

I. The Paradox of Democratic Divergence - Europe, The World - 1992-2000's

A. The Paradox -

All Democracies - Both Stable and Unstable -

Contain Both Supporters

And Opponents of Democracy

B. If the opponents are Demographically Significant (30-50% of population) these interests have an incentive to mobilize to destabilize

Democracy and Consolidate An

Authoritarian Political Order

C. Opponents Must Be Co-opted (Bought Out) If Democracy Can Be Stable

II. The Problem of Democratic Stability - Linkage And The Social Survival Threat

A. Democratic Mobilization Requires A Strong Linkage Between The Demand For Democratic Change And Concrete Interests That Can Benefit From Democratization of the State (example: Labor in Europe - 1848-1990's)

B. However, the linkage effect causes social and political polarization because it threatens key groups who see democracy as a potential social survival threat (example: property rights of the middle class)

C. Stability Requires the transformation of radicalism (radical redistribution of income and Reform (for survival/rev))

I. The Democratic Minimum - The Minimum Criteria of A Stable & Lasting Democracy

A. Regime of Competitive Alternating Elites

1 Indicator - Rotational Elections

B. Electoral Mechanism

1. Translates votes into Power
and Policy

C. Enforceable Political Rights

(Against State, Third Parties,
voters, Interest Groups, Opponents)

D. Rule of Inclusion (Rule)

1 All Groups Should be enfranchised
unless there are special circumstances

2. Authoritarian Systems - All Groups are Treated Equally