

**Social/Political Committee: Radical Governments**

*Members of the dias:* Graciela Guzmán and Diego De Sevilla

*APSMUN Conference 2019:* November 15-16



---

**I. Important Terms**

- A. Radicalization: The action or process of causing someone or something such as the government to adopt radical positions on political or social issues.
- B. Radical Left: Those liberals who desire fundamental changes to the capitalist system yet remain accepting of liberal democracy.
- C. Radical Right: Is the political preference that, contrary to left-wing liberalism, leans towards extreme conservatism, anti-socialism in hierarchical structure.
- D. Extremism: The holding ( and action in favor of) of extreme political or religious views.
- E. Political Liberalism: Is the political and moral philosophy based on liberty, consent of the governed, and equality before the law, which can also be considered a political doctrine that promotes less intervention from the state; pro-democracy.
- F. Rationalist: A way of thinking that bases the person's opinions and actions on reason and knowledge rather than on religious belief or emotional response.
- G. Marxism: The political and economic theories of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, later developed by their followers to form the basis for the theory and practice of communism.

- H. Fascism: Authoritarian ultranationalism characterized by dictatorial power, forcible suppression of opposition, and strong regimentation of society and of the economy which came to prominence in early 20th-century Europe, and is known as one of the precursors of modern radicalism.
- I. Command Economy: A command economy is a system where the government, rather than the free market, determines what goods should be produced, how much should be produced, and the price at which the goods are offered for sale.

## **II. Introduction**

Political Radicalism by definition are the political principles focused on altering social structures and value systems in fundamental ways through revolutionary or other means. Starting with the years before the Second World War, history saw what was the beginning of one of the most dangerous government systems, fascism. This was supported at first by the people, until it showed its true nature. However, for centuries before the Second World War, radical governments have been oppressing their subjects and were in no way challenged because the people didn't yet possess political rights. As political studies advanced and citizens became more aware, the radical governments in America and later on around the world started to disappear, however many radical governments are currently resurging and rising to power.

## **III. Background Information**

### **A. Beginnings**

The movement began in France, in the summer of 1789. As the French Revolution heated up, an angry mob stormed the Bastille and recurred to a revolutionary

assembly. The National Assembly was a revolutionary assembly formed by the representatives of the Third Estate of the Estates-General; which existed from June 4, 1789 to July 9, 1789. From debating how much power the king should have, their main purpose was: writing a new constitution. The debate on if the king should have the right to an absolute veto or not was established as follows. Those who thought he should have an absolute veto sat on the right of the president of the assembly, but those who thought he shouldn't, the more radical point of view, sat on the left.

## **B. Far Left Movements**

Far left is a label used for political movements that adhere to the achievement of an equal society, commodity distribution, advocacy of equal rights, rejection of currency and abolition of private property. The majority of the movements fall under labels of either communist, socialist or left-wing anarchist. On the contrary to the common opinion, nearly all far-left ideologies call for the abolition of government.

### **1. Common stances**

- a) Abolition of discrimination, since it is seen as a method that divides lower class from unity with the others. Although there were extreme social conservatism present in many communist dictatorships such as Stalinist or the Maoist systems.
- b) Calling for a single united world, without borders. Although this idea of “socialism in one country” caused the appearance of some highly nationalistic ideals.
- c) Methods used range from pacifism to outright violence.

## **2. Philosophies**

a) Communism, ranging from:

(1) Trotskyism

(2) Stalinism

(3) Marxism

(4) Maoism

b) Anarchist

c) Hard greens

d) Socialists, such as:

(1) De Leonists

### **C. Far Right Movements**

Far right is used to describe the right-wing social, political and religious movements that are more radical than mainstream conservatism. The mass shootings such as the ones that occurred in El Paso and Las Vegas and other terrorist attacks, such as the ones that happened in New Zealand and Norway, are examples of their manifestations. These, along with the rise of nationalist, anti-immigrant, have put the spotlight on the far-right extremism. During the year 2000, studies identified more than 25 different definitions of far-right extremism, which ranged from a focus on xenophobia, racism, and nationalism, to more advanced and precise definitions that included anti-pluralism, militarism and ethnocentrism, among other terms. These movements have become dangerous in many places and have placed national security at risk of losing control. In the United States, from 2008 through 2017, these extremists or so called “white

supremacists” were responsible for 387 fatalities. Around the same time frame in the North America, Salafi-jihadists were responsible for 100. In the United Kingdom, the concern on right-wing extremism has led the problem being placed under the jurisdiction of MI5 instead of their police. Contemporary right-wing extremism is composed of at least four main streams that primarily developed in the US.

