



CHANGING DYNAMICS OF PARLIAMENTS

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Availability: By appointment

Course description

What is the future of parliaments? What are the main changes in parliamentary life? How can citizens influence the political agenda and what are the consequences of the digital age?

The principal idea of this course is to introduce the latest changes in parliamentary life, focusing on national parliaments in Europe and sometimes the European Parliament. However additional examples will be examined from Australia or South America. During the course we are going to combine a practical point of view with a more theoretical perspective.

Despite of the fact that parliaments are traditional institutions, important institutional and methodology based changes have occurred recently and we are going to understand and examine these developments as follows:

- the traditional parliamentary model;
- the Hungarian National Assembly;
- new forms and methods to enhance the legislative function;
- changing nature of oversight activities;
- the influence of international parliamentary cooperation;
- e-parliament and e-parliament models;
- new ways of communication between citizens and parliaments;
- e-petition systems and citizen parliamentary online fora;
- the problem of exclusion from the new communication forms and possible inclusion methods;
- parliamentary autonomy;
- regulatory impact analysis and foresight studies;
- parliament of the future.

Although the focus will be on development and future we need to connect all of these to the existing parliamentary tradition and practice.



Assessment

Regular attendance needed (students are allowed to skip two classes in the semester).

One essay to be written and submitted before the last session (1 500 and 2 500 words)

Literature and educational resources

selected literature and other information resources will be provided (*the website of the course is coming soon*)