**2013 Kasım Doktora Yeterlik Soruları**

**Contemporary Political Thought**

1. "Explain and discuss the limits of the state in Hayek. By doing this take into regard his elaboration on cultural and anthropological issues. "

2. Claude Lefort had argued that democratic society is constituted as the one in which Power, Law and Knowledge are exposed to a radical indetermination. What does he mean? What are the reflections and responses concerning this statement in the political theories of Arendt, Mouffe and Habermas.

3. What is the meaning of the Rawlsian statement, “Priority of the rights over the conceptions of good life”? Explain and discuss by reference to growing importance of language of rights in contemporary political practices. Comment on the criticisms directed towards this statement from the angles of communitarianism and radical democracy.

**Political Economy**

1. “An adequate theory of the state, must come to grips with the close interrelationship between economics and politics. … This invalidates a basic assumption of modern social science, whose dominant paradigm separates political and economic actors into distinct, well-defined spheres.”

Please write an essay discussing the above statement by taking into account different traditions of political economy as well as considering whether that justifies a relativist understanding or not.

2.“Financialisation is a key defining moment of neoliberalism.” Discuss.

3.Does it make sense to talk of “crisis in …” and “crisis of …” neoliberalism and/or capitalism? If so, if not

**Studies in Mass Communication Ideology & Culture**

1. “Anyone who still believes that you can organize a political demonstration without paying attention to television risks being left behind. It is more and more the case that you have to produce demonstrations for television so that they interest television types and fit their perceptual categories.”

Discuss the implications of the above-mentioned process for political representation and practice.

1. How would you problematize (or rethink) the relationship between the media and democracy, given the current state of market-oriented media systems?
2. Explain and discuss the main modes of reception/decoding of the products of mass-mediated culture with reference to major theorists as well as to particular case studies.

**Comparative Politics & Government**

1.Populism appears to be one of the most puzzling concepts in comparative politics. Please write an essay critically discussing different approaches to the concept. In the light of these approaches, how does the AKP government compare to the examples of Maoism, Nazism, Peronism, Nasserism or Özalism?

2.“Although shaped by the condition of *uneven and combined development*, it is also the *balance of class forces* within state spaces that alters the developmental trajectory and spatial form of *statehood* through emergent *passive revolutionary class strategies* defining the rise of a state in capitalist society.”

Write an essay critically discussing the relevance of the above for comparative political analysis with special reference to the concepts in *italics*.

 3.Write an essay that describes presidential, parliamentary and semi-presidential systems by giving actual examples from the representative cases of these executive types. Then discuss these options in terms of their applicability in Turkey: in your opinion, which type is better for Turkey? Why?