

Chapter 2: **The Industrialized Democracies**

THE BASICS

The Industrialized Democracies

REGION	DEMOCRACIES	CONTENDERS
Europe	Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the Netherlands	Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, Turkey
The Americas	Canada, the United States	Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Mexico, most Caribbean Islands
Asia and the Pacific Islands	Australia, Japan, New Zealand	Philippines, South Korea, Taiwan
Africa		Botswana, South Africa

Four Elections

- United States 2012
- Great Britain 2010
- France 2012
- Germany 2012
- Iran 2013
- Mexico 2012
- Russia 2012
- China 2012
- Nigeria 2011

Four Elections

- Common and Not So-Common Themes
 - Elections determine who governs
 - Elections are not about basic principles
 - Dissimilarities
 - Electoral systems – direct, indirect, proportional, plurality
 - Separation of powers and fusion of powers

Thinking About Democracy

- The Basics
 - Rights
 - Competitive elections
 - The Rule of Law
 - Civil Society and Civic Culture
 - Capitalism and Affluence
- Which countries are democracies by those criteria?

TABLE 2.1 Women in Parliament: Selected Countries

Sweden	Proportional	47.3
Netherlands	Proportional	36.7
Germany	Half proportional	31.6
United Kingdom	First past the post	19.7
United States	First past the post	16.3
France	Single member, two ballot	12.2

Source: International Parliamentary Union, www.ipu.org. Accessed 8 May 2007.

Note: These figures were accurate as of January 2007. Sweden and the Netherlands were added to the countries covered in the book to illustrate the range of results one finds. The United States was in 70th place. France's standing improved somewhat after the 2007 election.

Thinking About Democracy

- Key Questions
 - Why did democracy emerge in these countries?
 - Why did democracy become so remarkably durable in the second half of the 20th century?
 - Why is there so much debate about public policy in the industrialized democracies in the first years of the 21st century?
 - why has that debate not gone one step farther and led many people to question their regimes or democracy itself?

The Origins of the Democratic State

- Evolution of democratic thought
 - Hobbes
 - Laissez-faire
 - Locke
 - Suffrage

TABLE 2.2 Key Turning Points in the Development of Industrialized Democracies

CENTURY	TRENDS
Seventeenth	Emergence of the modern state
Eighteenth	First democratic revolutions
	Development of laissez-faire theory
Nineteenth	Industrial revolution
	Spread of voting and other democratic institutions
Twentieth	Further expansion of the vote
	Defeat of fascism and solidification of democracy in western Europe

The Origins of the Democratic State

- Building Democracies
 - the creation of the state itself
 - the role of religion in society and government
 - the development of pressures for democracy
 - the industrial revolution
 - complications of cleavages
 - Cold War as solidifier of strong democracies

Political Culture and Participation

- The Civic Culture?
 - legitimacy
 - drop in participation and trust
 - social capital
 - tolerance

Political Culture and Participation

- Political Parties and Elections
 - social democratic parties
 - liberal or radical parties
 - Christian democratic and secular conservative parties
- Catch-all Parties – appeals to the center

TABLE 2.3 The Changing Meaning of Left and Right

PERIOD	LEFT	RIGHT
Eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries	Prodemocratic Anticlerical Promarket	Antidemocratic Proclerical Ambivalent on market
Industrial era	Prodemocratic Anticlerical For socialism and/or welfare state	More prodemocratic Usual proclerical Less positive about welfare state, against socialism
Postindustrial era	Egalitarian, but qualms about welfare state and socialism as we know them Mostly globalist New social issues	Promarket capitalism Traditional values More nationalistic

