 2019	Power Point presentation (20-30 slides)

GRADING

Participation – 20 %

Review of the literature – 30%

Presentation of group project – 50%

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Lecture 1.

Bell, David A. (1994) *Lawyers and Citizens: The Making of a Political Elite in Old Regime France*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

Boukalas, Christos (2013) "Politics as Legal Action/Lawyers as Political Actors Towards a Reconceptualisation of Cause Lawyering," 22 *Social & Legal Studies* 395–420.

Brinks, Daniel M. (2007) *The Judicial Response to Police Killings in Latin America: Inequality and the Rule of Law*. Cambridge University Press.

Epp, Charles (2012) "The Legal Complex in the Struggle to Control Police Brutality in India," *Fates of Political Liberalism in the British Post-Colony The Politics of the Legal Complex*. Cambridge University Press.

Gould, Jeremy (2006) "Strong Bar, Weak State? Lawyers, Liberalism and State Formation in Zambia," 37 *Development and Change* 921–41.

Halliday, Terence C. (1982) "The Idiom of Legalism in Bar Politics: Lawyers, McCarthyism, and the Civil Rights Era," 7 *American Bar Foundation Research Journal* 911–88.

——— (1987) *Beyond Monopoly: Lawyers, State Crises, and Professional Empowerment*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

———, eds. (2007) *Fighting for Political Freedom: Comparative Studies of the Legal Complex and Political Liberalism*. Oxford; Portland, Ore.: Hart Publishing.

Ledford, Kenneth F. (2006) *From General Estate to Special Interest: German Lawyers 1878-1933*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Liu, Sida, & Terence C. Halliday (2011) "Political Liberalism and Political Embeddedness: Understanding Politics in the Work of Chinese Criminal Defense Lawyers," 45 *Law & Society Review* 831–66.

Munger, Frank W., et al. (2014) "Mobilizing Law for Justice in Asia: A Comparative Approach," 31 *Wisconsin International Law Journal* 353–420.

Rajah, Jothie (2012) *Authoritarian Rule of Law: Legislation, Discourse and Legitimacy in Singapore*. Cambridge University Press.

Lecture 2.

Bovis, C.H. (2013) 'Efficiency and effectiveness in public sector management: the regulation of public markets and public-private partnerships and its impact on contemporary theories of public administration', *European Procurement & Public Private Partnership Law Review*, Vol. 8, No. 2, pp.186–199

Dimitri, N. (2013) "'Best value for money" in procurement', *Journal of Public Procurement*, Vol. 13, No. 2, pp.149–175.

Dlamini, W. & Ambe, I.M. (2012). "The influence of public procurement policies on the implementation of procurement best practices in South African universities.", *Journal of Transport and Supply Chain Management*, 6(1): 277–293.

European Commission. (2014). Directive 2014/24/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on Public Procurement and Repealing Directive 2004/18/EC.

Guccio, C., Pignataro, G. and Rizzo, I. (2014) 'Evaluating the efficiency of public procurement contracts for cultural heritage conservation works in Italy', *Journal of Cultural Economics*, Vol. 38, No. 1, pp.43–70

Klemperer, P. (2002). "How (not) to run auctions: The European 3G telecom auctions.", *European Economic Review*, 46(4–5): 829–845.

Lewis, G. & Bajari, P. (2011). "Procurement Contracting With Time Incentives: Theory and Evidence.", *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 126(3): 1173–1211.

Singer, M., Konstantinidis, G., Roubik, E. and Beffermann, E. (2009) 'Does e-procurement save the state money?', *Journal of Public Procurement*, Vol. 9, No. 1, pp.58–78.

Yakovlev, A.A., Tkachenko, A., Demidova, O.A. and Balaeva, O.N. (2015) 'The impacts of different regulatory regimes on the effectiveness of public procurement', *International Journal of Public Administration*, Vol. 38, No. 11, pp.796–814

Lecture 3.

Aglietta, Michel. 2000. "Shareholder Value and Corporate Governance: Some Fundamental Questions." *Economy and Society* 29, no. 1 (February): 146-159.

Blyth, Mark. 2013. *Austerity: The History of a Dangerous Idea*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Epstein, Gerald A. 2005. *Financialization and the World Economy*. Northampton, Mass.: Edward Elgar Publishing.

Foley, Duncan K. 2013. "Rethinking Financial Capitalism and the 'Information' Economy." *Review of Radical Political Economics* 45, no. 3: 257-268.

Hall, Peter A. and David Soskice, eds. 2001. *Varieties of Capitalism: The Institutional Foundations of Comparative Advantage*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Hacker, Jacob S. and Paul Pierson. 2010. "Winner-Take-All Politics: Public Policy, Political Organization, and the Precipitous Rise of Top Incomes in the United States." *Politics and Society* 38, no. 2: 152-204.

Krippner, Greta. 2005. "The Financialization of the American Economy." *Socio-Economic Review* 3: 173–208.

Labban, Mazen. 2014. "Against Shareholder Value: Accumulation in the Oil Industry and the Biopolitics of Labour Under Finance." *Antipode* 46, no. 2: 477-496.

