

Diversity and Convergence in European Politics

For Tutorial 6

– Green Parties and ‘New Politics’ -

Topic: *“What explanations are offered for the emergence of Green parties - sometimes called ‘new politics’ parties - in western Europe? Are they still convincing (German experience)? Discuss using examples from at least two west European democracies.”*

Work on an **imaginary** West European country. Define yourself the characteristics of that country (name; small/big; majoritarian/proportional representation electoral system; number of parties in parliament; type of government, coalition/majority; economic development of the country; any other relevant variables). But that country has to have a **relatively active Greens** party; you decide how big/small and un/important the party is.

And:

Imagine there are elections next month. Do the **party manifesto** of the Greens party. Bring a **printed copy** with you of this manifesto to the tutorial.

Remember to check out the reading list for references and to do some related reading. In particular, find out what’s particular to the Green parties, what are their characteristics, when did they emerge, how have they developed; all of this info should feed one way or other into your ‘imaginary Green party and its manifesto.