TABLE 2.4 Main Types of Political Parties by Country

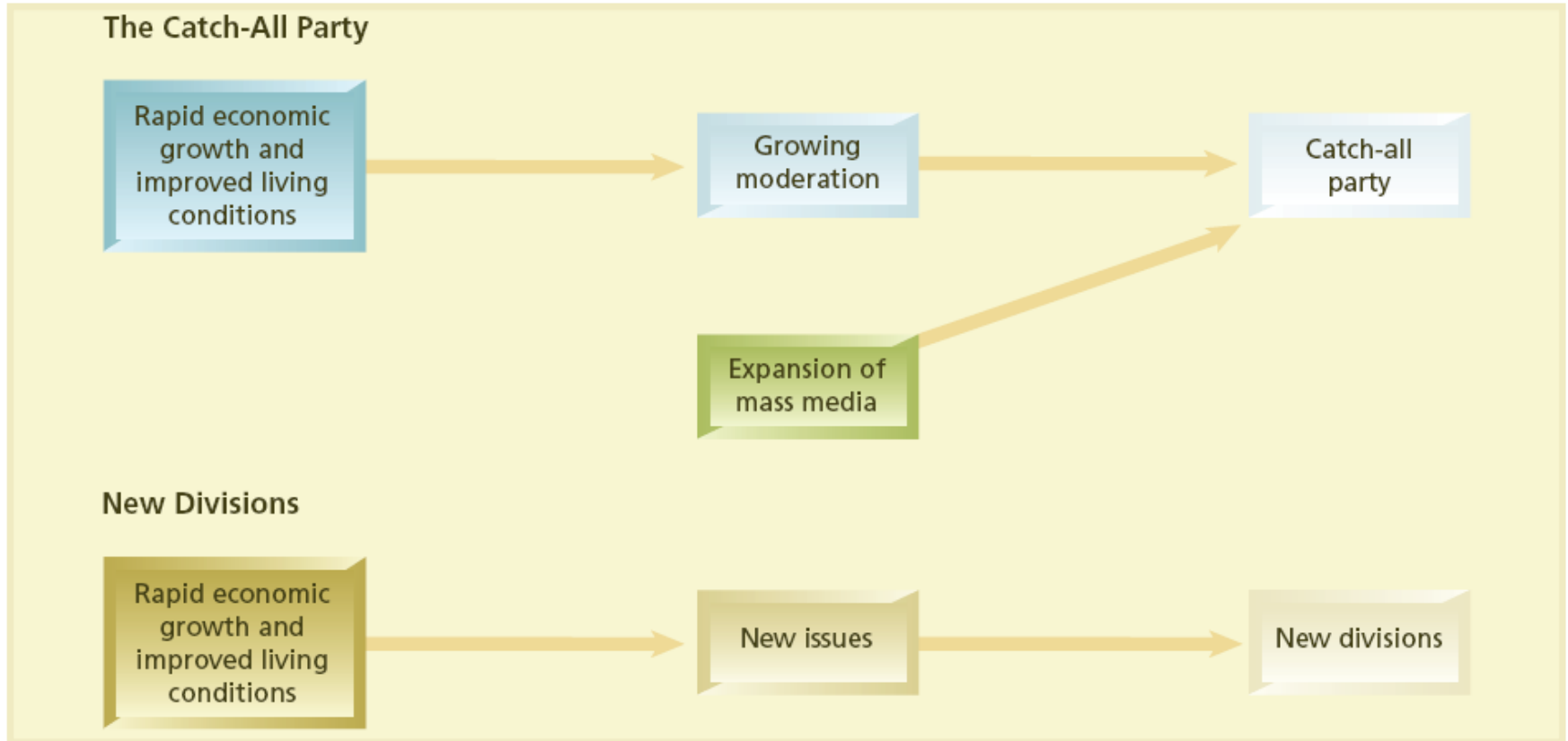
COUNTRY	TYPE OF PARTY					
	COMMUNIST	SOCIALIST	LIBERAL	CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC	CONSERVATIVE	OTHER
Great Britain	—	Labour	Liberal Democrats ^a	—	Conservative	Regional ^b
France	PCF	PS	^c	^c	UPM	Green National Front
Germany	PDS	SPD	FDP	CDU	—	Green National Front

^aLiberal to 1983, Liberal-Social Democratic Alliance 1983-87, Liberal Democrats 1988 on.

^bNationalist parties of Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland.

^cThe French Radical and Christian Democratic parties are no longer big enough to include here.

FIGURE 2.1 Political Participation in Flux: Two Versions



Political Culture and Participation

- New Divisions
 - Gender
 - Post-industrial
 - Post-materialist
- Realignment?
- Interest Groups
- Political Protest

The Democratic State

- Presidential and Parliamentary Systems
 - separation of powers
 - cabinet responsibility
 - coalition government

