

Labels, Values, Parties, & Beliefs Mapped on the U.S. Political Compass

	Economic left	Commonalities	Economic right
Socialist	● Labels: liberal, progressive ● Parties: democrat, socialist, labor ● Iconic dress: business casual, police or military uniform ● Stereotypes & tribe identifier: law-abiding “pillars of society” ● Beliefs: People’s vote is necessary and useful to prevent totalitarianism & maintain order ● Inequality occurs as result of unequal starting point so need tax & policy for redistribution ● \$ policy: protect labor from exploitation; living wage = more capital flow, redistribute wealth, foster cooperation, globalist ● At worst extreme: welfare state overtaxes middle-class workers, parental “nanny state” reduces incentive for efficient work & self-sufficiency & innovation, ends in totalitarian communism	● Labels: authoritarian ● MO: hold civil propriety ● Values: Loyalty, obedience, rule of law, social conformity ● Promotes: status-quo, law & order, trade laws favor U.S., hierarchy ● Freedom = enforce rules to exist safe from harm ● At worst extreme: politicians gain votes by promising benefits to super-wealthy and/or “underserved” (middle class bears brunt), leads toward totalitarianism & police state, concentrated power allows surveillance and imprisonment of non-criminal activists	● Labels: capitalist, conservative ● Parties: republican, neocons ● Iconic dress: business suit or uniform ● Stereotypes & tribe identifications: religious right, Wall Street financiers or business tycoons ● Beliefs: Strong government is necessary to provide military protection & structure for free market preservation, better decisions by elite ● Inequality occurs as result of variable ability and effort (natural selection) ● Expert vote (electoral vote) needed to ensure informed & smart vote ● \$ policy: promote GDP growth, create jobs, foster competition, trickle down ● At worst extreme: “greed is good,” plutocracy, win-lose zero sum power dynamic, monopoly, corporate scandal, power to buy politicians, income gap demotes middle class, impose moral absolutes of “tradition”
Communist	● Labels: globalist, inclusive, collectivist ● Values: emphasize mercy (leniency) ● Beliefs: all are responsible for public good “my brother’s keeper” ● MO: cooperation ● Egalitarian (pro-underdog & underserved) ● Anti-racist, LGBT rights supporters, pro-feminist, pro rights of aged & disabled ● Welfare model: government run; fair = one size fits all, recipients don’t need to be designated as worthy, humane society	Centrist Moderate Third-position, syncretic	● Labels: patriotic, nationalist ● MO: compete ● Values: Emphasize justice (death penalty) ● Beliefs: Individual is responsible for self sufficiency, family support, & chosen allies ● Meritocracy (tolerates elitism & privilege) ● Accepting of class distinctions as natural ● Tough on illegal immigrants (“they take our jobs” or they need jobs (exploitable for \$ gain)) ● Welfare model: church & private organizations designate worthy recipients
Liberal	● Labels: pacifist, apolitical, mutualist ● Parties: green, independent ● Iconic dress: tie-dye, counter-culture, tattoos ● Stereotypes & tribe identifications: spiritual, not organized religion, new age, hippies, in touch with feelings ● Restorative justice ● \$ Vote with your dollar ● At worst extreme: rejection of political knowledge or involvement, escapist drug culture, tragedy of commons	● Labels: individualist, anarchist, populist ● MO: rebel, disrupt ● Values: self-governing, anti-authoritarian, personal responsibility ● Economic self-sufficient ● Freedom = limited (small) government, less regulation, states rights ● Institutions: ACLU ● Beliefs: distrust institutions, conspiracy theories ● Worst: abuse of the most vulnerable	● Labels: alt-right ● Parties: libertarian, tea party ● Iconic dress: baseball cap, camo, “blue collar” uniform or overalls ● Stereotypes & tribe identification: redneck, prepper, manual laborer, rebel (i.e., Dixie flag), fundamentalist emphasis on constitution (i.e., colonial flag), right to bear arms ● \$ Pro balanced budget, less taxation, unregulated open market ● At worst extreme: fears UN as harbinger of Orwellian new world order, wants govt. collapse as a restart, eco-myths promote NWO