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importance of French regions; Corsica: a new special status for the Ile de Beaute; The DOM-TOMs: les confettis de l'empire; The Fifth Estate in France: the French media; Conclusion; Chapter 4 Political forces and representation; Political parties; The 2002 presidential and legislative elections; Jacques Chirac: a controversial political survivor; Organised interests; New social movements; Another May '68?; Representation issues: fewer white males please ...; Conclusion; Chapter 5 Citizenship, nationalism and national identity

The complexities of French nationalism: nationalisme ouvert and nationalisme ferme?'Republican nationalism'; 'Nationalism of the right'; The Union sacree and the merger of the two nationalisms; Revolution nationale, resistance and de Gaulle's nationalism; Citizenship, nationality and multiculturalism; Immigration; 'Integration' of immigrants; Chapter 6 Intellectual life; The emergence and roles of the intellectuels; 1945-68: the intellectuel engage and the compagnon de route; The dominance of Marxism, existencialo-Marxism and Sovietophilia; The new fad: tiersmondisme; Dissenting voices New challenges: Foucault and the 'specific intellectual'Bourdieu: l'intellectuel dominant?; Les annees Debat and the declaration of war on Sartre's conception of the intellectual; Mediocratie and the intellectuel mediatique; The institutional and geographical framework of intellectual life: revues, ecoles, publishing and the Parisian Rive Gauche; Chapter 7 Education, youth and popular culture; The French education system; Catholic schools: the lingering private/public divide; Universities; Grandes ecoles: la creme de la creme; What are the social attitudes of French youth today? Recent developments in French pop culture

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## Sommario/riassunto

At least since the French Revolution, France has the peculiar distinction of simultaneously fascinating, charming and exasperating its neighbours and foreign observers. Contemporary France provides an essential introduction for students of French politics and society, exploring contemporary developments while placing them in a deeper historical, intellectual, cultural and social context that makes for insightful analysis. Thus, chapters on France's economic policy and welfare state, its foreign and European policies and its political movements and recent institutional developments are informed

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