

Political Ideologies

Theory & History

Fascism

- Not an adjective in PI class
- A political ideology (classical)
- A form of government
- Interwar period Europe (mainly 1930s when liberal-democracies are exceptions)

Fascism

- Ultra-nationalism
- Everything for the State
- Emphasis on “Unity”
- Inventing the “enemy” (long-list of enemies)

Fascism

- Illiberalism (no equal citizenship, no free & fair elections, anti-individualism, a charismatic leader “Duce”, “Führer”)
- Authoritarian corporatism (industry & labor are compromised for the state, collectivism)
- Totalitarianism

Fascism

- Militarism
- Racialism
- Social Darwinism (natural selection, survival of the fittest, war, violence, men)
- Glorification of War, “Long Live Death”

Fascism

- Eugenics (the theory or practice of selective breeding, to promote the procreation of the “fit” members of a society and/or to prevent the “unfit” members)
- Idealism (creating the “New Man”)
- Mostly, the traditional role of women in a fascistic society is domestic and maternal (for the healthy well-being of the nation), limited to reproduction

Fascism

- Vitalism (life-force, instinct, impulse rather than intellect and reason)
- *Lebensraum*
- Anti-enlightenment (Romantic) tendencies
- References to a mythic past (re-writing history for ideological purposes)

Fascism

- Totalitarianism (totalitarian rule)
- Mobilization
- No private / public distinction
- Propaganda

Fascism

- Nazi Germany (Hitler brutally repressed any rival source of power)
- Fascist Italy (Mussolini reached an understanding with the Catholic Church and the Monarchy)
- Totalitarianism (Stalin's Russia, Hitler's Germany, Mussolini's Italy, North Korea)
- Authoritarianism (repressive particularly on the public sphere)

Fascism

- Abolish “decadent” and “degenerate” behavior (the theme of “moral decay”)
- Against “egoistic” individualism
- *Volksgemeinschaft* (people’s community) – indivisible whole, organic society of the nation
- Women play a domestic role
- No room for minorities, the “unfit”, the disabled, the handicapped, in some cases the elderly, the eccentric, the other, no toleration for “difference”

Fascism

- Feelings of rage & humiliation (honor, self-sacrifice)
- Manicheanism (world as a platform of eternal conflict between the absolute good and absolute evil)
- All done in the name of “good”

Fascism

- Conspiracy theories
- Conspiracy mentality
- Enemy (superhuman & subhuman)
- Self (paranoia, delusions of grandeur)
- State of war, state of emergency, militarism

Fascism

- **Andrew Heywood**, *Political Ideologies: An Introduction*. London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012, 5th edition or above.
- **Kevin Bloor**, *The Definitive Guide to Political Ideologies*. Milton Keynes: Author House, 2010.
- **BBC Documentary**, *People's Century: "Master Race"*

Links

- www.keremblog.info
- *avesis account:* <https://avesis.yildiz.edu.tr/keremkar>
- *departmental website:* www.itb.yildiz.edu.tr