

POLS 329 A
Comparative African Politics

Classes 21 and 22:
Democratization

Plan for this week

- Democratization:
 - Overview
 - The case of Malawi with the Rt Rev James Tengatenga, PhD, Distinguished Visiting Professor of Global Anglicanism in the School of Theology and former Anglican Bishop of Southern Malawi

African politics after independence

- Economic reform and ISI
- State weakness
- Neopatrimonialism
- Politics of ethnicity
- Horizontal inequality, exclusion, and conflict

Regimes and regime change in post-independence Africa

- Initial democratic experiments
- One-party rule
- Instability, coups d'état, and military rule



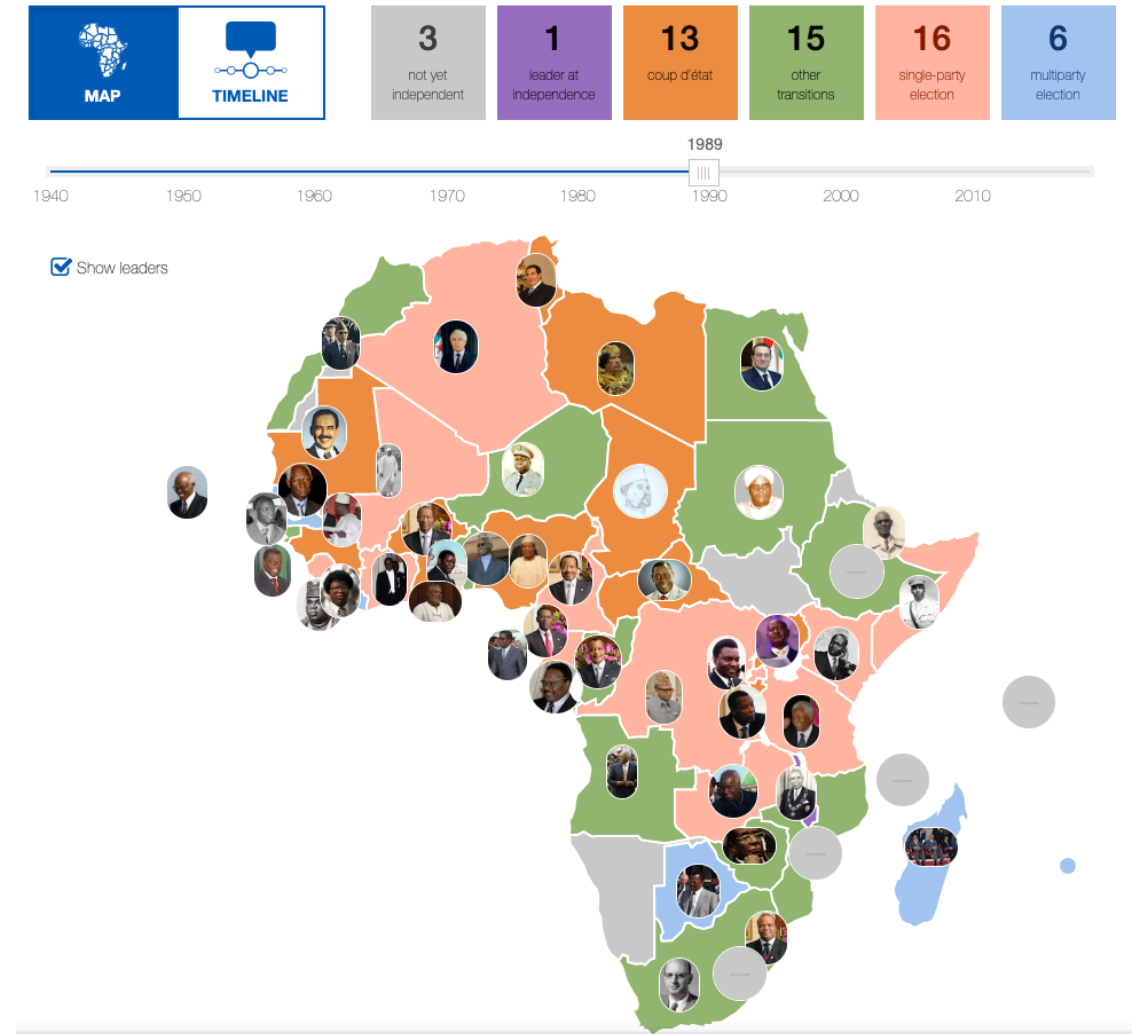
Post-independence democracies

- Botswana
- Mauritius
- Gambia
- Senegal



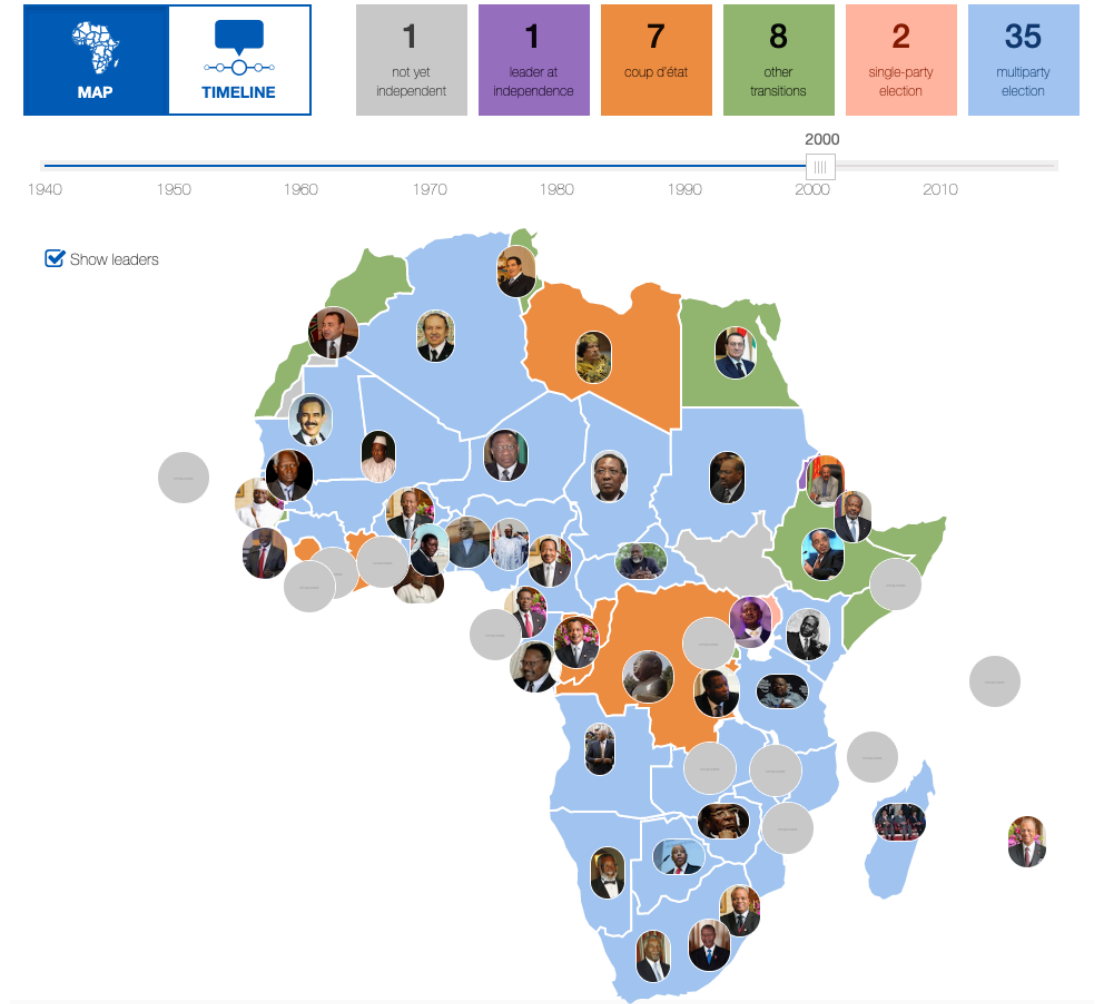
Elections in post-independence Africa

- Posner: parliamentary elections in authoritarian Zambia
- 70 competitive elections held in Africa between 1960 and 1990

