Federalism And Regionalism In Western Europe: A Comparative And Thematic Analysis

The Rise of RegionalismClaims for Secession and FederalismUnderstanding Federalism and FederationStudies in Comparative FederalismNew Directions in Federalism StudiesExploring FederalismFederalism in South AsiaFederalism and Regional Policy in Contemporary Russia (Open Access)Studies in Comparative Federalism, Australia, Canada, the United States, and West GermanyFederalism and Federation in Western EuropeThe Länder and German federalismFederalism and Länder AutonomyTerritorial Party Politics in Western EuropeFederalism in the WestIndiesThe Politics of BelgiumTerritory, Democracy and JusticeThe Ways of Federalism in Western Countries and the Horizons of Territorial Autonomy in SpainTransfrontier Regionalism, Canadian Federalism, and the WestRegionalism in CanadaFederalism and Regionalism in AustraliaFederalism in AsiaBuying and Selling the Istinian GoatBelgiumFederalism and Regional DevelopmentThe Ways of Federalism in Western Countries and the Horizons of Territorial Autonomy in SpainStructuring the StateFederalism and Regionalism in Western EuropeFederalism and DecentralizationRoutledge Handbook of Regionalism & FederalismBIalystok Law Books 4 Territorial Organization Of European States. Federalism, Regionalism, UnitarismThe New FederalismFederalism and Second ChambersThe Regional Challenge in Central and Eastern EuropeStudies in Comparative FederalismTerritory, Democracy and JusticeRecasting German FederalismFederalism and Regionalism in Western EuropeIntergovernmental CooperationThe Political Economy of RegionalismFederal Dynamics

How do Russian leaders balance the need to decentralize governance in a socially and politically complex country with the need to guarantee political control of the state? Since the early 2000s Russian federal authorities have arranged a system of political control on regional elites and their leaders, providing a "police control" of special bodies subordinated by the federal center on policy implementation in the regions. Different mechanisms of fiscal federalism and investment policy have been used to ensure regional elites' loyalty and a politically centralized but administratively decentralized system has been created. Asking clear, direct, and theoretically informed questions about the relationship between federalism, decentralization and authoritarianism, this book explores the political survival of authoritarian leaders, the determinants of policy formulation, and theories of federalism and decentralization, to reach a new understanding of territorial governance in contemporary Russia. As such, it is an important work for students and researchers in Russian studies and regional and federal studies. Federal systems have proven essential to the integration of many states. In an increasingly interdependent world, today's problems are so global and complex in nature that they can be solved adequately only by means of international and regional cooperation and integration. Federalism, as a feature of political problem-solving, will likely become even more important in the future. Federalism emphasizes the principle of non-violence in political affairs, and it creates the opportunity to realize the so-called right of nations to self-determination below the level of national independence. During the past 40 years, regions have become increasingly important in Western Europe both as units of government and as sources for political mobilization. This book examines why regional identities are stronger in some regions than in others, and why regional elites attempt to mobilize the public on a regionalist agenda at certain points in time. The author develops a model that explains change across space as well as time and provides a comprehensive discussion of the causes of regionalism. It focuses on endogenous developments in the regions and on change across time in the economic and political landscapes of the regions. Using a quantitative study of 212 Western European regions, which examine whether regionalism is related to cultural, economic and political characteristics of the regions, the book builds a model of the causes of regionalism. The issues are further explored through case studies on Scotland (UK) and Rogaland (Norway). This book will be of interest to students and scholars of political and social sciences, especially those with an interest in regions, regionalism and regional nationalism, Scottish politics, Norwegian politics, territorial identities and territorial politics. Teritorial autonomy in Spain has reached a crossroads. After over thirty years of development, the consensus regarding its appropriateness has started to crumble. The transformation project embodied by the reform of Statute of Catalonia (2006) has failed to achieve its most significant demands. Although the concept of Spain as a Federation is disputed -more within the country than beyond-, the evolution of the Spanish system needs to follow a markedly federalist path. In this perspective, reference models assume critical importance. This edition gathers the works of a broad group of European, American and Spanish experts who analyse the present-day challenges of their respective systems. The objective, thus, is to contribute ideas which might help to address the evolution of the Spanish system in the light of the experience of more established Federations. This second volume focuses its attention on the difficulties and challenges faced in two particular fields. On the one hand,
