Record Nr. UNINA9910810843203321 Imperfect democracies: the democratic deficit in Canada and the **Titolo** United States / / edited by Patti Tamara Lenard and Richard Simeon Pubbl/distr/stampa Vancouver, : UBC Press, c2012 **ISBN** 1-283-71434-5 0-7748-2378-X Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (361 p.) Altri autori (Persone) LenardPatti Tamara <1975-> SimeonRichard Disciplina 320.97109 Soggetti **Democracy - United States** Democracy - Canada Canada Politics and government 21st century United States Politics and government 21st century Canada Politique et gouvernement 21e siecle Etats-Unis Politique et gouvernement 21e siecle Canada **United States** Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Introduction / Patti Tamara Lenard and Richard Simeon -- 1 The Democratic Deficit: Canada and the United States in Comparative Perspective / Pippa Norris -- 2 Citizen Expectations and Democratic Performance: The Sources and Consequences of Democratic Deficits from the Bottom Up / Neil Nevitte and Stephen White -- 3 Defining and Identifying a Democratic Deficit / David Beetham -- 4 Democracy in American Elections / Michael Mc Donald -- 5 Can Canada's Past Electoral Reforms Help Us to Understand the Debate over Its Method of Election? / John C. Courtney -- 6 Regulating Political Finance in Canada: Contributions to Democracy? / Lisa Young -- 7 Campaign Finance Reform in the United States / Robert G. Boatright -- 8

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Canada and the United States are consistently ranked among the most democratic countries in the world, yet voices expressing concern about the quality of these democracies are becoming louder and more insistent. Critics maintain that the two countries suffer from a "democratic deficit," a deficit that raises profound questions about the legitimacy and effectiveness of their democratic institutions. Imperfect Democracies brings together Canadian and American scholars to compare and contrast the democratic deficit in the two nations. Blending normative theory and empirical analysis, they focus on three key questions: Why talk about a democratic deficit? In what ways are Canadian and American democracies falling short? What can be done to remedy the deficit? An important contribution to the field of democratic theory and the study of democratic institutions, this timely book will spark debate on both sides of the border.