## **1. Four main streams**

### **a) First Stream**

(1) Composed of white supremacists, which mainly are neo-Nazis drawn on by racial supremacy theories.

### **b) Second Stream**

(1) Stand with a strong religious component, emphasizing the superiority of Christian faith and the importance of the rapture, as an example:

(a) Ku Klux Klan

(b) Pegida: German political movement

### **c) Third Stream**

(1) Largest of the four groups and it's mainly populated by right-wing populists, some include:

(a) Geert Wilders' Party of Freedom in the Netherlands

(b) English Defence League

(c) Five Star Movement and Lega Nord in Italy

(d) The Austrian People's Party

(e) Alternative for Germany

**d) Fourth Stream**

(1) Strand of far-right extremism that is best described as

‘others’. These include:

(a) Incel

(b) Sovereign citizens

(c) Alt-right

(d) Identitarians

**IV. Impacts on society**

**A. Economic**

Just like Radical governments have most control over their subjects and politics, they also have a command economy. What a command economy does for the radical system of government is that it grants full control over the economy of the country and denies the people of any possibility of change in government when all their money is being wired by said government they’d be against.

**B. Political**

The suppression of political rights should be a crime punishable by the United Nations. The people’s loss of a right of government is an atrocious fault that fails to meet modern society. Any and all radical governments who do violate these rights are not only worsening quality of life in the country but also quality of government and tainting their original vision.

### C. Social

In today's day and age, rebelling and protesting against any type of injustice has become much easier, and we saw this with the examples of Chile and Puerto Rico. However, the worsening situation of a government system may push the people of a country to develop a unity and sense of patriotism they didn't have before, and although not under the best conditions, the brave people of oppressed countries may develop stronger character and unity than those of other governments.

### V. Guide Questions

- A. How does political radicalism directly affect the demography of a country?
- B. Has the original philosophy and view of radicalism changed in modern politics and diplomacy?
- C. Is a radical government necessarily related to a dictatorship or suppression of the people?
- D. What political and social ideology does your delegation appeal to?
- E. What are the main aspects your delegation stands for within radical ideologies?

### VI. Message from the Dias

Delegates, the information provided is merely a glimpse of the complexity on radical governments and their origins, which is why we encourage you to research other sources of information. Position papers are due **Monday, November 11th at 11:59 pm** and are to be sent to the committee email: [radgovapsmun2019@gmail.com](mailto:radgovapsmun2019@gmail.com). It has a **maximum of two pages** and should be formatted in **double-spacing, Times New Roman size 12 with 1-inch margins** and sent in **PDF format**. Under no circumstances,

plagiarism will be tolerated, therefore we exhort your references. We look forward to seeing the many possible solutions and hope you develop the committee in a fluid and stable way. Furthermore, we reiterate the importance of the quality of debate given this is a General Assembly and speaking time per delegate will be limited. If there is any concern, doubt or question about the committee or position papers, feel free to contact us!  
Good luck!

Graciela Guzmán

Diego De Sevilla

Committee Email

[radgovapsmun2019@gmail.com](mailto:radgovapsmun2019@gmail.com)

## VII. Works Cited

Chappelow, J. (2019, October 18). Command Economy Definition. Retrieved November 1, 2019, from <https://www.investopedia.com/terms/c/command-economy.asp>.

Extreme Right / Radical Right / Far Right. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://www.adl.org/resources/glossary-terms/extreme-right-radical-right-far-right>.

Far left. (n.d.). Retrieved from [https://rationalwiki.org/wiki/Far\\_left](https://rationalwiki.org/wiki/Far_left).

What to Know About the Origins of 'Left' and 'Right' in Politics, From the French Revolution to the 2020 Presidential Race. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://www.google.com/amp/s/time.com/5673239/left-right-politics-origins/?amp=true>.