Record Nr. UNINA9910779004003321 Autore Moosbrugger Lorelei K **Titolo** The vulnerability thesis [[electronic resource]]: interest group influence and institutional design / / Lorelei K. Moosbrugger New Haven, : Yale University Press, c2012 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-280-77053-8 9786613681300 0-300-16758-X Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (288 p.) Disciplina 322.4/3 Soggetti Majorities Pressure groups Representative government and representation Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Note generali Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Frontmatter -- Contents -- Preface -- 1. Interest Group Influence And Nota di contenuto Institutional Design -- 2. The Vulnerability Thesis -- 3. Evidence From The Environment -- 4. The European Union -- 5. The United Kingdom: Minority Influence And Majority Rule -- 6. Germany: The Politics Of Paying The Polluter -- 7. Austria: Political Cover And Policy Choice --8. Sweden: Minority Representation And The Majority Interest -- 9. Institutional Design And The Quality Of Democracy -- Notes --Bibliography -- Index Sommario/riassunto Where politics is dominated by two large parties, as in the United States, politicians should be relatively immune to the influence of small groups. Yet narrow interest groups often win private benefits against majority preferences and at great public expense. Why? The "vulnerability thesis" is that the electoral system is largely to blame, making politicians in two-party systems more vulnerable to interest group demands than politicians in multiparty systems. Political scientist Lorelei Moosbrugger ranks democracies on a continuum of political vulnerability and tests the thesis by examining agrochemical policy in

Austria, Britain, Germany, Sweden, and the European Union.