Regionalism in Comparative Perspective

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Comparative Regionalism 10/8/2024

Outline of the Lecture

- Regionalism as a phenomenon
- Pre-modern regionalism
- Post-WWII regionalism
- 'New regionalism'
- Regionalism in comparative perspective

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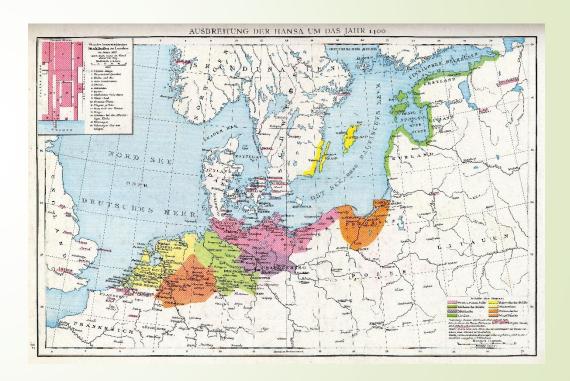
Regionalism as a Phenomenon

- Regionalism between the state and the global
 - Regionalism vs. sovereignty?
 - Regionalism vs. globalisation?
- Who is behind regionalism? (Actors)
 - Regional states
 - Extra-regional state(s)
 - Non-state actors (e.g., civil society, NGOs)
 - International organizations

Regionalism as a Phenomenon

- Comparative Regionalism
 - Distinctive models of regionalism in different parts of the world
 - The successful, the failed, and the stagnant...
- Diversity vs. Generalization
- Different waves of contemporary regionalism
 - Post-WWII and decolonialization
 - Post-Cold War

- Regionalism in the Post-Middle Age Europe
- The Hanseatic League (12c-17c)
 - An alliance based around the Baltic and the North Sea
 - Members were independent town-cities
 - Monopolizing trade along the coast of Northern Europe



Pre-Modern Regionalism

- Regionalism in the Post-Middle Age Europe
- The Zollverein (19th century)
 - A German customs union prior to its unification
 - Internal customs removed
 - Protectionist tariff against outsiders



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Post-WWII Regionalism

- Regional agencies which were subordinated to the East-West conflict (1950s)
 - Regional security pacts: the NATO, the Warsaw Pact, the SEATO, etc.
 - Other regional groupings: the Organization of American States (OAS), the Arab League, the Organization of African Unity, etc.

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- Attempts to create common market and free-trade associations (1960s)
 - Proposals for NAFTA, LAFTA, PAFTA, etc.

Post-WWII Regionalism

- The Third-World Regionalism
 - The 'Southern' coalitions in world politics, some of which were not necessarily region-based
 - The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)
 - The Group of 77 (G77)
 - The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)
 - The Organization of African Union (OAU)
 - The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- Ideological or ideational region(s)/grouping(s)

Post-WWII Regionalism

- The independently formed sub-regional economic or security organizations
 - The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)
 - The Caribbean Community (CARICOM)
 - The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)
 - The South African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC)
 - The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)

'New Regionalism'

- The background of 'New Regionalism'
 - The end of the Cold War
 - Economic globalization
 - The failed attempts of 'third-world regionalism'
 - Democratisation and its impact
- Some key characteristics of 'New Regionalism'
 - Governance vs. Government
 - Process vs. Structure
 - Open regionalism vs. closed regionalism
 - Network vs. Alliance

Regionalism in Comparative Perspective

- The historical background of regionalism
 - Limited coordinative instruments and cooperative areas in different historical periods
- The external context of regionalism
 - The influence of global economic and political environment
- The grouping dynamics of regionalism
 - The main objectives
 - The member states (equal or hierarchical, full members or observers, inter-member coordination)
 - The institutional/legal settings