FIGURE 2.2 The President and Congress

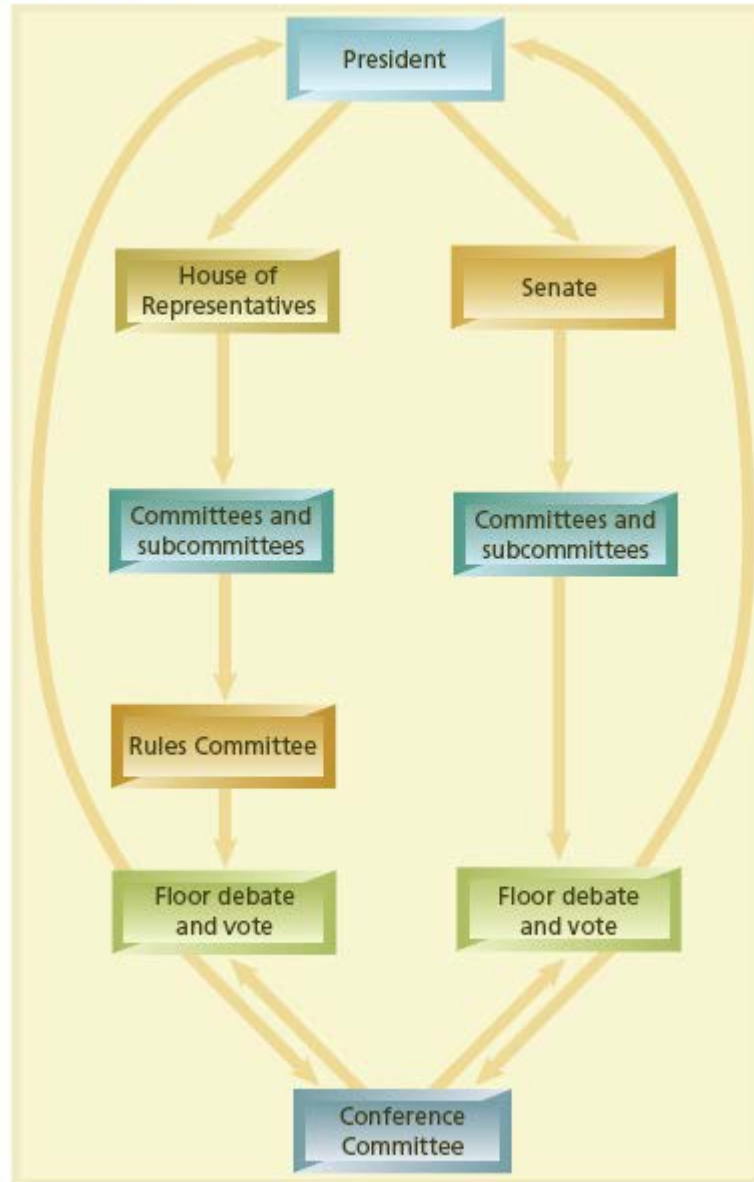


FIGURE 2.3 The Parliamentary System

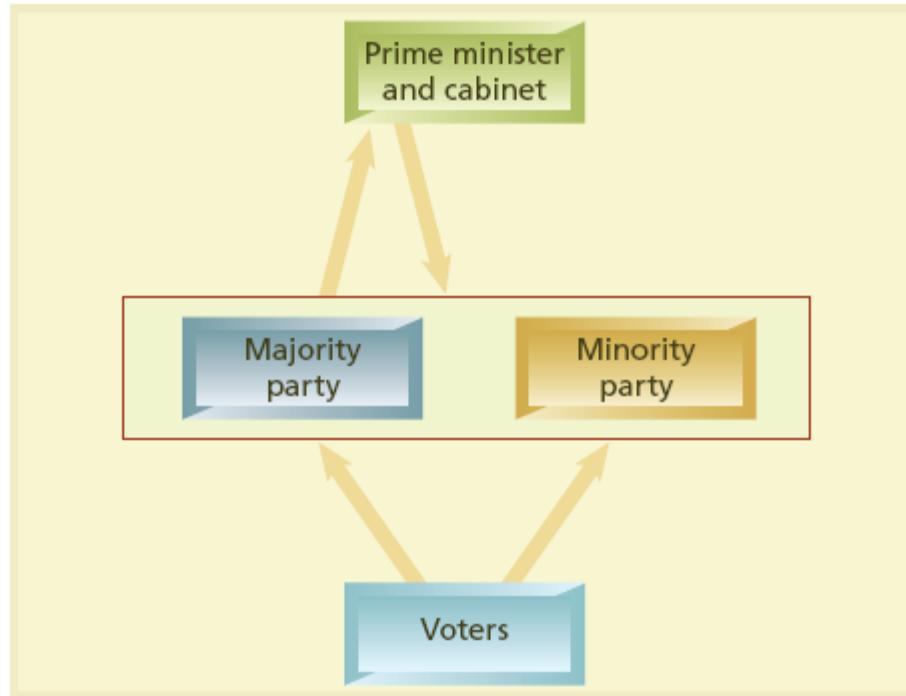


TABLE 2.5 The British General Election of 2005

	LABOUR	CONSERVATIVE	LIBERAL	OTHERS
Share of the Vote (percentage)	35.3	32.3	22.1	11.3
Number of Seats	356	198	62	30