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the field of intergovernmental relations and, on the other, questions related to the integration and acknowledgement of diversity and of Fundamental Rights, with special reference to the cases of Canada and Spain. Finally, there is analysis of other specific aspects of the system of territorial autonomy in Spain. The release of this book in 1987 prompted a flurry of excellent and complimentary reviews furthering Elazar’s already considerable reputation as the leading contemporary scholar of federalism. Understanding Germany’s federal structure is crucial to understanding contemporary Germany. The federal system shaped the way German unification was carried out, it shapes the way in which policies are made, and it plays a role in determining the way in which Germany presents its priorities in the EU. The first part of the book analyzes the nature of pre-unification West German federalism and the unique challenge posed for the federal system by unification. Part 2 takes stock of key issues in the operation of post-unification federalism, including the policy process, the role of parties in federalism, conflicts of interest over financial allocations, and the impact of decentralization on the long-term development of federalism. The final part of the work presents a critical analysis of the long-term legacies of unification and increasing pressures for reform. This volume, incorporating the work of scholars from various parts of the globe, taps the wisdom of the Westphalian (and post-Westphalian) world on the use of federalism and secession as tools for managing regional conflicts. The debate has rarely been more important than it is right now, especially in light of recent events in Catalonia, Scotland, Québec and the Sudan - all unique political contexts raising similar questions about how best to balance competing claims for autonomy, interdependence, political voice, and exit. Exploring how various nations have encountered comparable conflicts, some more and some less successfully, the book broadens the perspectives of scholars, government officials, and citizens struggling to resolve sovereignty conflicts with a full appreciation of the underlying principles they represent.

Based on a variety of contemporary debates on federal theory, Understanding Federalism and Federation honours Michael Burgess’ contribution to the study of these topics through a selection of approaches, theories, debates and interpretations. Gathering contributors from diverse subfields to synthesize current debates it offers a snapshot of the immense range of current research on federalism and federation. Leading authors debate key issues such as American federalism, Canada and the role of Quebec, the latest insights into comparative federalism and federation, the European Union as a federal project and the analysis of constitutional courts in federal systems. Different theoretical and empirical fields and perspectives are brought together, synthesizing major findings and addressing emerging issues and these topics are analysed through multiple lenses to provide new insights, original approaches and much-needed theoretical and empirical data on federalism and federation. Understanding Federalism and Federation is the result of the Ithaca Geography Seminar, held at the University of Texas in September 1979. The chapters deal with the impact of geographic policy planning by various governmental agencies in both the Federal Republic of Germany and the United States, two countries with federal systems of government. Although various bureaucratic offices at the federal, state, county, and city levels became involved in spatial planning in both countries, no overall coordination of development planning existed. The contributors to this volume offer many theoretical and empirical perspectives on the evolution of federal policies and programs and their impact on geographic planning activities at all levels of government. The topics covered range from actual regional case studies in both countries to the framework of the agencies concerned with spatial planning. Numerous maps and tables document the data resources of the contributors and yield useful insights on the workings of the federal system. Offers new empirical evidence on the territorial organization and strategies of state-wide parties in five federal or regionalized states in Western Europe: Belgium, Germany, Italy, Spain and the UK. The majority of scholarly works on the dissolution of Yugoslavia and the establishment of its successor states focus almost exclusively on the national question. There is no major study of the subnational regional dimension, which had significant effects on the politics and political structures of these newly independent states. This book addresses this deficit by examining the struggle of Istrian regionalists in the Istrian Democratic Assembly (IDS) against the nearly hegemonic nationalists of the Croatian ruling party, the Croatian Democratic Alliance (HDZ). Using a wide variety of primary and secondary sources, this instrumentalist analysis assays the political historiography of Istria in the 19th and 20th centuries, provides an analytical case study of the regionalist conflict with the HDZ in the 1990s and into the 21st century, illustrates how and why the regionalist party tried to influence both Istrians and Western Europeans in this struggle, and derives a critical analysis of the role of regionalism in European Union enlargement from this case study. It also shows that nationalists do not hold a monopoly on the politicization of identities. Federalism and Regionalism in Western Europe seeks to clarify the relevance, problems and consequences of operating federal systems of government in Western Europe. The book analyzes and explains variations in the allocation of resources, the decision-making process and problem-solving capacity of West-European federal and regional states. Federalism has experienced a remarkable renaissance in recent decades – as an alternative way to accommodate ethnic differences; as a tool to combat remote, undemocratic and ineffective central governments; and lastly, as a means to promote economic performance in the developing world through decentralisation. This book seeks to bring different aspects and perspectives of federalism studies closer together, by providing an