Lazonick, William, and Mary O'Sullivan. 2000. "Maximizing Shareholder Value: A New Ideology for Corporate Governance." *Economy and Society* 29, no. 1 (February): 13-35.

- MacKenzie, Donald. 2006. *An Engine, Not a Camera: How Financial Models Shape Markets*. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press.
- Mezzadra, Sandro, and Brett Neilson. 2017. "On the Multiple Frontiers of Extraction: Excavating Contemporary Capitalism." *Cultural Studies*: 1-20. DOI: 10.1080/09502386.2017.1303425
- Moore, Mick. 2004. "Revenues, State Formation, and the Quality of Governance in Developing Countries." *International Political Science Review* 25, no. 3: 297-319.
- Nölke, Andreas, and James Perry. 2007. "The Power of Transnational Private Governance: Financialization and the IASB." *Business and Politics* 9, no. 3 (December): 1-25.
- Piketty, Thomas. 2014. *Capital in the Twenty-First Century*. Translated by Arthur Goldhammer. Cambridge, Mass.: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press.
- Standing, Guy. 2012. "The precariat: from denizens to citizens?" *Polity*, 44 (4): 588-608.
- Streeck, Wolfgang, and Armin Schaeffer, eds.. 2013. *Politics in the Age of Austerity*. Malden, Mass.: Polity Press.
- van der Zwan, Natascha. 2014. "Making Sense of Financialization." *Socio-Economic Review* 12: 99-129.
- van Treeck, Trill. 2009. "The Political Economy Debate on Financialization – A Macroeconomic Perspective." *Review of International Political Economy* 16, no. 5 (December): 907-944.
- Zeller, Christian. 2008. "From the Gene to the Globe: Extracting Rents Based on Intellectual Property Monopolies." *Review of International Political Economy* 15, no. 1 (February): 86-115.

Lecture 4.

- Abdelal, R., Herrera, Y. M., Johnston, A. I., & McDermott, R. 2006. *Identity as a Variable. Perspectives on politics*, 4(4): 695-711.
- Abdelal, R., Herrera, Y. M., Johnston, A. I., & McDermott, R. (Eds.). 2009. *Measuring identity: A guide for social scientists*. Cambridge University Press.
- Adcock, R. and Collier, D., 2001. "Measurement validity: A shared standard for qualitative and quantitative research." *American political science review*, 95(3), pp.529-546.
- Bernhard, M., Örsün, Ö.F. and Bayer, R., 2017. "Democratization in conflict research: How conceptualization affects operationalization and testing outcomes." *International interactions*, 43(6), pp.941-966.
- Chandra, K. 2006. "What is ethnic identity and does it matter?" *Annual Review of Political Science*, 9: 397-424.
- Cederman, L. E., & Girardin, L. 2007. "Beyond fractionalization: Mapping ethnicity onto nationalist insurgencies." *American Political science review*, 101(1), 173-185.
- Cingranelli, David, and Mikhail Filippov. 2018. "Are Human Rights Practices Improving?." *American Political Science Review* 112(4): 1083-1089.
- Cope, K.L., Crabtree, C. and Fariss, C.J., 2019. "Patterns of disagreement in indicators of state repression." *Political Science Research and Methods*, pp.1-10.
- Coppedge, M., et al. 2011. "Conceptualizing and measuring democracy: A new approach." *Perspectives on Politics*, 9(2), 247-267.
- Fariss, C.J., 2014. "Respect for human rights has improved over time: Modeling the changing standard of accountability." *American Political Science Review*, 108(2), pp.297-318.
- Fariss, C.J., 2019. "Yes, Human Rights Practices Are Improving Over Time." *American Political Science Review*, pp.1-14.

- Fearon, J. D., Kasara, K., & Laitin, D. D. 2007. "Ethnic minority rule and civil war onset." *American Political science review*, 101(1), 187-193.
- Fearon, J.D. and Laitin, D.D., 2003. "Ethnicity, insurgency, and civil war." *American political science review*, 97(1), pp.75-90.
- Hale, H. E. 2017. "Focus on the fundamentals: Reflections on the state of ethnic conflict studies." *Ethnopolitics*, 16(1): 41-47.
- Herrera, Y. M., and Kapur, D. 2007. "Improving data quality: actors, incentives, and capabilities." *Political Analysis* 15(4): 365-386.
- McMann, K. M., et al. 2016. "Strategies of validation: Assessing the varieties of democracy corruption data." *V-Dem Working Paper*, 23.
- Onuch, O., & Hale, H. E. (2018). "Capturing ethnicity: the case of Ukraine." *Post-Soviet Affairs*, 34(2-3): 84-106.
- Posner, D.N., 2004. "Measuring ethnic fractionalization in Africa." *American journal of political science*, 48(4): 849-863.
- Vogt, M., et al., 2015. "Integrating data on ethnicity, geography, and conflict: The ethnic power relations data set family." *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 59(7): 1327-1342.