**Chapter 7 Egypt and Turkey Assignment:**

**Rationale:** During and immediately following the Arab “Spring”, the Egyptian people attempted to initiate a representative form of government. It’s debatable whether to call it a “transition to democracy”. For Turkey, the circumstance is quite different. It has shifted from a Parliamentary democracy trying to join the European Union to an electoral authoritarian system, perhaps on its way to a Sunni Islamic state. These are countries of consequence in the modern world and exemplars of comparative politics study on attempted transitions to and backsliding away from democracy.

[**CIAworldfactbook**](https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/): Select Egypt and then Turkey. Collect a “country study” on their governments (type, institutions, parties, etc.; and people: i.e. demographics).

Recommended Documentary: ***The Square: The People Demand the Downfall of the Regime***

**1. Assignment:** Compare Egypt and Turkey using a Most Different Systems analysis.

Read [**How Erdogan Made Turkey Authoritarian Again**](https://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2016/07/how-erdogan-made-turkey-authoritarian-again/492374/#article-comments)

* Look up other articles on Turkey and Egypt in places such as *Foreign Affairs*, *Al Monitor:* [*Turkey Pulse*](https://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/turkey-pulse), [*Egypt Pulse*](https://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/egypt-pulse) and the *Council on Foreign Relations:* [*Turkey*](https://www.cfr.org/search?keyword=Turkey)*,* [*Egypt*](https://www.cfr.org/search?keyword=Egypt) (clicking on Steven A. Cook and Martin S. Indyk’s name will also take you to excellent resources.

**Using Data:**

Compare Egypt and Turkey on the *variables you collected during the first three weeks* and interpret what the data tells you about these two countries.

 \* What variables help you to account for why the level of authoritarianism differs between Turkey and Egypt?

 **Example:** Turkey’s rank in the Fragile States Index is… and Egypt’s is…. Where they differ most on this index are on *these variables*. One of these states is in better shape than the other and here’s why: …

 \*Use the content of the articles and backgrounders to analyze the differences in the variables above.

**2. \*What Theory** from either Chapter 6 or Chapter 7 best explains each of these countries and why?