

## **Politics in Eurasian states**

The course is aimed to give understanding of the political processes in the states that emerged after the break-up of the USSR (excluding Russia and the Baltic countries – members of the EU). The political processes are studied at two levels: state-building and nation-building.

The course builds on the analytical framework that includes institutional factors (institutional design, parties, elections etc.), historical statehood, religious tradition, political culture, and informal social and political institutions.

- The main topics to be covered:
- general trends in sovereign statehood formation in Eurasian states and approaches to their analysis;
- phenomenon of authoritarian stability in Belarus;
- problem of regionalism in nation state building in the Ukraine;
- social and political cleavages and feckless pluralism in Moldova;
- regime change in Georgia and Armenia;
- oil factor in the political development of Azerbaijan;
- neopatrimonial regimes in Central Asian countries;
- “colour revolutions” and formal institutions in the Kyrgyz Republic;

de facto states in the post-Soviet space.