

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910624318703321
Titolo	Local Governance in Spain / / edited by Ángel Iglesias Alonso
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cham : , : Springer International Publishing : , : Imprint : Springer, , 2022
ISBN	9783031148040 9783031148033
Edizione	[1st ed. 2022.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (290 pages)
Collana	Local and Urban Governance, , 2524-5457
Disciplina	320.850946
Soggetti	Political science Urban policy Geography Governance and Government Urban Policy Regional Geography
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Chapter 1. Introduction (Ángel Iglesias) -- Chapter 2. The institutional architecture of local governments in Spain (Marta Méndez) -- Chapter 3. Local governance in a context of multilevel governance (Ángel Valencia and Francisco Collado) -- Chapter 4. The problem of governance in metropolitan areas and small municipalities (Adela Romero and Ángel Iglesias) -- Chapter 5. Inter-municipal cooperation (Marta Méndez) -- Chapter 6. Structure of local government finance (Ángel Iglesias) -- Chapter 7. Local elections and political leadership (Ángel Iglesias) -- Chapter 8. Local governance in crisis situations: the case of the COVID 19 pandemic (Ángel Iglesias and Roberto Barbeito) -- Chapter 9. The future of local governance in Spain in the European perspective (Ángel Iglesias) -- Chapter 10. Conclusions.
Sommario/riassunto	The book addresses in detail local governance in Spain. In recent decades, local governments in Europe have increasingly found themselves under pressure from a multitude of new challenges, such as demographic change, climate change, fiscal austerity policies, digitization, the demand for more citizen participation in local affairs,

and the migration crisis in some of them, to name just a few. Consequently, a wave of political and administrative reforms to address these challenges, pressures and problems, has changed local governance in many countries. In part, these changes were the result of reform policies introduced by national and state governments, often triggered by austerity policies, which has become an overwhelming reality for Spanish local governments that have been forced to introduce innovations in local governance. This book aims to give an account of these innovations in local governance in Spain. This book considers the local political-administrative structure in its dimensions, focusing on the analysis of its party system, electoral competition and political behavior in the local arena, as well as on local finances, all of which are determining elements in urban and rural governance processes. On the occasion of the recent crisis unleashed by Covid-19, the book will also deal with local governance in crisis situations. The book will also contextualize local governance processes in Spain in relation to the trends in local governance observed in other European countries.

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