

POLS 227

Africa in World Politics

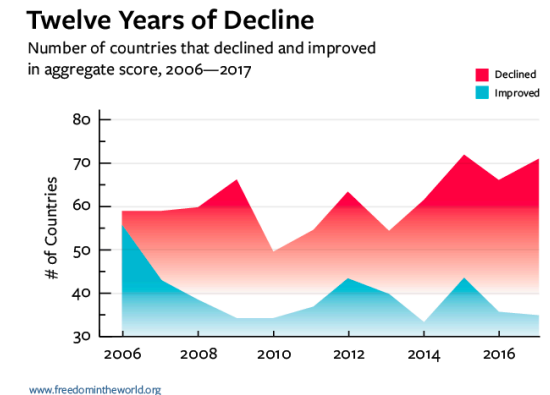
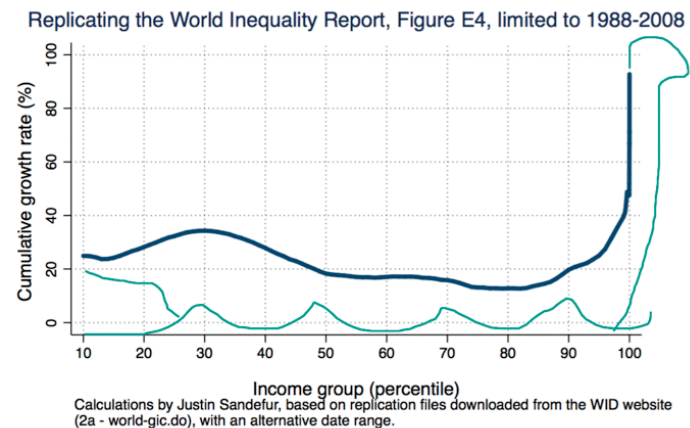
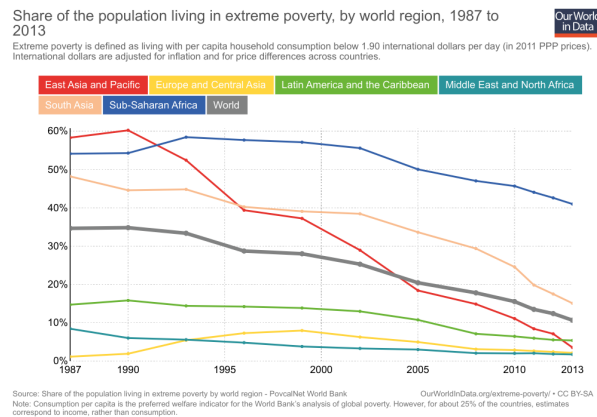
Class 26:
Democratization

PSA

- Research essay final draft due December 9
- Debate on December 10

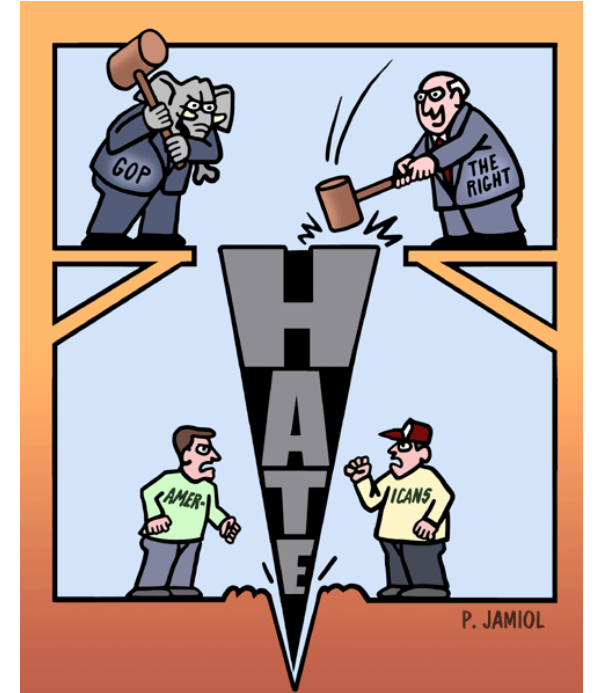
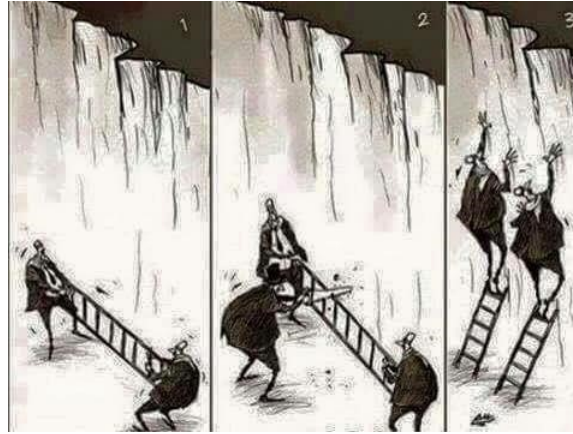
Recap

- Recent — and longstanding — trends:
 - Continuation of poverty (at least in parts of the world), limited development, and government policies that inhibit development and alleviation of poverty
 - Rise of economic/material inequality and political and social exclusion
 - Democratic backsliding and (re-)authoritarianization