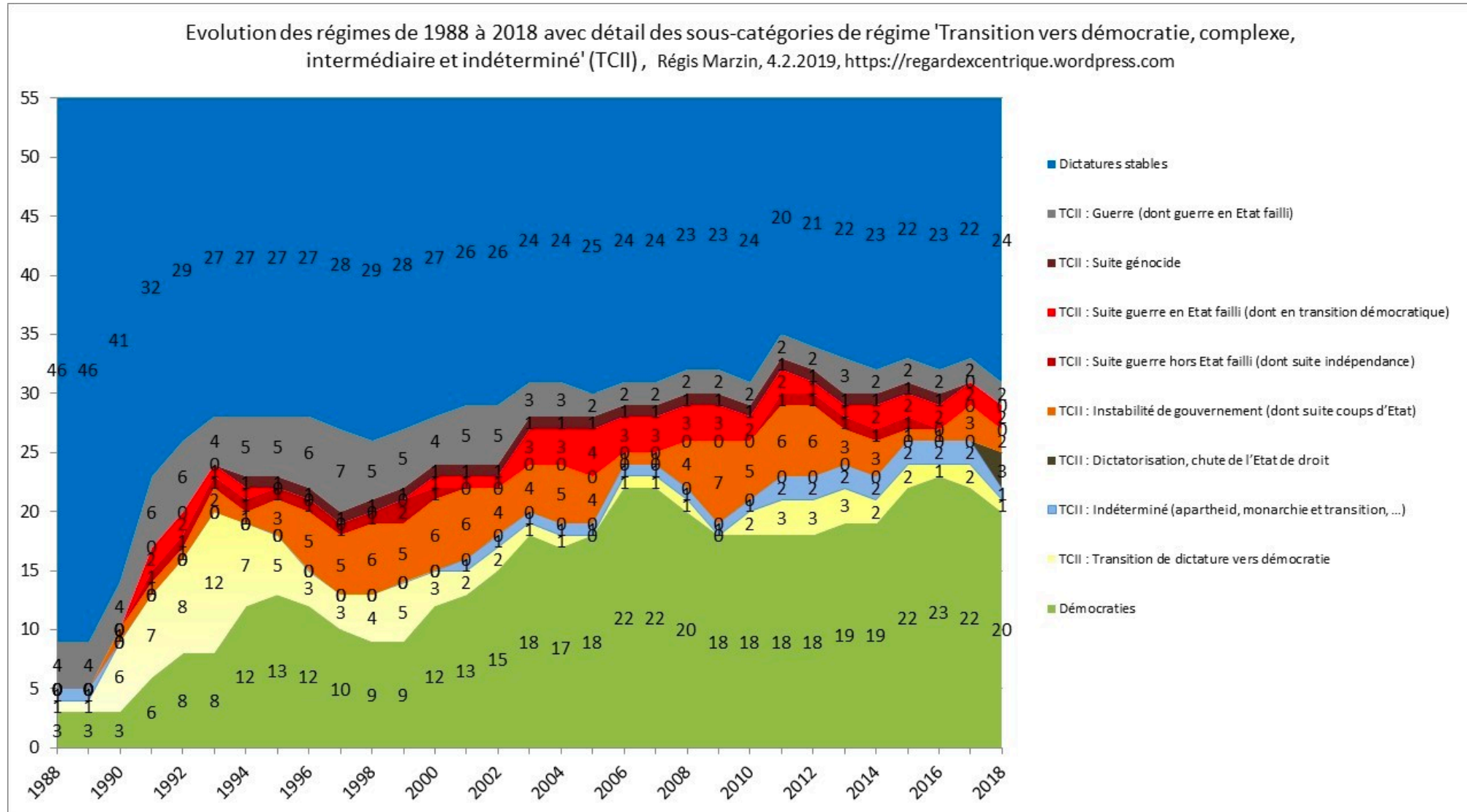


Elections in post-independence Africa

- 140 competitive elections during the 1990s



The wave of democratization in the 1990s



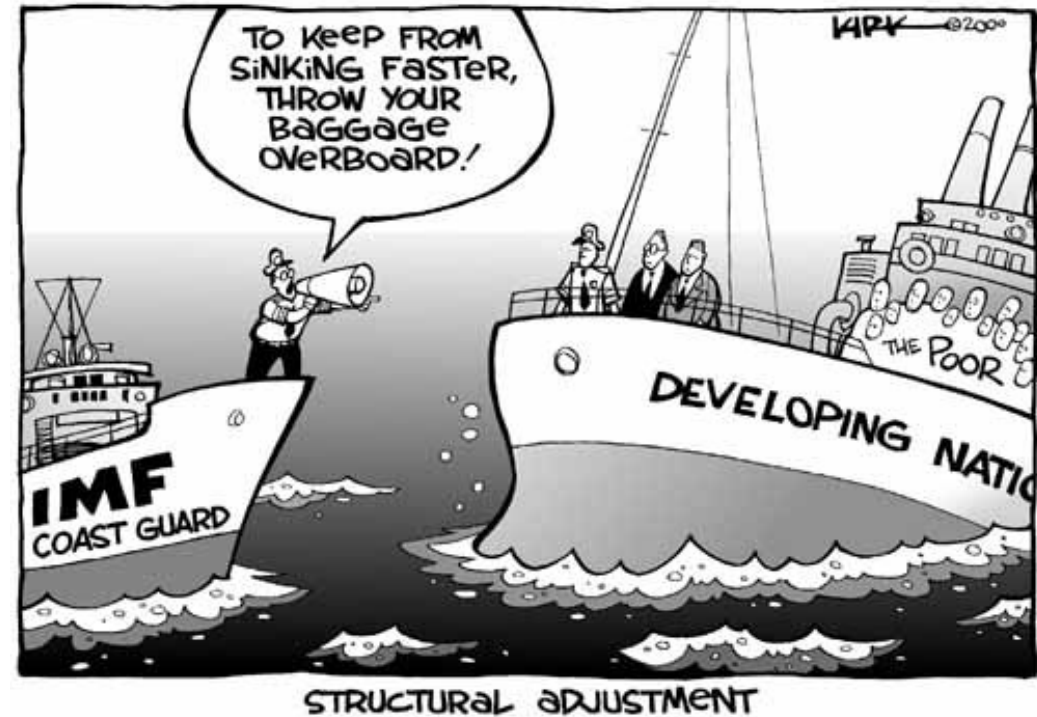
What explains many African countries' democratization in the 1990s?

The causes of democratization

- Economic trends
- African state
- Neopatrimonialism and the politics of ethnicity
- Horizontal inequality, exclusion, and conflict

Economic crisis and democratization

- Debt crisis and structural adjustment reforms →
- Economic decline and austerity policies →
- Loss of popular legitimacy and social unrest



<http://moneycrux.com/evaluation-structural-adjustment-programs/>

African state and democratization

- State autonomy and weak state capacity
- SAPs and the state →
- Increased capacity for civil society mobilization



Democracy that from a rally in Nairobi when the Kenyan police used gunfire and tear gas. A crowd of demonstrators was calling for multiparty democracy and protesting the arrests of opposition leaders.

Democracy Rally Crushed in Kenya

By JANE PERLES
Nairobi, Kenya, July 11 — In a dramatic reversal, calling for multiparty democracy and protesting the arrests of opposition leaders, the Kenyan government today crushed a rally in Nairobi with police gunfire and tear gas.

The demonstration, which began at 10 a.m. in the city of Nairobi, was organized by the Kenya National Alliance, a coalition of opposition parties. It was the largest gathering since the end of the single-party rule of the Kenya African National Union (KANU) in 1991.

The rally was held in front of the State House, Kenya's parliament building. It was organized by the Kenya National Alliance (KNA), a coalition of opposition parties. The rally was held in front of the State House, Kenya's parliament building. It was organized by the Kenya National Alliance (KNA), a coalition of opposition parties.

