

[DCU Library](#) subscribes to [The Economist](#), which provides short and well-informed reports and commentary on European politics.

The [Political Data Yearbook](#) provides basic information on European political systems. There is also a useful narrative of politics in each country.

I recommend all the readings below; I highly recommend those underlined. All are available through [DCU Library](#).

## CONSTITUTIONS

Bagehot, Walter. 1867. [The English Constitution](#). 1-6. [Please scroll down immediately after clicking on the link. You can find the relevant pages without downloading the e-book or registering.]

Finer, Samuel E. 1979. *Five Constitutions*. London: Penguin. pp. 1-30.

Gallagher, Michael, Laver, Michael, and Mair, Peter. 2011. *Representative Government in Modern Europe*, 5<sup>th</sup> ed. London: McGraw-Hill. Ch. 4..

Newton, Ken and van Deth, Jan W. 2005. *Foundations of Comparative Politics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Ch. 3.

[Comparative Constitutions](#)

[Constitutional Courts' Websites](#)

## PARLIAMENTS & EXECUTIVES

Newton, Kenneth, and Jan W. van Deth. "Presidential and Parliamentary Government." *Foundations of Comparative Politics: Democracies of the Modern World*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2021. 96–109. Print. Cambridge Textbooks in Comparative Politics.

Andeweg, Rudy A. 2001. The Cons of Consensus Democracy in Homogeneous Societies. *Acta Politica* 36 (2): 117-128.

Willumsen, David, and Otjes, Simon. 2024. Coalition government, frustrated majorities, and minority rule. *Party Politics*. OnlineFirst.

Bale, Tim 2017. *European Politics: A Comparative Introduction*, 2<sup>nd</sup>. ed. London: Bloomsbury. Chs. 3 & 4.

Gallagher, Michael, Laver, Michael, and Mair, Peter. 2011. *Representative Government in Modern Europe*, 5<sup>th</sup> ed. London: McGraw-Hill. Ch. 2.

Lijphart, Arend 1999. *Patterns of Democracy: Government Forms and Performance in Thirty-Six Countries*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press. Chs. 6 & 7

Schleiter, Petra. 2024. The Executive Branch in Costello, Rory and Robinson, Neil, eds., *Comparative European Politics*, 2<sup>nd</sup>. ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 129-146.