

LC Politics and Society – Key Thinkers



Sylvia Walby

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1. Defines patriarchy as a system of social structures in which men dominate, oppress, and exploit women.
2. Patriarchy operates through a series of unique structures.
3. There are two distinctive forms of patriarchy: public and private.

Edward Said

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1. Western ideas of the east are not based on facts but on prejudices and stereotypes.
2. There is a belief in western superiority which is used to justify imperialism.
3. No one today is purely one thing.

Kathleen Lynch

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1. Examined the causes of inequality in Irish education.
2. Suggests a rights-based approach needs to better represent carers and those they care for.
3. Believes in the promotion of relational and gender justice.

Samuel Huntington

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1. In a post-cold war world, wars are fought not between countries, but between cultures.
2. The west must abandon the idea of democratic universality.
3. Western power must increase in order to counter its loss of prominence.

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LC Politics and Society – Key Thinkers



Paulo Freire

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1. Critical of banking pedagogy.
2. Wanted to develop education for critical thinking (problem posing education).
3. All education is political as it either supports or critiques the status quo.

Thomas Hylland Eriksen

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1. Globalisation has occurred too fast, unequal and uneven.
2. The intense pace of globalisation has led to crises in cultural identity, economics, and the environment.
3. A clash of scales between the global and the local has led to people feeling powerless.

Émile Durkheim

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1. Criticised individualism.
2. Believed all societies to be based on mechanical solidarity (created by birth) and organic solidarity (created by societal roles).
3. Pioneered functionalism, the belief that each aspect of society is interdependent.

Jean-Jacques Rousseau

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1. Believed that one attains freedom by entering a contract with a ruler.
2. A government's role is to do what is in the common will (interest) of the people.
3. It is the duty of all people to have a say in the decisions of government.



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LC Politics and Society – Key Thinkers



Thomas Hobbes

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1. By nature, people are driven by self interest.
2. The state must be able to command obedience from every citizen.
3. The main aim of a government is stability and peace, not individual freedom.

Vandana Shiva

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1. Opposes globalisation.
2. Believes all human beings have the right to grow their own seeds.
3. Believes in the interconnectedness of things.

Andre Gunder Frank

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1. Dependency theory: the people of less developed nations are not to blame for the failure of their societies to develop.
2. Developed nations (metropolises) exploit developing nations (peripherals).
3. Capitalism is a cause of underdevelopment, not a solution to it.

Karl Marx

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1. Capitalism is doomed to fail, and socialism is destined to replace it.
2. Production is the most important of all human actions.
3. History has been a struggle between the oppressed proletariat and the oppressive bourgeoisie.



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LC Politics and Society – Key Thinkers



Martha
Nussbaum

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1. Promotes the capabilities approach over a rights-based one.
2. Argues for positive liberty- the freedom to make the world a better place.
3. Believes development should be measured on the opportunities of a country's citizens.

Robert
Nozick

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1. Libertarian- the less government intervention the better.
2. Believed in a rights-based approach valuing liberty, life, and property.
3. Opposed to wealth redistribution.

John Locke

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1. Believed people were born with a blank mind (tabular rasa).
2. Believed that the only legitimate power came from the will of the people.
3. Argued an inalienable right to property.

Political
philosophy

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Reflection on how
best to arrange
our collective life.



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Identity

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How an individual or group view and define themselves.

Western Culture

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Shared cultures and traditions of North America and Europe.

Non-Western

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Cultures which do not originate in the west and do not imitate western values or principles.

Culture

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The accepted beliefs, customs and behaviours of a society or group.





Dominant Culture

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The main way of life accepted by a society.

Subcultures

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Differ from the dominant culture.

Ethnicity

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A group that shares a common identity based on an ancestral lineage or social, cultural and national experiences.

Nation

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A group or community who share a sense of common identity.





State

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An independent
sovereign
territory.

Globalisation

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The process by which
the world is becoming
ever more
interconnected.

Types of Integration

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Cultural, economic,
political, social,
environmental.

Multiculturalism

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The acceptance and
promotion of multiple
cultural traditions within
a single jurisdiction.





Monoculturalism

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The promotion of a dominant culture among all members of a society.

Sectarian

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Strongly supporting a particular religious group and being unwilling to accept other religious groups or beliefs.

Cultural appropriation

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The process of taking a traditional culture and adapting it to suit the needs of a recipient culture.

Sovereignty

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The right and independent authority of a state to control its own government.





Supranational organisations

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Bodies which states can join, where decision making is shared on issues of common interest. (The EU)

Cultural diffusion

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When the ideas or cultural elements of one society are borrowed and incorporated into the culture of another society.

Cultural divergence

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Local or traditional cultures reassert themselves in the face of threats from a global culture.

Cultural convergence

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The idea that global cultures are becoming increasingly similar.





Cultural hybridisation

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When two cultures are combined to produce a new cultural product.

Cultural integration

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The majority and minority cultures exist side by side.

Cultural assimilation

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The minority cultures are absorbed into the ways and views of the dominant.

The role of the IMF

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Monitors and produces annual reports on the state of national economies. Based upon these reports, recommendations are made on policy.





The role of the WTO

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A forum for decision making on trade controlling tariffs and quotas.

The role of the World Bank

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Offers financial assistance, advice, and loans to countries in need.

The role of the European Commission

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The executive branch of the European Union, responsible for proposing legislation, implementing decisions, upholding the EU treaties and managing the day-to-day business of the EU.

