

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910778136703321
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Titolo	The New Constitutional Order // Mark Tushnet
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Princeton, NJ : , : Princeton University Press, , [2009] ©2003
ISBN	1-282-15758-2 9786612157585 1-4008-2555-5
Edizione	[Course Book]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (277 p.)
Disciplina	342.73
Soggetti	Constitutional law -- United States Constitutional law - United States
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- CONTENTS -- Preface -- Introduction. The Idea of a Constitutional Order -- Chapter One. The Political Institutions of the New Constitutional Order -- Chapter Two. The Supreme Court of the New Constitutional Order -- Chapter Three. Beyond the New Constitutional Order? -- Chapter Four. The Jurisprudence of the New Constitutional Order -- Chapter Five. Globalization and the New Constitutional Order -- Conclusion. Regulation in the New Constitutional Order -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Table of Cases -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	In his 1996 State of the Union Address, President Bill Clinton announced that the "age of big government is over." Some Republicans accused him of cynically appropriating their themes, while many Democrats thought he was betraying the principles of the New Deal and the Great Society. Mark Tushnet argues that Clinton was stating an observed fact: the emergence of a new constitutional order in which the aspiration to achieve justice directly through law has been substantially chastened. Tushnet argues that the constitutional arrangements that prevailed in the United States from the 1930's to the 1990's have ended. We are now in a new constitutional order--one characterized by divided government, ideologically organized parties, and subdued

constitutional ambition. Contrary to arguments that describe a threatened return to a pre-New Deal constitutional order, however, this book presents evidence that our current regime's animating principle is not the old belief that government cannot solve any problems but rather that government cannot solve any more problems. Tushnet examines the institutional arrangements that support the new constitutional order as well as Supreme Court decisions that reflect it. He also considers recent developments in constitutional scholarship, focusing on the idea of minimalism as appropriate to a regime with chastened ambitions. Tushnet discusses what we know so far about the impact of globalization on domestic constitutional law, particularly in the areas of international human rights and federalism. He concludes with predictions about the type of regulation we can expect from the new order. This is a major new analysis of the constitutional arrangements in the United States. Though it will not be received without controversy, it offers real explanatory and predictive power and provides important insights to both legal theorists and political scientists.

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