analytical framework which transcends the sub-fields and encourages contributors to look beyond the comfort zones of their own disciplinary approaches to the topic. The authors seek to achieve this aim by structuring the contributions around four dimensions federalism studies: • the development and design of federal institutions; • federalism and democratic participation, representation and accountability; • federalism and the accommodation of territorially-based ethnic, cultural and linguistic differences; • federalism and public policy. With a strong comparative framework, New Directions in Federalism Studies will be of interest to students and scholars of Federalism, Government, Regionalism, and Multi-level Governance. It will also offer insights of relevance to Comparative Politics, Public Policy, Public Administration, Nationalism, and West European Politics. Sections include: “Setting the scene: old questions or new?”, “Drivers for change: new approaches to federalism and regionalism”, and “New institutions? Approaching the challenge of reform.” Almost all states are either federal or regionalized in some sense. It is difficult to find a country that is entirely unitary and the Routledge Handbook of Federalism demonstrates that the entire world is both federal and regional. Federalism and regionalism have been subjects of a vast academic literature mainly from political science but sometimes also from history, economics, and geography. This cutting edge examination seeks to evaluate the two types of state organization from the perspective of political science producing a work that is analytical rather than simply descriptive. The Handbook presents some of the latest theoretical reflections on regionalism and federalism and then moves on to discuss cases of both regionalism and federalism in key countries chosen from the world’s macro-regions. Assembling this wide range of case studies allows the book to present a general picture of current trends in territorial governance. The final chapters then examine failed federations such as Czechoslovakia and examples of transnational regionalism - the EU, NAFTA and the African Union. Covering evolving forms of federalism and regionalism in all parts of the world and featuring a comprehensive range of case studies by leading international scholars this book will be an essential reference source for all students and scholars of international politics, comparative politics and international relations. Germany's and Italy's belated national unifications continue to loom large in contemporary debates. Often regarded as Europe's paradigmatic instances of failed modernization, the two countries form the basis of many of our most prized theories of social science. Structuring the State undertakes one of the first systematic comparisons of the two cases, putting the origins of these nation-states and the nature of European political development in new light. Daniel Ziblatt begins his analysis with a striking puzzle: Upon national unification, why was Germany formed as a federal nation-state and Italy as a unitary nation-state? He traces the diplomatic maneuverings and high political drama of national unification in nineteenth-century Germany and Italy to show that the two states Germany and Italy were sustained exclusively from Machiavellian farsightedness on the part of militarily powerful political leaders. Instead, he demonstrates that Germany's and Italy's "founding fathers" were constrained by two very different pre-unification patterns of institutional development. In Germany, a legacy of well-developed sub-national institutions provided the building blocks of federalism. In Italy, these institutions' absence doomed federalism. This crucial difference in the organization of local power still shapes debates about federalism in Italy and Germany today. By exposing the source of this enduring contrast, Structuring the State offers a broader theory of federalism's origins that will interest scholars and students of comparative politics, state-building, international relations, and European political history. Territory, Democracy and Justice brings together experts from six countries to ask what territorial decentralization does and what it means for democracy, policymaking and the welfare state. Integrated and international in a fragmented field, the chapters identify the importance and consequences of territorial decentralization. The authors analyze the successes, the generalizable ideas, and the international lessons in the study of comparative territorial politics as well as new directions for research. The theory of comparative federalism asserts that federations require a second chamber for the representation of regional interests in central law-making. Yet there has been little systematic analysis of the contribution of second chambers in parliamentary federations to this task. The main purpose of this book is to demonstrate to what extent the two strongest parliamentary second chambers, the Australian Senate and the German Bundesrat are linked to the federal structures in which they are embedded. The study analyzes the contribution of the members of these second chambers in advancing interests that are linked to the regional constituents whom they represent or to the collective fiscal or administrative interests of a regional government with whom they are associated. The analysis underscores the largely 'executive' character of intergovernmental relations in parliamentary federations, a feature that corresponds with the composition of the German Bundesrat, but not of the Australian Senate. In the concluding chapter some preliminary observations are made as to whether our findings also generate interesting insights for the larger group of parliamentary second chambers in federal or quasi-federal states, such as the Belgian, Spanish and Canadian Senates, the UK House of Lords and the Indian Rajya Sabha. Federal systems are praised for creating political stability, but they are also blamed for causing rigidity. They are said to balance powers, but apparently they are also threatened by instability due to drifts in power. Federalism should support democratization, but it can also constrain the power of the demos and strengthen the executive. In short, there is widespread agreement that federal systems are dynamic. The
