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Autore	Howell Chris <1962->
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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- List of Tables -- Acknowledgments -- List of Acronyms -- Part One: Introduction -- Chapter One. A Theory of Labor Regulation -- Part Two: The Rise and Decline of Fordist Labor Regulation -- Chapter Two. Exclusionary Labor Regulation, 1945-58 -- Chapter Three, Labor Regulation in Crisis, 1958-69 -- Chapter Four. The New Society and Its Enemies, 1969-74 -- Chapter Five. Labor Regulation in Transition, 1974-81 -- Part Three. Socialist Labor Regulation -- Chapter Six. Desperately Seeking Socialism -- Chapter Seven. The Two Logics of the Auroux Laws -- Chapter Eight. The Search for Flexibility -- Part Four: Conclusion -- Chapter Nine. The Future of Labor Regulation -- Notes -- Selected Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	In May and June of 1968 a dramatic wave of strikes paralyzed France, making industrial relations reform a key item on the government agenda. French trade unions seemed due for a golden age of growth and importance. Today, however, trade unions are weaker in France than in any other advanced capitalist country. How did such exceptional

militancy give way to equally remarkable quiescence? To answer this question, Chris Howell examines the reform projects of successive French governments toward trade unions and industrial relations during the postwar era, focusing in particular on the efforts of post-1968 conservative and socialist governments. Howell explains the genesis and fate of these reform efforts by analyzing constraints imposed on the French state by changing economic circumstances and by the organizational weakness of labor. His approach, which links economic, political, and institutional analysis, is broadly that of Regulation Theory. His explicitly comparative goal is to develop a framework for understanding the challenges facing labor movements throughout the advanced capitalist world in light of the exhaustion of the postwar pattern of economic growth, the weakening of the nation-state as an economic actor, and accelerating economic integration, particularly in Europe.

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