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Nota di contenuto	Preliminary Material / P. Silva and H. Cleuren -- Chapter One. Assessing Participatory Democracy In Brazil And Chile: An Introduction / Patricio Silva and Herwig Cleuren -- Chapter Two. Grassroots Movements And Political Activism In Chile And Brazil / Joe Foweraker -- Chapter Three. Local Democracy And Popular Participation In Chile And Brazil / Paul W. Posner -- Chapter Four. Participative Institutions In Brazil: Mayors And The Expansion Of Accountability In Comparative Perspective / Brian Wampler -- Chapter Five. The Redistributive Effects Of The Participatory Budgeting In Porto Alegre / Adalmir Marquetti -- Chapter Six. Politicizing The Civic: Participatory Budgeting In Porto Alegre / Gianpaolo Baiocchi -- Chapter Seven. State-Society Synergy And The Problems Of Participation In Porto Alegre / Rebecca N. Abers -- Chapter Eight. Assessing The Claims Of Proponents And Critics Of The Participatory Budget: Lessons From Minas Gerais, Brazil / William R. Nylen -- Chapter Nine. Surviving Regime Change? Participatory

Democracy And The Politics Of Citizenship In Porto Alegre, Brazil / Kees Koonings -- Chapter Ten. Civic Deliberation And Participatory Budgeting: The Case Of San Joaquín, Santiago De Chile / Adolfo Castillo Díaz -- Chapter Eleven. Participation And Mestizaje Of State-Civil Society In Chile / Gonzalo de la Maza -- Chapter Twelve. Citizens' Involvement And Social Policies In Chile: Patronage Or Participation? / Vicente Espinoza -- Chapter Thirteen. Old Habits In New Clothes, Or Clientelism, Patronage And The Unión Demócrata Independiente / Marcus Klein -- Chapter Fourteen. Top-Down And Bottom-Up Democracy In Chile Under Bachelet / Patricio Navia -- Bibliography / P. Silva and H. Cleuren -- List Of Contributors / P. Silva and H. Cleuren -- Index / P. Silva and H. Cleuren.

Sommario/riassunto

From democratic restoration in the 1980's up to today, most Latin American countries have been struggling constantly to find a workable balance between the need to strengthen the authority of state institutions and their citizens' aspirations to have a real say in the decision-making process. This book looks at the contrasting ways in which both Brazil and Chile have been dealing with societal demands for participation during the last two decades. The contributors to this volume highlight a series of historical and political factors that help to understand why Brazil has been able to introduce innovative democratizing policies while Chile has largely failed in the advancement of participatory schemes as its decision-making process continues to be heavily top-down and technocratic. Contributors: Rebecca N. Abers, Gianpaolo Baiocchi, Adolfo Castillo Díaz, Herwig Cleuren, Gonzalo Delamaza, Vicente Espinoza, Joe Foweraker, Marcus Klein, Kees Koonings, Adalmir Marquetti, Patricio Navia, William R. Nylen, Paul W. Posner, Patricio Silva, and Brian Wampler.
