

Abstract:

This article addresses the rarely discussed subject of war's ramifications on political order. I argue that dissent, consent and its challenges to constitutional order in wartime are not a mere reaction to the characteristics of international warfare. Several theoretical approaches are explored for the investigation of the blurred boundaries between international and internal politics. Comparative analysis of Israel (1949-1996) elucidates the importance of political institutions and ruling elite in structuring cooperation and conflict. The elitist approach is correct in emphasizing the role of institutions and elite, yet culture and historical processes significantly affect state's power and political order. The article illuminates the endogenous mechanism of values, fears, perceptions, and institutions, and long-term processes of war fatigue, political polarization, modernization, liberalism, and religious fundamentalism as forces that shape dissent, consent, and its effects on democratic constitutional arrangements.

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