forces, mechanisms and consequences of federal dynamics, however, are not sufficiently understood so far. This book brings together leading experts in the field of comparative federalism to highlight how the interplay of continuity and change systematically generates and reinforces varieties of federalism and varieties of federal dynamics. Federal Dynamics: Continuity, Change and Varieties of Federalism investigates mechanisms and resulting patterns of federal development. It offers new analytical concepts and discusses different theoretical propositions to systematically compare convergent and divergent trends in federal systems. Acknowledging the theoretical pluralism that dominates the field, the book is organized around four sections: Models, Varieties and Dimensions of Federalism; Timing, Sequencing and Historical Evolution; Social Change and Political Structuring; and Actors, Institutions and Internal Dynamics. The contributions to this volume are variously concerned with three guiding questions: What changes within federal systems, how and why? The focus provided by these three guiding questions allows for a dialogue between strands of the literature that have not talked to each other. This book makes a significant contribution to the growing literature on continuity and change in federal systems. Ultimately, it represents a substantive effort in advancing research on comparative federalism. Examining the effects of economic and political restructuring on regions in Europe and North America, the main themes here are: international economic restructuring; political realignments questions of territorial identity; and policy choices and policy conflicts in regional development. This electronic version has been made available under a Creative Commons (BY-NC-ND) open access license. An illuminating introduction to how the Lander (the sixteen states of Germany) function not only within the country itself but also within the wider context of European political affairs. Looks at the Lander in the constitutional order of the country, and the political and administrative system. Their organization and administration is fully covered, as is their financial administration. The role of parties and elections in the Lander is looked at, and the importance of their parliaments. The first work in the English language that considers the Lander in this depth. This book argues that governments’ choices in favour or against strong intergovernmental institutions are not primarily driven by considerations of efficiency but by internal political dynamics within their own boundaries. It applies the argument to Canada, Switzerland, the United States, and finally to the European Union. Territory, Democracy and Justice brings together experts from six countries to ask what territorial decentralization does and what it means for democracy, policymaking and the welfare state. Integrated and international in a fragmented field, the chapters identify the importance and consequences of territorial decentralization. The authors analyze the successes, the generalizable ideas, and the international lessons in the study of territorial politics as well as in post-conflict settings. For too long Belgium remained an unexplored terrain by comparative political scientists. Belgium’s politics were best known through the writings of Arend Lijphart, who considered it a model case of consociationalism. Over the past ten to fifteen years, the analysis of consociationalism has been complemented by a more detailed coverage of Belgium’s spectacular transformation process from a unitary into a federal state, moving rapidly now to disintegration. Likewise, several peculiar aspects of Belgian politics, such as the record fragmentation of its party system, have been covered in edited volumes or international journals. However, given the complexity of the Belgian configuration of political institutions and actors, any inclusion of particular aspects of the Belgian case in comparative work calls for an in-depth and integrated understanding of the broader political system. This is the first book which provides such an analysis. It brings together a team of 19 political scientists and sociologists who aim to explain the dynamics and incentives of institutional change and seek to analyze the intricate interplay between the main institutional components of the Belgian body politic. The sociological, political and institutional determinants and the consequences of the “federalisation” process of Belgium is the central theme that links each of the individual chapters. This book will be essential reading for students who want to understand the politics of Belgium and for anyone with a strong interest in West European Politics, comparative politics and comparative federalism. This book was published as a special issue of West European Politics. This book is a collection of 13 articles which grew out if a workshop on federalism and democratisation in Asia. But, unlike a great many of the publications which have their origins in
