

Essential Questions:

- What is illiberal democracy?
- How much autonomy should states have within a federalist system?
- What can/should be done to reign in “rogue states” within a federalist system?
- Do the European Union or the United States have a problem with illiberal democracy worth addressing?

Outside Materials/Sources:

- Is Tennessee A Democracy? - The Atlantic
<https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2023/07/tennessee-republican-partisanship-on-e-party-state/674732/#:~:text=Today%2C%20Tennessee%20is%20a%20model,run%20the%20state%20supreme%20court.>
- Ron DeSantis is following a trail blazed by a Hungarian authoritarian – Vox
<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2022/4/28/23037788/ron-desantis-florida-viktor-orban-hungary-right-authoritarian>
- How Does the EU Work? - video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8RkwlIr912A>

Students Will Be Able To:

- Define and identify examples of “illiberal democracy” in both the United States and the European Union
- Compare and contrast similarities and differences between “rogue states” in the United States and the European Union
- Evaluate to what degree “rogue states” and “illiberal democracy” are a threat to either the United States and the European Union

3-4 Days of class

Scripting is built into the PPT PDF

ILLIBERALISM AND FEDERALISM



WITH THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU

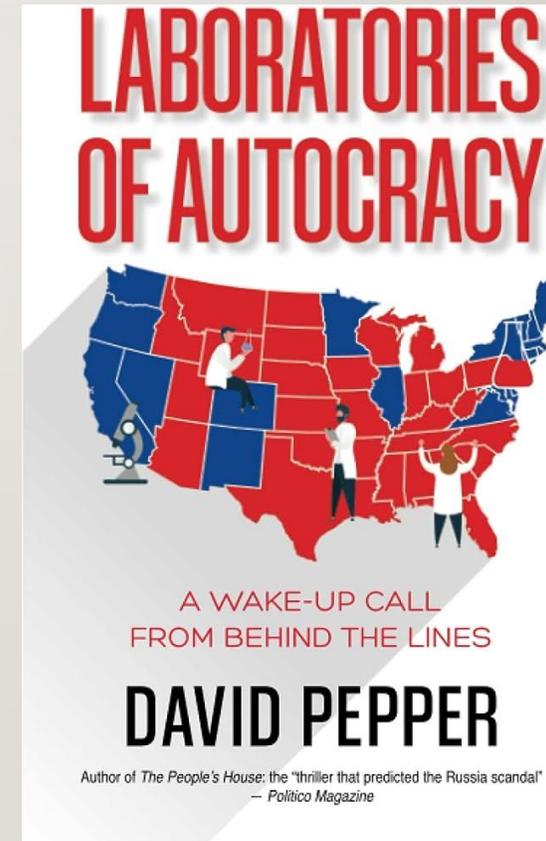
- What is federalism? What does it mean to have a federalist government system?
- Federalism: a system of government in which the same territory is controlled by two levels of government. Generally, an overarching national government is responsible for broader governance of larger territorial areas, while the smaller subdivisions, states, and cities govern the issues of local concern.

WITH THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU

- How much autonomy should we give to individual states within our federalist system?
- What should states be allowed to do on their own? What should states not be allowed to do on their own?

FEDERALISM: WAS LOUIS BRANDEIS RIGHT ABOUT IT?

- Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis once said that federalism allowed states to be laboratories of democracy
 - "a single courageous State may, if its citizens choose, serve as a laboratory; and try novel social and economic experiments without risk to the rest of the country."
- Was he right?
- Or...



WHAT HAPPENS WHEN STATES GO ROGUE?

- What does it mean to go rogue?
 - Going Rogue – to behave erratically or dangerously, especially by disregarding the rules or the usual way of doing something
- When is a state “going rogue” a problem worth addressing? How should we handle when states “go rogue”?

ILLIBERALISM

- Illiberal – opposed to liberal principles; restricting freedom of thought or behavior
- Illiberal Democracy – an illiberal democracy describes a governing system that hides its "nondemocratic practices behind formally democratic institutions and procedures"
- Questions? Thoughts?

IS TENNESSEE A DEMOCRACY?

- As you read, you are looking for examples of illiberalism found in the state of Tennessee
- You must mark these examples in the text, and list on paper 4 of them
- You must also list checks the federal government has placed on illiberalism in Tennessee
the author notes

IS TENNESSEE A DEMOCRACY?

- General takeaways from the reading?
- What were examples of illiberalism in Tennessee you found? What were examples of checks that have been put on the illiberalism in Tennessee?
- Discuss
 - Is what's occurring in Tennessee a problem the federal government should intervene in? Or something the people of Tennessee should be left to figure out? Why do you think what you do?

THE EUROPEAN UNION AND ILLIBERALISM

- What is the EU?
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Rkwllr9I2A>
- What do you notice about similarities and differences between the EU and US systems?

VIKTOR ORBAN AND RON DESANTIS

- As you read, you are looking for examples the author lists of illiberalism found in Hungary and in the state of Florida
- You must mark these examples in the text, and list on the same paper from yesterday 3 of them for both Hungary and Florida

VIKTOR ORBAN AND RON DESANTIS

- General takeaways from the reading?
- What were examples of illiberalism the author notes in Hungary? What were examples of illiberalism the author notes in Florida?
- Discuss
 - Is what's occurring in Hungary something the EU should get involved in? Is what's occurring in Florida something the federal government should get involved in? What are the similarities? What are the differences? Explain your reasoning.

TIME TO RESEARCH

- There is a research component and an opinion component to this assignment
- Research – you must compare and contrast ways that the EU can deal with rogue states vs. ways that the US federal government can deal with rogue states
 - Verify and cite your sources
- Opinion –
 1. Are either the EU or the US at a point with some of their potential “rogue states,” where they need to step in and address some of the illiberalism? If so, why and what should be done? If not, why not and what line would need to be crossed for you to want intervention from those governing bodies?
 2. Assume both the EU and the US were at a point where their “rogue states” needed to be addressed. Which system do you think is better set up to check some of the worst impulses of an individual state? Differentiate why that system is better from the other.