

WEEK 2. EVOLUTION OF GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP: AS AN
ETHICAL COMMITMENT RELATED TO IDENTITY,
UNIVERSAL MORAL LAW AND COSMOPOLITANISM

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LEARNING OUTCOMES

We will study the religious roots of universal ethical commitment and identification with an overarching human society and acceptance of universal obligations.

We will study Cosmopolitan movements and their contribution to understanding global problems and achieving solutions based on global responses to citizenship.

We will explore universal moral rules and philosophical debates about the existence of common interests of humanity not only for individuals, but also between social communities and political entities and how it could override state sovereignty.

GLOBALISATION AND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

'Globalisation' = 'global capitalism' or 'globalisation' = 'Americanisation'.

Negative impact of globalization on the environment and communities, others consider it a source of wealth and progress.

Global citizenship invites similar debates:

Ability to solve global problems and view it as the only viable solution to save the world from the war and environmental destruction that threaten our own survival.

Global citizenship as imperialist, a threat to state interests, and a contradiction in terms - if citizenship is defined by states, how is it possible on a global level? Keri Smith (2013, 4)

IDEAS OF GLOBALISATION

Globalisation is a process of "boundary broadening" that enables "people, goods, information, norms, practices, and institutions to move about" despite state boundaries. An increase in "networks of interdependence at multicontinental distances". James N. Rosenau (1997)

"shrinking of distance". Robert Keohane and Joseph Nye (2000)

It is a process that has received increased attention in the post-cold war era, especially as developments in information technology have revolutionised the cross-border movement of ideas, peoples, and goods.

"Glocalisation" complicates questions about the extent to which globalisation is implicated as a homogenizing, often Westernizing force.

TYPES OF GLOBALISATION

Political globalisation

Global governance

Economic globalisation

Cultural globalisation. Robert J. Holton (2000)

– Homogenization thesis

– Polarization thesis

– Hybridisation thesis

GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP AND COSMOPOLITANISM

"Cosmopolitanism is an ethical approach to political life which champions self-determination and freedom from domination and arbitrary power". (David Held, 2010:25).

"Citizenship is the recognition that individuals in the 21st century have rights, duties, identity and the potential for representation on a global scale" (Langran, Langran, and Ozment 2009).



EVOLUTION OF COSMOPOLITANISM: GREEK AND ROMAN THOUGHT

- It advocated respect for all members of universal humanity.
- Stoic concept of the "cosmopolite" (citizen of the world).
- "should regard all men as our fellow countrymen". Zeno.

THE ENLIGHTENMENT

- Stronger social content and promoting the idea of global citizenship as an ideal.
- Enlightenment cosmopolitanism was based on rationalism.
- The philosophers of the Enlightenment stressed the importance of religious tolerance and acceptance of diversity, while condemning "religious bigotry".
- Genuine universalism, opposing slavery, colonialism, and suppression of indigenous peoples and curiosity about and respect for diverse cultures.



ENLIGHTENMENT THEORISTS

I should put the interests of humanity above those of my country.
Montesquieu

Diderot wrote to Hume: "You belong to all nations ... I flatter myself that I am, like you, a citizen of the great city of the world" (Gay 1967, 13).

Paine, one of the later Enlightenment thinkers and pamphleteers, and the most revolutionary, claimed: "my city is the world and my religion is to do good" (Paine [1791] 1969, 250).



E. KANT

- The rights of aboriginal peoples to retain their land and argued that European settlement was only justified by contractual consent.
- Perpetual Peace.
- Extending political confederation of states.

COSMOPOLITAN MOVEMENTS: THE NINETEENTH AND EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURIES

- Movements was the opposition to the slave trade, "Transnational" form (individuals and groups cooperating across borders) and mobilized a wide cross-section of society in Britain and the United States.
- Peace movement promoting Human Rights and Humanitarian organisations.
- Early socialist and feminist movements



OTHER RELIGIOUS GROUPS

- Christian thinking
- Hinduism
- Jainist thought.
- Islam, etc.



EXPLORING A BROAD DEFINITION OF CITIZENSHIP

*Citizenship is an **institution** mediating rights between the **subjects of politics** and the **polity** to which these subjects **belong**.*

(Engin F. Isin and Peter Nyers)

Institution: It implies a broader conception of processes.

'polity' to move away from the idea that the state is the sole source of authority.

'subjects' in the plural because citizenship involves collective mediations and not just the relationship individuals have with their polity.

'political subjects' rather than 'citizens.'

'belongs', which we take to include official and non-official forms, legal and extra-legal belongings.

'mediation' where and how this mediation occurs, who becomes implicated in these rights, and what rights are the focus of mediation.

