

Europe, transnational mobilisations and civil society

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Syllabus

This course addresses issues of collective action, mobilisations, and civil society, at the transnational (and, especially, European) level. Moving away from elections and party politics, it focuses on political actions undertaken by a variety of actors outside the political field. These can be ordinary citizens organising grassroots mobilisations, but also non-political elites (business elites, corporations, intellectuals, ...) seeking to influence decision-making. At the European level, these mobilisations face serious challenges and raise the question of the possibilities of the existence of a European civil society and a European public sphere, generally considered as key elements of a democratic polity. The course provides a general overview of scholarship on these topics and presents numerous case studies of (trans)national mobilisations in Europe and beyond.

Student assessment

Eval 1: Presentation.

For each course, a group of students opens the discussion, by putting the text into dialogue with other sources of their choice (scholarly articles, media sources, including videos/photos, ... in English).

Aim: to contextualize and to illustrate the text (based on examples provided in the text and on examples of your choice).

Justify your choices!

To be done at the beginning of each course. 20 min presentation, then discussion.

Complemented with a written document (1-2 pages summarizing your presentation).

Eval 2: follow-up/feedback.

At the beginning of each course, a group of students presents a brief summary of the previous session (main findings, key concepts, etc.), based on last session's text, presentation, and lecture.

10 min presentation, then discussion.

Complemented with a written document (1 page).

WARNING: Participation (general discussions) + attendance are also part of the evaluation.

Bibliography:

Castells, Manuel, *Networks of Outrage and Hope: Social Movements in the Internet Age*, Polity, 2010.

Della Porta, Donatella, and Sidney G. Tarrow, eds. *Transnational Protest and Global Activism*. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield, 2005.

Della Porta, Donatella, and Manuela Caiani, *Social movements and Europeanization*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009.

Fillieule, Olivier, Lilian Mathieu, et Cécile Péchu. *Dictionnaire des mouvements sociaux*. Presses de Sciences Po, 2009.

Kuhar, Roman, and David Paternotte, eds. *Anti-Gender Campaigns in Europe: Mobilizing against Equality*. London: Rowman & Littlefield International, 2017.

McAdam, Doug. *Freedom Summer*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1988.

McAdam, Doug, Sidney G. Tarrow, and Charles Tilly. *Dynamics of Contention*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001.

Tarrow, Sidney G. *The New Transnational Activism*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2005.

Tilly, Charles, and Sidney G. Tarrow, *Contentious Politics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015.