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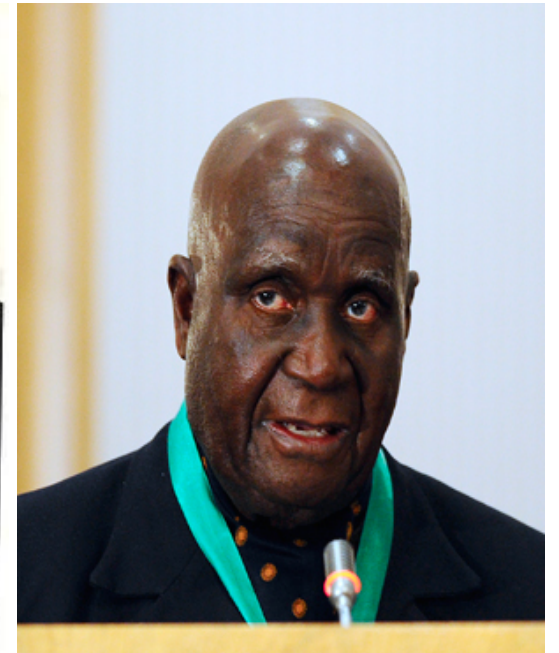
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Neopatrimonialism, ethnic politics, and democratization

- Appropriation and use of state resources to cultivate political support and systematic clientelism
- Big man politics:
 - Houphouët-Boigny, in power since 1960
 - Hastings Banda, in power since 1964
 - Kenneth Kaunda, in power since 1964



Conflict, exclusion, and democratization

- The case of South Africa:
 - Political tensions and majority mobilization
 - Pressure on the National Party
 - 1994 elections and the end of apartheid

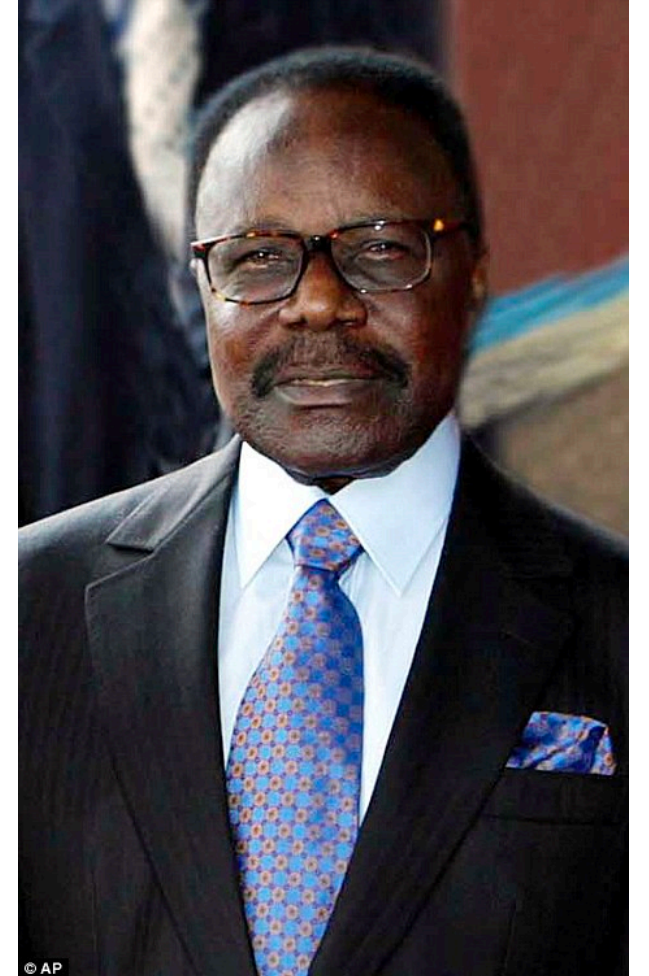


Causes of democratization

- Loss of authority and legitimacy and popular resentment against misrule
- Lack of resources

The end of the Cold War

- Pressure from the Global North
- Demonstration effects from the Fall of Nations
- Omar Bongo: “The winds from the East are shaking the coconut trees”



Political organization

- Civil society
- Trade unions:
 - Zambian Congress of Trade Unions and Frederick Chiluba
- Religious organizations:
 - Hastings Banda's Church of Scotland: "Pray for this profoundly lonely man who is locked in the prison house of power"

