

National University of Ireland, Galway  
Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh

WINTER EXAMINATIONS 1999/2000

SECOND YEAR

SEMESTER 1

SOCIOLOGICAL AND POLITICAL STUDIES

Professor Huw Beynon  
Professor Palle Svensson  
Professor Chris Curtin  
Dr. Sinisa Malesevic  
Mr. Brendan Flynn

SP213 European Societies/SP216 European Politics

Time allowed: Three Hours. Candidates are advised to spend TWO hours on Section A and ONE hour on Section B.

Answer THREE questions in all, TWO questions from Section A (SP213) and ONE question from Section B (SP216). Please use separate answer books for each Section

#### SECTION A - SP213: European Societies

Answer TWO questions.

1. Compare and contrast the main features of environmentalism in Western and Eastern Europe.
2. What are the strengths and weaknesses of health systems in contemporary European societies?
3. Bourdieu argues that the school is predominantly an institutionalised mechanism of symbolic violence. Discuss this idea with the reference to educational systems in Europe.
4. How secular are contemporary European societies? Compare and contrast different regions in Europe.
5. How successful were feminist movements in the transformation of modern European societies?
6. What is the relationship between ethnicity and social structure in Europe? Compare and contrast ethnic relations in the West and East of the European continent.

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7. How important is the leisure sector in the contemporary European societies?
8. What, in your opinion, can one say about the dominant patterns of social stratification in Europe?

### **SECTION B: SP216 European Politics**

**Answer ONE Question.**

9. Describe and explain how Europe's various security institutions are changing in a post cold-war world?
10. To what extent is it accurate to say west European states are stable, homogenous and simple nation states?
11. Explain how ethnic nationalism played a role in the break up of Yugoslavia?
12. How has German foreign policy changed after re-unification?