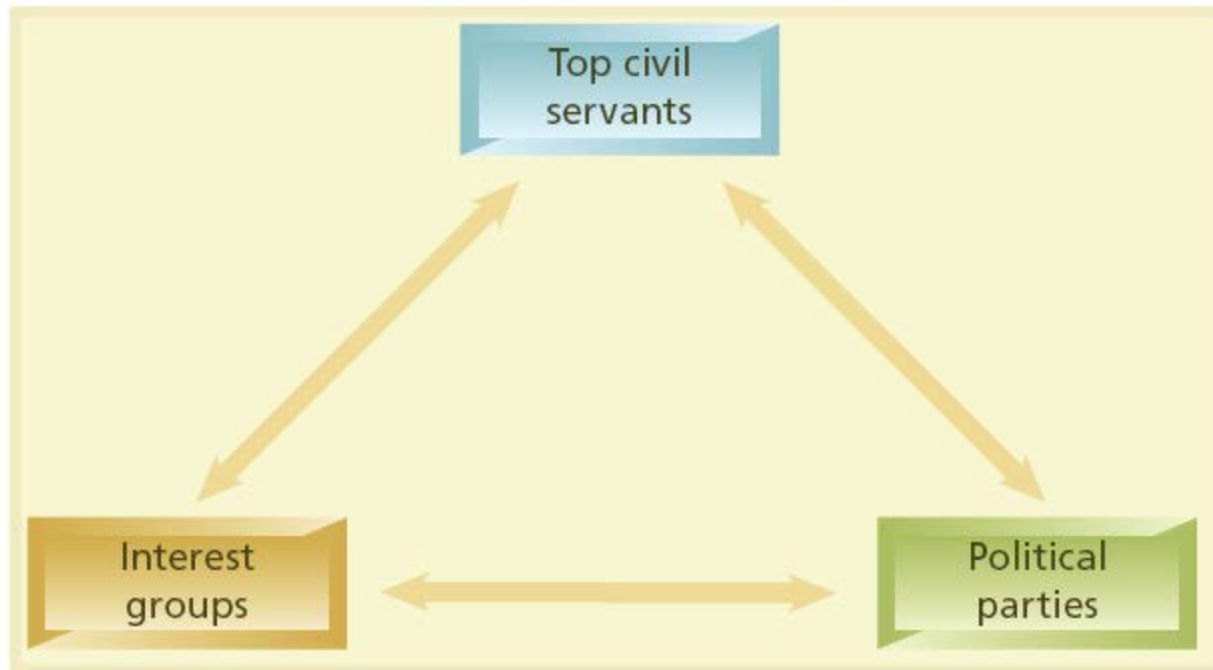
TABLE 2.6 The French Chamber of Deputies, 1951

PARTY	NUMBER OF SEATS
Communists	101
Socialists	106
Christian Democrats	88
Radicals	76
Independents and Peasants	95
Gaullists	120
Others	40

The Democratic State

- The Rest of the State
 - bureaucracy
 - judiciary

FIGURE 2.4 Elite Integration: Iron Triangles



Public Policy

- The Interventionist State
 - basic health care
 - subsidized or free education at all levels
 - unemployment compensation
 - pensions and programs for seniors
- Foreign Policy

Feedback

- greater access to information and opinion
- assessment of information more important
- competition between information and entertainment

Conclusion: The Worst Form of Government Except for All the Others

- balance between governors and governed
- balance between political world and rest of society
- balance between unbridled capitalism and the interests of those who do not benefit (much) from it
- balance between personal freedom and the need to maintain order and forge coherent public policy

Learning Objectives

After mastering the concepts presented in this chapter, you will be able to:

- Gain knowledge of democracy as a political system.
- Become aware of the latest electoral results and their impact on political realities in the USA, Great Britain, France and Germany.
- Understand concepts and criteria of democracy, such as rights, elections, the rule of law, civil society and capitalism in the free market.
- Define liberal and liberalism.
- Describe and define the origins of the democratic state empowered by the evolution of political thoughts on democracy.
- Differentiate between philosophical positions of Thomas Hobbes and John Locke.
- Recognize the process of democracy building
- Understand the challenges of democratization.
- Define and explain legitimacy and the process of political legitimization.
- Comprehend the role of political parties in political system.
- Identify different political ideologies and recognize the difference between left and right political ideologies and parties.

Learning Objectives

- Classify leading political parties in France, Germany and Great Britain. Understand political positions of Liberals, Radicals, Social Democrats and Christian Democrats.
- Define catch-all political parties.
- Understand postindustrialism and post materialism and their affect on the development of the political system.
- Recognize mechanisms of party dealignment and realignment.
- Describe interests groups and understand factors contributing to the political protest.
- Recognize differences between presidential and parliamentary forms of government and their impact of government formation, duration, stability and effectiveness.
- Define cabinet responsibility and vote of confidence in parliamentary systems.
- Recognize the role of bureaucracy. Define the “law of iron triangle.”
- Describe the process of public policy formation and implementation.
- Define the interventionist state.
- Understand challenges of economically liberalized democratic state.
- Describe the impact of foreign policy on international relations.
- Recognize balances that democratic states should achieve to be more effective and efficient.