

Middle East Technical University
Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences
Department of International Relations
IR3140544 Politics in East-Central Europe
Prof. Dr. Mustafa Türkes

The objective of this course is to provide students with an analytical understanding of modern history of and current political and security developments in Eastern Europe. The topics covered in this course are modern history of Eastern Europe, territorial settlements of 1919-1923 and 1945, characteristic features of the regimes, the establishment and collapse of authoritarian regimes in Eastern Europe. International and domestic problems faced by the East European countries during the transition period are examined. The focus will be on the issues of post-Cold War years. Evolution of the attitudes and roles of major political and security organizations concerning Eastern Europe is to be examined. Students are encouraged to follow up the latest developments in the region.

Requirements

Students are asked to give weekly short papers (value 40 %) and each student is to prepare and present a term paper (value 60%).

Course Schedule

- Week 1: Introduction: Students are to be introduced with subjects and sources.**
- Week 2: Term paper design**
- Week 3: Eastern Europe in the Interwar Years.**
- Week 4: The Establishment of the Communist Party Rules in Eastern Europe**
- Week 5: The Collapse of Communist Party Rules in Eastern Europe: Causes**
- Week 6: Cycles of Crisis and Disintegrations in Eastern Europe**
- Week 7: Deconstruction of Czechoslovakia and Construction of the Czech Republic and Slovakia**
- Week 8: System Change and Debates about Transition in Eastern Europe**
- Week 9: Debates about Democratization in Eastern Europe**
- Week 10: Integration of East-Central Europe and South Eastern Europe to NATO**
- Week 11: The EU, Eastern Europe and the Western Balkans**
- Week 12: Tension and Cooperation in Euro-Atlantic Relations and the Place of Eastern Europe**
- Week 13: Actual and Potential Hot Spots in the Neighborhood and the Roles for Eastern Europe**
- Week 14: Debates on Eastern Europe: Where to?**