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Nota di contenuto	Introduction : homogeneity and diversity in Europe -- ; 1. The structuring of political space -- ; 2. Data, indices, method -- ; 3. Time and space : evidence from the historical comparison -- ; 4. Types of territorial configurations : national variations -- ; 5. The comparative study of cleavages and party families -- ; 6. The dynamic perspective : state formation and mass democratization -- ; 7. The comparative perspective : nation-building and cultural heterogeneity -- Conclusion : from territorial to functional politics.
Sommario/riassunto	In an in-depth comparative and long-term analysis, first published in 2004, Daniele Caramani studies the macro-historical process of the nationalization of politics. Using a great wealth of data on single constituencies in seventeen West European countries, he reconstructs the territorial structures of electoral support for political parties, as well

as their evolution since the mid-nineteenth century from highly fragmented politics in the early stages toward nation-wide alignments. Caramani provides a multi-pronged empirical analysis through time, across countries, and between party families. The inclusion in the analysis of all the most important social and political cleavages - class, state-church, rural-urban, ethno-linguistic and religious - allows him to assess the nationalizing impact of the class cleavage that emerged from national and industrial revolutions, and the resistance of preindustrial cultural factors to national integration. Institutional and socio-economic factors are combined with actor-centered patterns and differences between national types of territorial configurations of the vote.
