

EUROPEAN MASTER IN HUMAN RIGHTS & DEMOCRATISATION

The Internal Development and External Factor:
Consideration for the Development of Democracy in a
Western Balkan Country as Albania

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Abbreviation

ABA	:American Bar Association
BTI	:Bertelsmann Transformation Index
CARDS Stabilization	:The Community Assistance for Reconstruction, Development and
COM	:Commission of the European Communities
FH	:Freedom House
FRIDE	:The Fundación para las Relaciones Internacionales y el Diálogo Exterior
EIU	:Economist Intelligence Unit
EU	:European Union
EMA	:European Movement in Albania
ESI	:European Stability Institution
IDEA	:International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance
IDRA	:Institute for Development Research and Alternative
IPA	:Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance
IREX	:Independent Media Programs and Capacity
ISB	:Institute for Contemporary Studies
NDI	:Nation Democratic Institute
NIT	:Nation in Transit
OSCE	:The Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
SPA	:Socialist Party of Albania
DPA	:Democratic Party of Albania
SAA	:Stabilization Association Agreement
SAP	:Stabilization Association Process

SEDA :Sustainable Economic Development Agency

USAID :U.S. Agency for International Development

Abstract

The literature over democracy has shift more and more towards studying the type of democracy developed in the post-communist countries. Some of these countries like the Western Balkan ones still have not a full fledge democratic system. Nevertheless, in the recent years, many scholars and different reports remark on their democratic development. Hereby, this paper selects the case of Albania and it tries to assess the development of democracy in this country by looking at the internal development and the external factors influencing this process. Therefore, this paper will be composed by two main parts: internal development and the external factor analysis. In the first part will illustrate the vulnerability of the democratic system by examining the dimensions of democracy and second part will show the ways how the external factor influence democracy by representing both the positive and negative aspect. At the end of this paper will conclude that despite the progress of democracy in Albania, the process show many persistent problems both in relation with the internal development and external factors. According to these persistent problems it could conclude that Albania's democracy has recorded little progress in the last 10 years.

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