

## **Middle class**

**It turns out that the middle classes of the new despotisms defy modern social science predictions. Their education, occupations and assets incline them to be loyal to the system: they show few of the signs of wanting to walk in the footsteps of the independent-minded, property-owning citizens of the early modern period.**

**...**

**When it comes to democracy, the fickleness of these middle classes is remarkable.**

**John Keane, *The New Despotism***