1. Record Nr. UNINA9910463532603321

Titolo Power sharing in deeply divided places [[electronic resource] /] / edited

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Pubbl/distr/stampa Philadelphia, : University of Pennsylvania Press, c2013

ISBN 0-8122-0798-X

Edizione [1st ed.]

Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (444 p.)

Collana National and ethnic conflict in the twenty-first century

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Disciplina 320.90089

Soggetti Ethnic groups - Political activity

Minorities - Political activity

Representative government and representation

Ethnic conflict - Political aspects
Cultural pluralism - Political aspects

Electronic books.

Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese

Formato Materiale a stampa

Livello bibliografico Monografia

Note generali Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph

Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index.

Nota di contenuto Front matter -- CONTENTS -- CHAPTER 1. Power Sharing in Deeply

Divided Places: An Advocate's Introduction / O'Leary, Brendan -- PART I. Power Sharing and Electoral Systems -- CHAPTER 2. Electoral Rules and Ethnic Representation and Accommodation: Combining Social Choice and Electoral System Perspectives / Grofman, Bernard -- CHAPTER 3. The Track Record of Centripetalism in Deeply Divided Places / McCulloch, Allison -- CHAPTER 4. Electoral Engineering for a Stalled Federation / Deschouwer, Kris / Van Parijs, Philippe -- PART II. Historical and Conceptual Forays into Power Sharing -- CHAPTER 5. A Theory of Accommodation Versus Conflict: With Special Reference to the Israel- Palestine Conflict / Wintrobe, Ronald -- CHAPTER 6. The Success of Religion as a Source for Compromise in Divided Empires: Ottoman and Safavid, Past and Present / Braude, Benjamin -- CHAPTER

7. Geopolitics and the Long- Term Construction of Democracy /

Collins, Randall -- CHAPTER 8. Courts, Constitutions, and the Limits of Majoritarianism / Issacharoff, Samuel -- PART III. Contemporary Power-

Sharing Questions -- CHAPTER 9. A Revised Theory of Federacy and a

Case Study of Civil War Termination in Aceh, Indonesia / Stepan, Alfred -- CHAPTER 10. We Forbid! The Mutual Veto and Power- Sharing Democracy / McEvoy, Joanne -- CHAPTER 11. Northern Ireland: Power Sharing, Contact, Identity, and Leadership / Cairns, Ed -- CHAPTER 12. Public Opinion and Power Sharing in Deeply Divided Places / Irwin, Colin -- CHAPTER 13. The Balkans: The Promotion of Power Sharing by Outsiders / Bieber, Florian -- CHAPTER 14. Governing Polarized Cities / Bollens, Scott A. -- CHAPTER 15. Power Sharing in Kirkuk: The Need for Compromise / Anderson, Liam -- CHAPTER 16. Power Sharing: An Advocate's Conclusion / O'Leary, Brendan -- Contributors -- Index -- ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Sommario/riassunto

Power sharing may be broadly defined as any set of arrangements that prevents one political agency or collective from monopolizing power. whether temporarily or permanently. Ideally, such measures promote inclusiveness or at least the coexistence of divergent cultures within a state. In places deeply divided by national, ethnic, linguistic, or religious conflict, power sharing is the standard prescription for reconciling antagonistic groups, particularly where genocide, expulsion, or coerced assimilation threaten the lives and rights of minority peoples. In recent history, the success record of this measure is mixed. Power Sharing in Deeply Divided Places features fifteen analytical studies of power-sharing systems, past and present, as well as critical evaluations of the role of electoral systems and courts in their implementation. Interdisciplinary and international in formation and execution, the chapters encompass divided cities such as Belfast, Jerusalem, Kirkuk, and Sarajevo and divided places such as Belgium, Israel/Palestine, Northern Ireland, and South Africa, as well as the Holy Roman Empire, the Saffavid Empire, Aceh in Indonesia, and the European Union. Equally suitable for specialists, teachers, and students, Power Sharing in Deeply Divided Places considers the merits and defects of an array of variant systems and provides explanations of their emergence, maintenance, and failings; some essays offer lucid proposals targeted at particular places. While this volume does not presume that power sharing is a panacea for social reconciliation, it does suggest how it can help foster peace and democracy in conflicttorn countries. Contributors: Liam Anderson, Florian Bieber, Scott A. Bollens, Benjamin Braude, Ed Cairns, Randall Collins, Kris Deschouwer, Bernard Grofman, Colin Irwin, Samuel Issacharoff, Allison McCulloch, Joanne McEvoy, Brendan O'Leary, Philippe van Parijs, Alfred Stepan, Ronald Wintrobe.