

Interwar non-extremist political currents

Goals	Emphasis on understanding differences and similarities in political ideologies, reading literacy and critical evaluation of information, support of group work, and creative thinking.
Duration	approx. 45 to 60 minutes
Difficulty	Secondary school
Tools and space	Writing materials, markers, a seminar room corresponding to the size of the group, printed worksheets and graphic materials, a list of situations to create political slogans.

Structure of the educational situation

- At the beginning of the seminar, we will introduce the content, structure, and objectives of the seminar.
- Then we will divide the students into pairs and distribute snippets of the political programs and invite them to divide themselves into four groups. After the work of all pairs is finished, we will perform a check.
- After correcting, we will merge the pairs, into four groups. Two will receive Material 1, the remaining groups will receive Material 2. We will encourage them to complete their statements and determine the respective political stream.
- Once all groups have completed their work, each group will receive a different material than in the previous part of the seminar. We will invite them to elaborate on the submitted tasks.
- The students will do the check themselves. We will encourage each group to present to the class the basic points of the ideology they have arrived at through previous learning tasks. Each group will present one selected ideology.
- Next comes a learning task with a knowledge-fixing function, where we distribute images and concepts to the groups to join in appropriate pairs. We perform the check by writing in a visible place (whiteboard, etc.) and continuously monitor the understanding of the concepts.

- For the final exercise, we divide the study group into pairs and let each one choose two arbitrary situations to create a campaign slogan according to an ideology. At the end, each pair presents the results of the work and the rest of the group evaluates the achievement of the assignment.
- Activities include working with graphic material, and comparison of election leaflets can be used in case of free time or if the students are interested.

Modification of the seminar

- The structure of teaching can change depending on the number of students. Instead of the mentioned pairs, it is possible to work with groups from the beginning, or it is possible to conduct the whole seminar purely with individual work. In this case, the student works with all materials himself, and the evaluation of the progress and results is carried out by the teacher. If the goals are knowledge-based, the individual work is a suitable form and the use of additional materials especially develops critical thinking.
- The group form of the seminar can be complemented by role-playing activities, where each part of the study group is assigned one political ideology and at the end of the lesson there is a mock political debate by a group of selected speakers. The benefits of such a procedure are mainly the development of competence goals and communication, creativity, and cooperation. The role-playing form finally requires a careful reflection of the feelings of the individual actors during the debate.
- The following examples of individual political programs in the methodological notes are primarily based on the Czech interwar political environment. However, the exercise is easily modified so that it is generally valid and can be used in practice for the analysis of non-Czech political environment.

Methodological notes

The main thesis of interwar political currents

Assign the program's theses to the correct political ideology.

Political current	First parth	Second parth
Agrarians	As elsewhere, the foundations were laid for the creation of the first social organizations, which culminated in the formation of the state as the highest social body, by the firm establishment of our ancestors on the land which they took up for its agricultural use.	All land used for agriculture forms the national territory, i.e. the foundation of the republic in the truest sense of the word.
Social Democrats	... has contributed the lion's share to our republic, being a state with a democratic constitution without the political privileges of class, gender, nationality, property, state, or birth; the party declares that it will defend this republic always faithfully and resolutely against all attacks on its existence and its democratic, republican and social facilities.	...will defend the class interests of the working people in all political and economic matters, expose and illuminate the class contradictions in all their forms and forms, so that the working people are not abused by political parties that hold the interests of the bourgeois class.
Nationalists	It differs from the parties of interest and class in that it does not have in mind the one-sided enforcement of the successes of establishment and class, but reconciles them in a conciliatory and fair manner, and that the highest interest, the interest of the whole, is placed above the interests of the individual.	Our party is not only a national party, i.e. it stands on the principle of full development of nationality, but also a party of an all-national program.
Christian conservatives	Within the framework of the principles of Christianity and common law, they will provide the freedom in which a dignified life can develop. The fight against every guardianship and arbitrariness, whether by bureaucracy and militarism or by individual classes and parties. We condemn the system of militarism, class struggle, and class domination.	The construction of new righteous political, social, and cultural orders in a free, democratic republic in the spirit of Christian solidarity and on the equality of all classes of the nation without any class privileges.

