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Nota di contenuto	Preliminary Material / Cristina Fraenkel-Haeberle , Sabine Kropp , Francesco Palermo and Karl-Peter Sommermann -- Citizen Participation in Multi-Level Democracies: An Introduction / Karl-Peter Sommermann -- Federalism and Democracy: Compatible or at Odds with One Another? Re-Examining a Tense Relationship / Arthur Benz and Jared Sonnicksen -- Participation, Federalism and Pluralism: Challenges to Decision Making and Responses by Constitutionalism / Francesco Palermo -- Federalism, People's Legislation and Associative Democracy / Sabine Kropp -- Forms of Democratic Participation in Multi-Level Systems / Anna Gamper -- Direct and Representative Democracy: The Perspective of German Citizens / Oscar W. Gabriel -- Perspectives on the Institutionalization of Citizen Participation at the Municipal Level: A First-Hand Report / Helmut Klages -- E-Participation in Germany: New Forms of Citizen Involvement between Vision and

Reality / Mario Martini and Saskia Fritzsche -- Financing Popular Initiatives and Referendum Campaigns / Nadja Braun Binder -- Participation and Administrative Procedure / Jutta Stender-Vorwachs -- "Liquid Democracy": Solution or Problem? / Margrit Seckelmann -- Participatory democracy in Multi-Level States / Umberto Allegretti -- Direct Democracy and Citizen Participation in the Austrian Federal State / Peter Bußjäger -- Italian Regionalism: Participation and Plebiscitary Models / Cristina Fraenkel-Haeberle -- Direct Democracy in the Swiss Federation / Zoltán Tibor Pállinger -- The Referendum in the United Kingdom: Instrument for Greater Constitutional Legitimacy, Tool of Political Convenience, or First Step to Revitalize Democracy? / Sara Parolari and Jens Woelk -- Laboratories of Democratic Innovation? Direct, Participatory, and Deliberative Democracy in Canadian Provinces and Municipalities / Karl Kössler -- Towards the Europeanization of Participation? Reflecting on the Functions and Beneficiaries of Participation in eu Environmental Law / Birgit Peters -- Participation in eu Governance: A "Multi-Level" Perspective and a "Multifold" Approach / Delia Ferri -- Index / Cristina Fraenkel-Haeberle , Sabine Kropp , Francesco Palermo and Karl-Peter Sommermann.

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### Sommario/riassunto

Citizen Participation in Multi-level Democracies offers an overview of new forms of participatory democracy in federally and regionally organised multi-level states. Its four sections focus on the conceptual foundations of participation, the implementation and instruments of democracy, examples from federal and regional States, and the emergence of participation on the European level. There is today a growing disaffection amongst the citizens of many states towards the traditional models of representative democracy. This book highlights the various functional and structural problems with which contemporary democracies are confronted and which lie at the root of their peoples' discontent. Within multi-level systems in particular, the fragmentation of state authority generates feelings of powerlessness among citizens. In this context, citizens' participation can in many cases be a useful complement to the representative and direct forms of democracy.

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