

Время выполнения задания – 180 мин.

1. Напишите академическое эссе на одну из предложенных ниже тем (на русском языке):

1) Многие исследования показывают, что изобилие природных ресурсов часто негативно влияет на развитие страны. Каковы политические аспекты и механизмы «ресурсного проклятья»?

2) Каковы основные тенденции в развитии современной эмпирической политологии? Какие новые данные используются, какие методы развиваются? Какие риски несут эти новые тенденции для развития политической науки?

3) Повестка нового президентского срока: проблемы и перспективы российской региональной политики

4) Как оценить эффективность антикоррупционной политики?

5) Использование социальных сетей в современных избирательных кампаниях: тенденции, перспективы и ограничения

2. Прочитайте фрагмент текста на английском языке и ответьте на вопросы по тексту (также на английском языке).

Why do some democracies survive for more than a century, whereas others revert to dictatorship after only a brief democratic period? Academic debate and policy recommendations for new democracies frequently look to long-lived democracies such as the United States or Switzerland for clues about which institutional or economic factors may improve the survival of democracies after transition. In fact, a large amount of both theoretical and qualitative empirical research focuses precisely on such long-lived democracies and attempts to explain what distinguishes them from new or failed democracies.

The premise underlying this focus on long-lived democracies is that their advanced age is an indicator of the enduring stability of democracy in these countries – that they are consolidated democracies. Although substantial disagreement persists about the exact causes or appropriate measures of democratic consolidation, most research agrees that consolidated democracies face essentially no risk of an authoritarian reversal. But then even a long-lived democracy may be surviving for two different reasons: it may be either a consolidated democracy whose odds of reverting to dictatorship are essentially zero (e.g., Sweden in 2001), or a democracy that is *not* consolidated, but survives because of some favorable circumstances (e.g., Thailand in 2001).

However, the influential empirical literature on transitions to democracy treats all existing democracies as a single group: after controlling for various covariates all democracies are expected to face the *same* risk of a reversal. This failure to account for how the potential heterogeneity among democracies translates into observable data misses an important dynamic in the process of democratic survival. The observed *survival of democracy* may be the consequence of two distinct causal mechanisms: *democratic consolidation*, which practically eliminates the risk of an authoritarian reversal, or a separate mechanism that *prevents authoritarian reversals in those democracies that are not consolidated*.

As a result, the factors that determine whether a democracy will consolidate may differ from those that explain the occurrence and timing of authoritarian reversals in those democracies that are not consolidated. This distinction may seem subtle, but it is crucial to our understanding of democratic survival. A medical analogy may help highlight the importance of this distinction:

Олимпиада НИУ ВШЭ для студентов и выпускников – 2018 г.

consider an individual who survived one of the later waves of the Black Death in Europe (e.g., the plague wave of 1383 versus the original 1348 wave). She may have survived because (1) she developed an immunity to the plague during the prior wave(s) of the epidemic or because (2) she practiced careful hygiene and, in turn, minimized her exposure to the contagion.

Although both alternatives explain survival, they are clearly two, distinct causal mechanisms. Similarly, the distinction between the two separate mechanisms that may account for the survival of democracy is lost when we treat all existing democracies as a single, homogenous group. Failure to distinguish between these mechanisms not may only lead to incorrect statistical estimates, but also confounds what is of central interest in the study of democratic survival: the causes of democratic consolidation.

- 1) Каков основной недостаток, с точки зрения автора, предшествующих исследований феномена «выживания демократий»?
- 2) Как Вы понимаете понятие «консолидированная демократия»?
- 3) В тексте имеется выражение «after controlling for various covariates». О каком методе анализа идет речь?
- 4) Автор использует аналогию с распространением чумы в средневековой Европе. Кратко объясните, как названные способы выживания во время чумы соотносятся с механизмами выживания демократических режимов.