Political Programmes of Interwar Parties 1

Add the appropriate words and assign the political agenda to a specific party.

1. Accepting the view that a democratic republic is the most natural ground for the preparations and struggles for the victory of **socialism**, and recalling that **the Social Democratic Party** itself contributed the lion's share to making our republic a state with a democratic constitution without the political privileges of class, gender, nationality, property, status or birth, the Party declares that it will defend this republic always faithfully and resolutely against all attacks on its existence and its democratic, republican and social facilities. The means of fighting for the liberation of the working class is, among other things, mainly the conquest of political power.

The program belongs to the **Social Democratic** Party

2. Our Party is the bearer of the **all-national** program of the **nation**, as the program has developed from our awakening to the founding of the republic. As the main and decisive goal of our democratic party is to achieve our state independence, then the main and decisive guide will be to maintain the republic and its development in the spirit of social and cultural progress. This consideration has both determined and will determine the program and tactics of the party for the future.

...

We place the interests of the whole above the interests of the individual and the class.

...

One of the basic goals of our foreign policy will be to achieve reciprocity of all **Slavic** nations in the political, cultural, and economic fields.

The program belongs to the **Nationalist** Party

Political Programmes of Interwar Parties 2

Add the appropriate words and assign the political agenda to a specific party.

3. The great coup, which restored our people to state autonomy, broke the rule of brute power and violence and established the rule of democracy, faced the people with serious and difficult tasks and duties.

...

On the name of the **countryside** and all those who, in agreement with us, want to build in our republic a single great community of the work of all for all and for the republic, we declare ourselves joyfully and unconditionally to perform our duties.

...

All land used for agriculture constitutes a state territory, that is, in the truest sense of the word, the foundation of the republic.

The program belongs to the **Agrarian** Party

4. The construction of new just political, social, and cultural orders in a free, democratic republic in the spirit of **Christian** solidarity and on the equality of all classes of the nation without any class privileges.

Within the principles of **Christianity** and general law, they will provide the freedom in which a dignified life can develop. The fight against every guardianship and arbitrariness, whether by bureaucracy and militarism or by individual classes and parties. We condemn the system of militarism, class struggle, and class domination.

The program belongs to the **Christian-conservative** Party

Similarities and Differences of Political Ideologies

Find the right pairs of images and terms.

Agrarianism + Green International

Christian Conservatism + Nationalism + Tradition, History

Agrarianism + Social Democracy + Defends Social Group

Christian Conservatism + Nationalism + Defends Society as a whole

Social Democracy + Internationalism

Agrarianism + picture a)

Christian Conservatism + picture b)

Nationalism + picture c)

Social Democracy + picture d)



Election campaigns

Create a suitable campaign slogan or slogan corresponding to the theme and ideology.

social policy (<i>Nationalist</i>)	foreign policy (<i>Nationalist</i>)	main election slogan (<i>Agrarian</i>)
social policy (<i>Social Democrat</i>)	foreign policy (<i>Social democrat</i>)	main election slogan (<i>Nationalist</i>)
social policy (<i>Agrarian</i>)	foreign policy (<i>Agrarian</i>)	main election slogan (<i>Social Democrat</i>)
social policy (<i>Christian Conservative</i>)	foreign policy (<i>Christian Conservative</i>)	main election slogan (<i>Christian Conservative</i>)

Analysis of Election Leaflet Symbolism

Take a look at the election graphics published in the newspapers. Assign the appropriate keywords to each and determine which political stream used the rhetoric.

	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ruralism • Soil • Agriculture • Industriousness • Future • Peasant and Agrarian Party 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Militarism • Nation • Courage • Pride • Unity • Fascist Party

Conclusion

- Finally, we will give students time to evaluate the course of the activity and provide them with additional information. We will invite students to provide additional ideas and suggestions for the activity.