

# **The challenges and dilemmas of democratization Lessons from Europe**

**Giovanni Capoccia and Daniel Ziblatt**

## **Research Workshop**

Center for European Studies  
Harvard University  
27 Kirkland Street  
Cambridge MA 02138

October 3-4, 2008

This conference brings together an interdisciplinary group of leading scholars to discuss European democratization. Starting from the premise that there is currently a third generation of democratization studies, the papers move away from earlier explanations that tended to focus nearly exclusively on "class" and socio-economic change as the driving force behind democratization. Instead, the presenters will emphasize factors such as religion, ethnicity, and the transnational diffusion of ideas as crucial. In addition to the broader theoretical lessons for debates in the social sciences about the causes of democratization, the conference also aims to invigorate these debates a greater appreciation of historical lessons drawn from Europe.

## **Participants:**

Nancy Bermeo, Oxford

Michael Bernhard, Penn State

Giovanni Capoccia, Oxford

Grzegorz Ekiert, Harvard

Zachary Elkins, Austin

Thomas Ertman, NYU

Andrew Gould, Notre Dame

Peter Hall, Harvard

Stephen Hanson, University of Washington

Patrice Higonnet, Harvard

Jeff Kopstein, Toronto

Steven Levitsky, Harvard

Wolfgang Merkel, Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin

Dietrich Rueschemeyer, Brown

Kurt Weyland, Austin

Jason Wittenberg, Berkeley

Daniel Ziblatt, Harvard

# Conference Schedule

**Friday, October 3, 2008**

**10:00 am: Coffee**

**10:30 am: Welcome/Introductory Comments**

Giovanni Capoccia, Oxford University

Daniel Ziblatt, Harvard University

**11:00-12:30 pm Session #1**

Chair: Daniel Ziblatt, Harvard University

Paper #1: Thomas Ertman, "Religious Conflict, Church-State Relations and Democratization: The Case of the United Kingdom"

Discussant: Dietrich Rueschemeyer, Watson Institute, Brown University

Paper #2: Giovanni Capoccia, "Dealing with Successor Parties in Post-Authoritarian Democracies: Italy in the Aftermath of World War II"

Discussant: Andy Gould, Notre Dame University

**12:30-1:30 pm: Lunch at CES**

**1:30-3:00 pm: Session #2**

Chair: Giovanni Capoccia, Oxford University

Paper #3; Jeff Kopstein and Jason Wittenberg: "Modes of Inclusion and Exclusion: The Political Sociology of Regime Types in Interwar East-Central Europe"

Discussant: Gregorz Ekiert, Harvard University

Paper#4: Daniel Ziblatt, “Prussia’s Difficult Democratization: Suffrage Reform Before and After World War I”

Discussant: Michael Bernhard, Department of Political Science, Penn State University

**3:00-3:30 pm: Coffee Break at CES**

**3:30-5:00 pm: Session #3**

Chair: Michael Bernhard, Penn State University

Paper #5: Kurt Weyland, “The Diffusion of Regime Change in Europe”

Discussant: Steven Levitsky, Harvard University

Paper #6: Zachary Elkins, “Diffusion and the Design of Constitutions”

Discussant: Wolfgang Merkel, Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin

**Saturday, October 4, 2008**

**9:00 am: Continental Breakfast at CES**

**9:30-11.00 am: Session #4**

Chair: Jeff Kopstein, University of Toronto

Paper #7: Stephen Hanson, “The Founding of the French Third Republic”

Discussant: Patrice Higonnet, Department of History, Harvard University

Paper #8: Nancy Bermeo, “Contested Boundaries and New Identities in New Democracies: The Pivotal Role of Political Elites in France and Portugal”

Discussant: Andy Gould, Department of Political Science, Notre Dame University

**11:00-11:15 am Coffee Break**

**11:15-12:30 pm: Session #5: Concluding “Roundtable” on Democratization in Europe (and on Capoccia/Ziblatt Introductory Paper)**

Chair: Nancy Bermeo, Oxford

Discussants:

Gregorz Ekiert, Harvard University

Peter Hall, Harvard University

Wolfgang Merkel, Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin

Dietrich Rueschemeyer, Watson Institute, Brown University

**12:30-1:30 pm: Lunch at CES**

**1:30-2:30 pm: Wrap-up Discussion: What’s Next?**