## AP Comparative Government & Politics Summer Assignment 2022 Dr. Meghan Nealis, <u>mnealis@ves.org</u> and via the VES TEAMs Channel

## AP Comparative Government & Politics

Greetings and welcome to AP Comparative Government & Politics! We have an exciting year ahead of us that will take us through an adventurous journey around the globe exploring six countries' political and governance systems, and we will learn how history intersects with the important disciplines of political science and international relations that drive current global dynamics. We have designed this **required** summer assignment to provide you with the foundational themes and regions that will help you start the school year strong. These assignments are designed to be completed individually, and you are not allowed to work on any part with another person/group. Approximate time required to complete these tasks are 4.25 hours - 5.75 hours, but don't put it off until the last minute! If you work at a more relaxed pace or need more time, give yourself 3 days to 1 week to complete - especially if you are working on multiple AP summer assignments. You need to complete all three parts. This assignment will serve as your first grade of the academic year and factor into our discussions during our first week of school. Have fun exploring!

<u>Part I:</u> Research any topic in international relations\* (something that explores the relationship between two or more countries) from the 21st century (2000-2022) and write a 500-750 word policy memo using <u>this template</u>. Research should involve reading 3-5 news/academic/think tank articles. (news.google.com, bbc.co.uk, scmp.com (South China Morning Post) and your free VES account access to the NY Times, and Wall Street Journal are good places to start. <u>Click here for instructions</u> on how to access your free accounts. Additional sources will be posted by June 14 on your class OnCampus page. (Research time: approximately 1 hour and take notes based on the memo template. Once research is completed, memo writing should take no more than 60-90 minutes).

<u>Part II:</u> Complete this "Rights Around the World Scavenger Hunt." The instructions and worksheet are available <u>here</u>. (Approximate time to complete - reading the reports: 30-45 minutes; completing the data and reflection tasks 60-90 minutes)

<u>Part III:</u> Watch the first 30 minutes of this video podcast on the <u>Rule of Law in America and Abroad: A comparative view.</u> Take brief notes on - what countries were discussed, what were your key takeaways, what trends did the participants discuss, what surprised you, what gave you hope, what caused concern? We will discuss your findings during the first week of class. (Approximate time to complete 45-60 min)