Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg

Lehrstuhl für Vergleichende Politikwissenschaft

Prof. Dr. Thomas Saalfeld

**Sommersemester 2019**

Seminar (Bachelor)

**Seminar Vergleichende Politikwissenschaft**

**The structure of political conflict in Europe: how parties and voters react to globalization**

Time: Mondays, 12.00-14.00

Venue: FMA/01.19

Start Date: April 29th 2019

Registration in

FlexNow!: April 1st 2019 to May 7th 2019

Instructor: Javier Martinez Cantó, M.Sc.

**Zulassungsvoraussetzungen/Entry Requirements**

None

**ErwerbeinesLeistungsnachweises/Assessment**

Portfolio consisting of at least one seminar presentation (25%) and one written essay (75%)

ECTS credits: 6

**Programme/Course Description**

Over the last decades, European party systems have become increasingly volatile. We see how new party families, like the Greens and the Populist Radical Right, are growing at the expense of the traditional party families of conservatives and social democrats. Many authors argue that this is the consequence of how globalization has shaped Western economies and societies, and therefore, the structure of their political conflict. For instance, immigration and European integration arise as a new dimension of the political conflict in most advanced democracies. While at the same time, the old working classes find themselves into more precarious labor situations and feel increasingly unrepresented by the political establishment. This seminar tackles how political conflict is formed and analyses its evolution over the last decades. Mainly, it combines a revision of the traditional theories explaining the formation and evolution of party systems with the latest trends on the field.

**Literatur zur Einführung/Introductory Reading**

* Lipset, S. M. and Rokkan, S. (1990) ‘Cleavage Structures, Party Systems, and Voter Alignments’, in Mair, P. (ed.) *The West European Party System*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 91–111.
* Grande, E. and Kriesi, H. (2012) ‘The transformative power of globalization and the structure of political conflict in Western Europe’, in Kriesi, H., Grande, E., Dolezal, M., Helbling, M., Hoglinger, D., Hutter, S., and Wuest, B. (eds) Political Conflict in Western Europe. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 3–35. doi: 10.1017/CBO9781139169219.003.