1. Record Nr. UNINA9910404158803321 Autore Smith Alison F Titolo Political Party Membership in New Democracies [[electronic resource]]: Electoral Rules in Central and East Europe / / by Alison F. Smith Pubbl/distr/stampa Cham:,: Springer International Publishing:,: Imprint: Palgrave Macmillan, , 2020 **ISBN** 3-030-41796-4 Edizione [1st ed. 2020.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (184 pages) Collana St Antony's Series, , 2633-5964 Disciplina 324.20947 Soggetti Europe—Politics and government Elections Area studies Democracy Comparative politics Political communication **European Politics Electoral Politics Area Studies** Comparative Politics **Political Communication** Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Nota di contenuto 1. Parties and Members in the 21st Century -- 2. Institutional Design and Party Membership -- 3. The Functions of Party Members in Estonia -- 4. The Functions of Party Members in Lithuania -- 5. The Functions of Party Members in Slovakia -- 6. Electoral Systems and Active Members. Sommario/riassunto This book explores the impact of electoral rules on political party development in Central and East Europe. It finds that 'high district magnitude' proportional electoral systems encourage centralised organisational development and campaigning – where communication with voters is conducted primarily via mass, social and digital media while small electoral districts stimulate grassroots campaigning. As a

result, low magnitude electoral systems are more likely to create an active role for party members, stimulating membership recruitment. The book further examines how parties organise and campaign on the ground. The analysis of in-depth surveys and interviews with party elites in Estonia, Lithuania and Slovakia sheds light on areas of party life that are rarely examined, including party fundraising. Overall, the effects of electoral systems on party organisation and campaigning reflect patterns previously observed in Western Europe, demonstrating that a degree of convergence has occurred. Alison F. Smith is a lecturer in comparative government, European politics and Russian politics. She has published several academic articles on the roles of political party members in Central and East Europe.