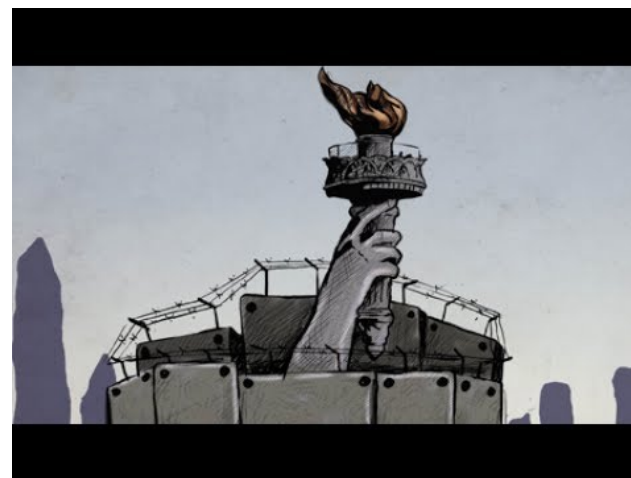
Recap

- Divide and rule tactics / tools of the powerful:
 - Extraversion
 - Politics of pork / neopatrimonialism
 - Populism
 - Politics of identity
 - Xenophobia
 - Politics of sex (and religion)
 - State coercion and repression



Recap

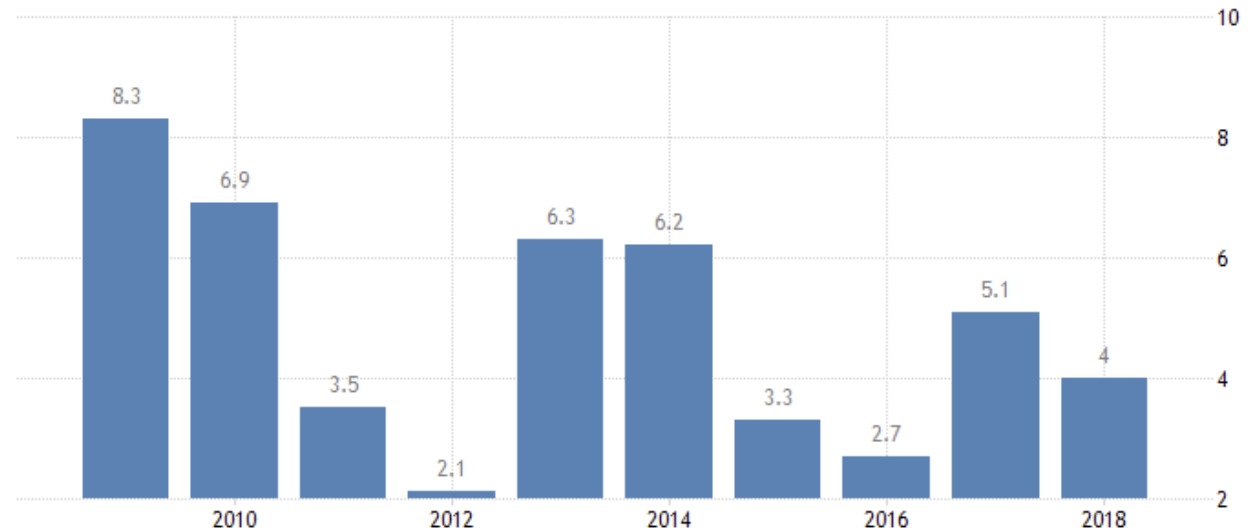
- Weapons of the weak:
 - International human rights regime
 - Political protest and violence
 - Nonviolent resistance
 - Valence issues



Kahoot!

Malawi

- 53 percent of 15 million Malawians under the poverty line
- Rising economic inequality:
 - 2004/5: richest 10% = 46% of total consumption and poorest 40% = 15% of consumption
 - 2011: richest 10% = 53% and poorest 40% = 13% of consumption
- Disputed 2019 elections and the threat of democratic backsliding



Malawi

- State coercion
- Politics of ethnicity:
 - Hastings Banda, Chewa → Chewas vs. Tumbukas, Posner 2004
- Politics of pork (or gravy?)
 - 1998 James Tengatenga, Bishop of Southern Malawi:
“The gravy train seems to have taken the better of our politicians... the defections bear witness to this... the politicians are now following the flow of the gravy and all seem to want to join the ruling party... where are the principles they stood for which made them different from the UDF?”

Malawi police use tear gas as opposition protests grow

3 MIN READ



LILONGWE (Reuters) - Armed police used tear gas on Thursday to disperse demonstrators demanding the resignation of Malawi's president after an election they say was rigged, escalating the state's response to protests that began two days ago.



Discussion questions

- What methods have ordinary Malawians, opposition politicians, and civil society used to oppose these tools of the powerful?
- Which of these methods have been the most efficacious?
- To what extent can we attribute Malawi's democratization in the 1990s to the use of these methods?

What methods have ordinary Malawians, opposition politicians, and civil society used to oppose these tools of the powerful?