POLITIES

International and regional polities evinced by international covenants (the European Convention on Human Rights - UN Human Rights Declaration)

Multilateral agreements (the North American Free Trade Agreement, Paris agreement)

Supranational bodies (European Union, African Union)

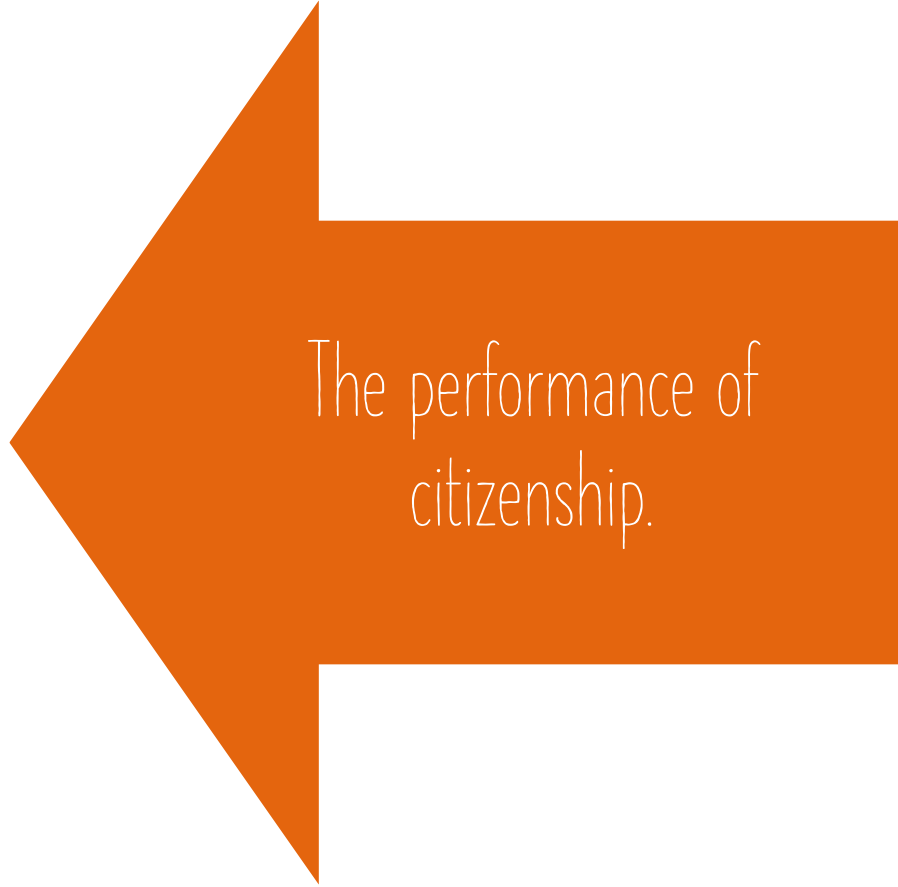
Shared sovereignty arrangements (Scotland and Northern Ireland).

Private Corporations

HOW DO WE THEN APPROACH CITIZENSHIP IN THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD?



Combination of rights and duties that defines citizenship in a polity.



The performance of citizenship.

LEGALITY OF CITIZENSHIP

Civil and Political Rights. Socio-economic Rights. Collective and Environmental Rights.

Three types of duties:
conscription, taxation, and participation.

THE PERFORMANCE OF CITIZENSHIP

Non-citizens can also perform citizenship

THE PERFORMANCE OF CITIZENSHIP

To classify such struggles either as redistribution (economism) or recognition (culturalism) misses their complexity and the political stakes involved.



when people engage with such issues, whatever differences may separate them in values, principles, and priorities, they are performing citizenship, even those who are not passport-carrying members of the state (non-citizens).

WHAT ABOUT BEING A CITIZEN?

Hope

Dominant institution through which people enjoy their rights.

Citizenship is said to confer upon its bearer human dignity, autonomy and agency.

Pessimism

There are inevitable inequalities.

Discrimination: race, gender, place of birth, sexual orientation

why do we insist upon the continued relevance of citizenship?

Other political western categories are also affected by global political issues.

The pessimism about citizenship is often framed by the increasingly restrictive barriers that are being placed on international mobility and on attaining citizenship itself.

These restrictions are enacted through the twin dimensions of legality and performativity. E.g. The proliferation of citizenship tests across national contexts.

The promises of citizenship are empty promises: citizens are workers, but there are no jobs; citizens are participants, but public spaces are disappearing; citizens are endowed with the capacity for political speech, but no one is listening.

IS CITIZENSHIP SOMETHING WE CAN EVEN REJECT?

Erasure notion to understand citizenship as a complex category.

Arendt: 'time of erasure' as the space between 'no-longer' and 'not-yet' (Arendt 2005 :158-62).

To approach citizenship 'under erasure' is to script and delete the concept simultaneously.

THE WORLDS OF CITIZENSHIP

It is still often assumed that if citizenship exists in the East or South, it is only because it has been historically imported from the West.

It always remains imperfect in its development and always catching up with the original, which keeps changing.

Imposing "Liberal Democracy": Can non-western and south economic growth be matched with political development to reach liberal democracy?

The East and the South could not find alternative and different ways of citizenship and that their economic development (capitalism) must be matched with political development (liberal democracy).

Turkey and Ukraine applying for being part of the EU: imposing a western approach of governance or promoting minimum standards for human beings?

KEY QUESTIONS FOR THE SEMINAR

PART I

1. Why should we think about global citizenship and global matters? I
2. Is a 'global ethics' involved in the citizenship concept possible?
- 3, What are the central debates in philosophical terms of achieving a collective response to global problems?

PART II

Turkey and Ukraine applying for being part of the EU: imposing a western governance approach or promoting minimum standards for human beings?