

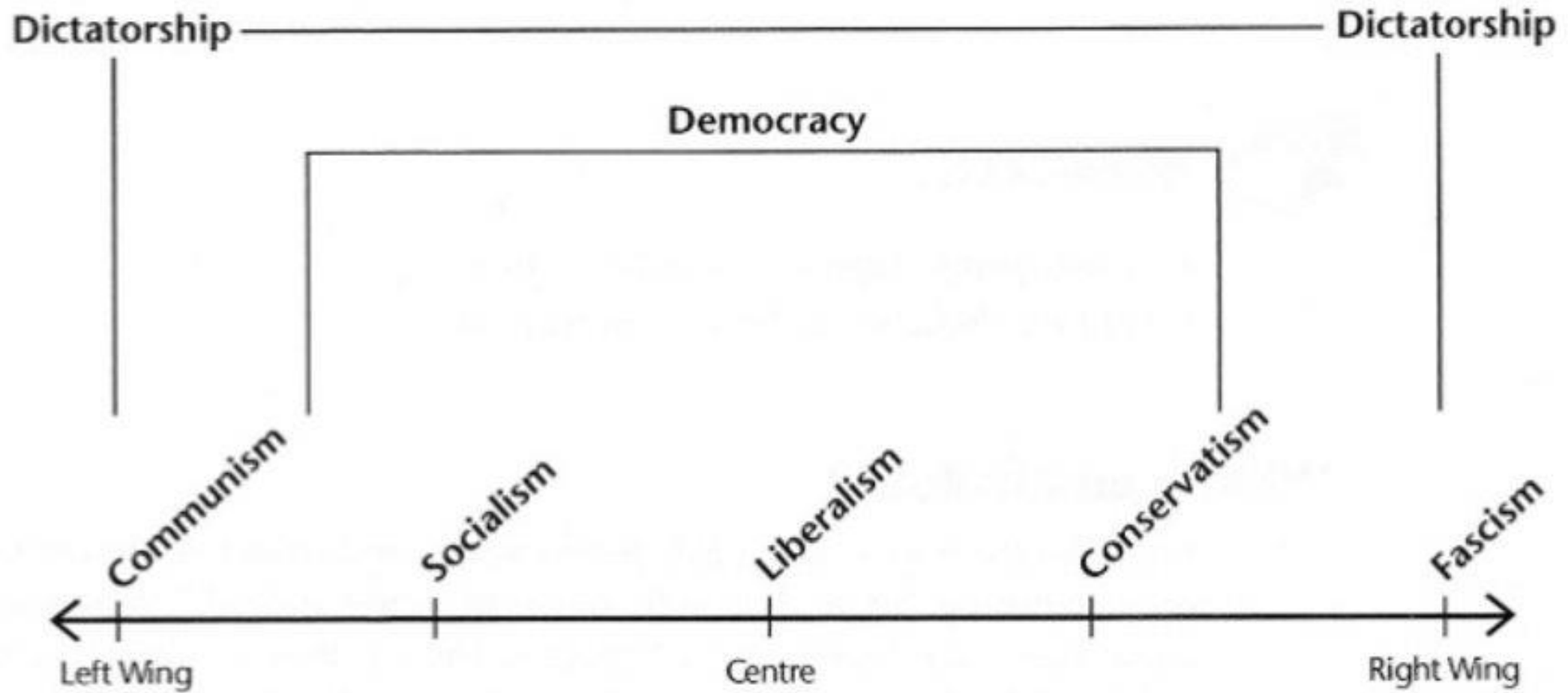
# The Death of Lenin

- Lenin was in control of the new Soviet Government- Creating the Soviet Union
  - Joeseph Stalin oversaw the Central Committee Secretariat
- After the civil war, various communist political parties emerged- varying ideas about the new communist government
  - Lenin, Trotsky, Stalin
- In 1924, Lenin died due to a stroke? Much debate about this
- He was succeeded by fellow revolutionary, Joeseph Stalin



# The Rise of Stalin

- Stalin assumes full power by 1927
- Institution of Stalinism- the ideology and policies adopted by Stalin, based on centralization, totalitarianism, and the pursuit of communism.
- Totalitarianism- a system of government that is centralized and dictatorial and requires complete subservience to the state.
- Initiates first 5-year plan in 1928



# Stalin's 5 Year Plan

- Goals-
  - Build heavy industry, improve transportation, increase farm output
  - Government control of the economy
- He basically wanted Russia to catch up/beat the rest of the world in terms of industrialization and wealth





We are fifty or a hundred years behind the advanced countries. We must make good this distance in ten years. Either we do it, or they will crush us.

(Joseph Stalin)

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# How did he enact this?

- Forced collectivization!!

Collectivization- consolidation of individual peasant households into collective farms called “kolkhozes” as carried out by the Soviet government

Meant to increase productivity and speed up industrialization



# How did he enforce it?

Through the use of the Gulags

- The "Gulag" was officially established on April 25, 1930
- Glavnoe Upravlenie ispravitel'no-trudovykh LAGerei* (Main Administration of Corrective Labor Camps),
- Used as a means of terror to enforce Stalin's 5 year plan.
- Harsh labor, starvation, and torture were carried out in the Gulags



# The Gulags



# Conditions in the Gulags

The combination of:

- violence,
  - extreme climate,
  - hard labor,
  - meager food rations
  - and unsanitary conditions
- led to extremely high death rates in the camps.







# Punishable crimes

1. Have you ever been late to school?

Sent to Gulag for 3 years

2. Have you ever told a joke about a government official?

Up to 25 years in the Gulag

3. If your family was starving, would you take a few potatoes left in a field after harvest?

Sent to Gulag for 10 years





# The Gulags



- The emergent consensus among scholars is that **18 million** were sent to the Gulag from 1930 to 1953
- The atrocities of the Gulag system have had a long-lasting impact that still permeates Russian society today.