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copyright, this volume has a clear theme running through its contributions, almost all of which are excellent. the individual country studies... are highly informative, most making imaginative use of the country's history and current politics to illustrate the theme of the tension between nationalising centralisation and pressures for regional decentralisation. Many of these chapters have innovative conclusions about ways in which this tension can be understood. this is a serious book, very well produced and indexed. its chapters are well written with useful notes and lists of references. the volume will be of great interest to specialists on the countries concerned, and has much to offer for anyone with an interest in federalism and the relationship between regionalism and democratisation. campbell sharman, the australian journal of public administration

federalism in asia provides a valuable resource, both for scholars of asia in general and for political theorists of federalism. in an academic climate where edited volumes are often assumed to be a lightweight option, federalism in asia demonstrates how rewarding this form of publication can be. graeme brown, political studies review

united, the different models of federalism appropriate in asia, let alone the extent to which these different perspectives are compatible, converging, or mutually influencing each other. this book redresses the balance by demonstrating the varieties of asian federalism. federalism in asia explores the range of theoretical perspectives that shape debates over federalism in general, and over territorial, multinational, hybrid, and asymmetric federalism in particular relation to asia. the contributors share their understanding of how federal or quasi-federal institutions manage ethnic conflicts and accommodate differences, how democratization facilitates the development of federalism and how federalism facilitates and inhibits democratization in asia. their conclusion is that hybrid federalism or quasi-federalism is more prevalent in some asian countries than others; and the need and potential for greater federalism in more asian countries makes this sortie into this area worthwhile. while federalism is relevant to asia, the working pattern of asian federalism does not necessarily follow a western style. hybrid federal institutional design can be seen as an asian strategy of managing ethnic conflicts through federal arrangements. this unique book will be of great interest to a wide range of scholars and researchers who work on issues of federalism, political economy, public policy, ethnic relations, cultural diversity and democratization in the asian region. policymakers and activists dealing with issues of minority rights and ethnic conflict in the region, government officials and NGOs within asia, and officials in international agencies and organizations will also find much to engage them. this book is one of the first in-depth and systematic studies on the functioning and aspiring federalisations of south asia. it examines how federal dynamics in india, pakistan, nepal, and sri lanka are impinged on by the nature of their specific contexts, the nature of their societies, political and cultural diversity, federalism, and market; electoral and party systems; mass media; and information technology. the authors offer a comparative, analytical, conceptual, and theoretical framework to understand patterns and trends as also experiences of and possibilities for federalism in south asia. they highlight diversifications and similarities, successes and key challenges, while indicating federalism's wider regional relevance in the discourse on democracy and governance. the book concludes that the multicultural character of these societies — beset with ethnic and regional conflicts, separatist and military undercurrents — makes federal political solutions the only viable route. providing a wealth of material, this will deeply interest scholars, students and teachers of comparative politics, political science, federal studies, area studies as well as those interested in political structures and processes in south asia. territorial autonomy in spain has reached a crossroads. after over thirty years of development, the consensus regarding its appropriateness has started to crumble. the transformation project embodied by the reform of statute of catalonia (2006) has failed to achieve its most significant demands. although the concept of spain as a federation is disputed -more within the country than beyond-, the evolution of the spanish system needs to follow a markedly federalist path. in this perspective, reference models assume critical importance. this edition gathers the works of a broad group of european, american and spanish experts who analyse the present-day challenges of their respective systems. the objective, thus, is to contribute ideas which might help to address the evolution of the spanish system in the light of the experience of more established federations. this first volume analyses the challenges facing federal systems in the age of globalisation from a global perspective. it also addresses current questions and the challenges faced today by, in the sphere of the internal division of powers, the most significant ‘western’ federal systems, on the one hand, and the spanish system of territorial autonomy, on the other. provides instructions and tips for using computers and digital cameras for scrapbooking, discussing such topics as hardware and software, writing text, choosing typeface, designing pages, using embellishments, and sharing the scrapbook. argues that there is an important conceptual distinction between federalism and federation and illustrates some of the inadequacies of contemporary federal theory. federalism and regionalism in western europe seeks to clarify the relevance, problems and consequences of operating federal systems of government in western europe. the book analyses and explains varieties in the allocation of resources, the decision-making process and problem-solving capacity of west-european federal and regional states

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