

Comparison Between Communism and Socialism

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Governance is a battle of ownership of the means of production, exchange of goods, and distribution of goods in a society. Both communism and socialism are economic philosophies that essentially advocate for public rather than private ownership of the means of production. Many use the two terms interchangeably, but these political and economic theories differ. The two theories arose from protests against the continued exploitation of the workers after the industrial revolution. The models advocate for public ownership of the means of production but differ in the execution of the economic process despite advocating for equality and fairness.

Communism

Communism is a centralized governance system that operates under a planned economy and dictatorship of the proletariat or the working class. It supports shared ownership of the production tools with no private property. The system advocates for equity when sharing goods and services instead of having one person own the process (Sabry, 2017). Reviewing its political system, one notes it is classless and stateless, and the people govern directly. However, this has been harder to achieve, with many modern communist countries having a central party as the governing entity. Thus, the system advocates for the government's ownership of land and production tools. The implication is that the people should work for the government and redistribute all collections equally to everyone.

The main philosophy, in this case, is the free access to the articles of consumption made possible through the possible technological advances that allow for superabundance. Therefore, one's contributions reflect their ability, and one receives based on their needs (Sabry, 2017). All class distinctions are absent in this society, allowing the people to redefine their role in the ownership of the means of production. Economic planning coordinates the decisions made and

determines what happens to the investment, resource allocation, and production processes. Therefore, the government ensures that everyone remains aware of their role in shaping the production processes, which sometimes requires propaganda, force, and rallies to control the populace. North Korea and China fit this description accurately.

Socialism

Socialism is a governance system that requires collective ownership and cooperative common ownership instead of a planned economy, as found in communist settings. It promotes economic democracy and economic planning to ensure that the people have different options within their environment (Dorrien, 2019). Industrial democracy creates an input-output model to ensure material balancing. The social objectives match those of communist systems, where equality and welfare of all take precedence in any case. The economic goal of fairness is similar to that of the communists (Dorrien, 2019). However, the two differ in the political systems because the socialists prefer the oligarchy or bureaucratic system that allows the economy to operate based on what people stand to gain.

Unlike the communists that consider the philosophy of free access, the emphasis on socialism is to seek profitability and distribute to the workforce by complementing one's contribution. Thus, the wages and salaries differ from one worker to the next but reflect one's contribution to their job (Niemietz, 2019). Whereas the communists eliminate classism, the socialists diminish it, with status reflecting political distinctions rather than class differences. The people have a chance to move upwards, though this takes time to accomplish. Some modern examples of socialist countries are Cuba and Vietnam (Niemietz, 2019). However, even China seems to use many of the policies noted in this environment.

Overall, the two political systems seem to borrow much from each other. The communists and socialists believe in fairness and map their economies to encourage equality and public ownership. The two systems highlight the impact of service delivery based on a stable governing system that increases benefits for all people. The differences occur in the execution of the economic activities as the communists redistribute resources based on individual needs, while socialists reward one's contribution. The two forms of governance agree on the need to control the means of production; however, they differ on the economic planning that utilizes the acquired tools.

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