The role of the UN

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To achieve international co-operation in solving international economic, social, cultural, and humanitarian problems.





The nine grounds of discrimination

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Gender, marital status, family status, age, disability, race, sexual orientation, religious belief, membership of the travelling community.

Role of the Council of Europe

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To promote human rights, democracy, and the rule of law in Europe.

Role of the European Court of Human Rights

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Ensures that countries guarantee their citizens fundamental rights.

Inalienable rights

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Can not be taken away under any circumstances.





NIHRC

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**Northern Irish
Human Rights
Commission**

IHREC

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**Irish Human
Rights & Equality
Commission**

**Rights
holder**

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**A person who
has rights.**

Duty bearer

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**The actor who has an
obligation or responsibility
to respect, promote and
fulfil human rights.**





**Immediate
obligation**

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The duty bearer must respect certain human rights with immediate effect (the right to life, freedom from violence).

**Progressive
realisation**

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The obligation to work gradually towards the realisation of certain rights. The duty bearer must ensure that they are doing so to the best of their abilities and to the maximum extent of their available resources.

**Universal
rights**

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Apply to all the peoples of the world
(right to life)

**Limited
rights**

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Can be removed temporarily by the duty bearer (freedom of movement)





**Inalienable
rights**

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Can not be taken away without good reason and due process.

**Qualified
rights**

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Rights the duty bearer can decide to withhold.

**Indivisible
rights**

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Rights can not be fulfilled unless all other rights are fulfilled.

**Absolute
rights**

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Rights that can never be removed (protection from violence).





Civil rights

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Rights that guarantee personal liberty (freedom of thought, to vote).

Political rights

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Rights that enable individuals to participate in the decision-making process. (Freedom of assembly, expression).

Economic rights

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Rights which create the conditions needed for wellbeing (property, work).

Social rights

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Necessary for an adequate standard of living (food, healthcare).





Cultural rights

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Rights which allow people to participate in cultural life.

The right to education in Bunreacht na hÉireann

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Article 42
It is the right and obligation of the parent to provide education for the child.
The state reviews conditions in which this education is provided.
The state shall provide free primary education.

The right to education in the UNCRC

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Article 28
Right to good quality education and encouragement to reach the highest attainable level of education.
Article 29
Education should help to develop abilities and talents and teach you to live peacefully.

The process for taking a case to the ECHR

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Exhaust all domestic remedies. The court reviews the case. The judgement is legally binding.





The right to
education in the
UNDHR

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Article 26
Everyone has the right
to free primary
education.

Article 14
the UNCRC

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The right to
freedom,
conscience and
religion.

Article 31 of
the UNCRC

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The right to
leisure, play and
culture.

Role of the
ombudsman for
children office

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Protect the rights of children
and young people.
Investigate complaints
against public figures,
advise government policy.



LC Politics and Society – Key Rights



UN declaration on the
right to individual
development

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Every human has the right to social, cultural, and political education. All human beings have a responsibility for their own development and to contribute to collective development.

UN declaration on the
right to international
development

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States have primary duty to ensure conditions are right for development within their nations and to contribute to international development.

The UNCRC

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The United Nations
Convention on the
Rights of the Child

The UNDHR

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The Universal
Declaration of
Human Rights





Role of the courts
in government

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Decides whether
laws are
constitutional.

Role of the
executive in
government

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Enacts the
law

Role of the
legislative in
government

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Makes laws and
monitors the
executive.

PR-STV

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Proportional
representation by
the single
transferable vote.





Role of the
civil service

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To create,
develop and
advise on policy.

Lobbying

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Actions taken by groups
outside government
aimed at influencing the
outcome of decisions.

Political
party

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A group of people
who organise to win
power in
government.

Social
contract

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A complicit agreement
among the members of a
society to co-operate for
common benefit.





Citizen

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A person who is legally recognised as a member of a particular country and is there by entitled to certain rights.

Political representation

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Making sure that the voices, views and opinions of citizens are included in the decision-making process.

Civil society

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Groups or organisations that work for and represent the interests of specific groups of citizens.

Autocracy

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Rule by one





**Absolute
monarchy**

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Monarch has
total power

**Constitutional
monarchy**

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Monarch's power
is limited by
government.

Oligarchy

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Rule by a few
elites

Democracy

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Government of the
people, by the people,
for the people (Lincoln
quote).





**Direct
democracy**

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When decisions made are voted on by the people.

**Representative
democracy**

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Citizens select leaders to represent their interests in government.

Theocracy

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Recognises god as the ultimate authority.

Anarchy

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The absence of government.



LC Politics and Society – Media Definitions



Media

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All main forms
of
communication

Mass media

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Refers to agencies
that transmit to
large audiences.

Traditional media

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Any form of media
available before the
advent of digital media.
(Print, radio, television)

Digital media

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Content used and
stored via
computer
technology.

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Role of the media

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Provides news and information, educates, supports democracy, entertains, connects.

Agenda-setting theory

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The theory that the media has power and influence in establishing the public agenda. The more media coverage an issue gets, the more attention it receives.

Framing

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The angle or perspective from which a story or issue is presented.

Propaganda

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Information that is used to promote a political cause or point of view.





Stereotyping

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Believing that individuals or groups who appear to share a particular characteristic are all the same.

Freedom of the press

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The right of media professionals to report the news and circulate opinions without government censorship.

Media consolidation

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The process by which media ownership is becoming more concentrated.

Media pluralism

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The existence of multiple media outlets owned by different groups. Necessary for a diversity of opinion.

