Record Nr. UNINA9910816753903321 Autore Jankowski Paul <1950-> Titolo Shades of indignation: political scandals in France, past and present // Paul Jankowski Pubbl/distr/stampa New York:,: Berghahn Books,, 2008 **ISBN** 1-84545-365-4 0-85745-538-9 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (236 p.) Collana Berghahn monographs in French studies; ; volume 1 Disciplina 944 Political corruption - France - History Soggetti Misconduct in office - France - History France Politics and government Moral and ethical aspects Inglese Lingua di pubblicazione **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Title Page: Copyright Page: Table of Contents: Introduction: Chapter 1 Treason; Chapter 2 Corruption; Chapter 3 Injustice; Conclusion; Bibliography: Index Sommario/riassunto At the end of the twentieth century France found itself in the midst of another scandalous fin de siècle, awash with rumors and revelations of wrongdoing in high places. As the millennium expired, the Republic's servants, some sitting, others retired, received much condemnation, whether welcomed or resented. When taken together, surely les affaires now approximate in political significance (if not in noise or invective) those of the Dreyfus or Panama scandals a century ago? Yet the author argues this is not so. Today, treason has vanished and is slowly giving way to a transgression different in kind, but equivalent in gravamen: the crime against humanity. Corruption is far from disappearing, yet now it inspires resignation rather than indignation - and as such, it has lost its power to scandalize. Jankowski claims that such transformations tell a tale. The state that once aspired to pre-eminence as the sole magnet of loyalty, touchstone of probity, and guarantor of right, has yielded significant ground to the individual who is now more

likely to elevate his own dignity and cry scandal on his own behalf. [In these times,] Individualism is de-politicizing the group and [ultimately]

diluting the mystique of France, the nation-state par excellence.

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Sommario/riassunto The legacy of the Second World War remains unsettled; no consensus has been achieved about its meaning and its lasting impact. This is

pre-eminently the case in France, where the experience of defeat and occupation created the grounds for a deeply ambiguous mixture of resistance and collaboration, pride and humiliation, heroism and abjection, which writers and politicians have been trying to disentangle ever since. This book develops a theoretical approach which draws on trauma studies and hermeneutics; and it then focuses on some of the intellectuals who lived through the war and on how their experience and troubled memories of it continue to echo through their later writing, even and especially when it is not the explicit topic. This was an astonishing generation of writers who would go on to play a pivotal

role on a global scale in post-war aesthetic and philosophical endeavours. The book proposes close readings of works by some of the

most brilliant amongst them: Jean-Paul Sartre, Simone de Beauvoir, Albert Camus, Charlotte Delbo, Paul Ricoeur, Emmanuel Levinas, Louis Althusser, Jorge Semprun, Elie Wiesel, and Sarah Kofman. An Open Access edition of this work is available on the OAPEN Library.