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Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (783 p.)
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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	<p>""Contents""; ""List of Figures""; ""List of Tables""; ""List of Contributors""; ""I. INTRODUCTION AND THEORY""; ""1. Parliamentary Democracy: Promise and Problems""; ""2. Delegation and its Perils""; ""3. Parliamentary Democracy and Delegation""; ""II. SURVEY""; ""4. Democratic Delegation and Accountability: Cross-national Patterns""; ""5. Austria: Imperfect Parliamentarism but Fully-fledged Party Democracy""; ""6. Belgium: Delegation and Accountability under Partitocratic Rule""; ""7. Denmark: Delegation and Accountability in Minority Situations""</p> <p>""8. Finland: Polarized Pluralism in the Shadow of a Strong President""</p> <p>9. France: Delegation and Accountability in the Fifth Republic""; ""10. Germany: Multiple Veto Points, Informal Coordination, and Problems of Hidden Action""; ""11. Greece: a€?Rationalizinga€? Constitutional Powers in a Post-dictatorial Country""; ""12. Iceland: A Parliamentary Democracy with a Semi-presidential Constitution""; ""13. Ireland: a€?O What a Tangled Web. . .a€?a€?Delegation, Accountability, and Executive Power""; ""14. Italy: Delegation and Accountability in a Changing Parliamentary Democracy""</p> <p>""15. Luxembourg: A Case of More a€?Directa€? Delegation and Accountability""</p> <p>""16. The Netherlands: Rules and Mores in Delegation and Accountability Relationships""; ""17. Norway: Virtual Parliamentarism""; ""18. Portugal: Changing Patterns of Delegation and Accountability under the Presidenta€?s Watchful Eyes""; ""19. Spain: Delegation and Accountability in a Newly Established Democracy""; ""20. Sweden: From Separation of Power to Parliamentary Supremacya€? and Back Again?""; ""21. The United Kingdom: Still a Single a€?Chain of Commanda€?? The Hollowing Out of the a€?Westminster Modela€?""</p> <p>""III. ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION""</p> <p>""22. Dimensions of Citizen Control""; ""23. Challenges to Parliamentary Democracy""; ""Index""; ""A""; ""B""; ""C""; ""D""; ""E""; ""F""; ""G""; ""H""; ""I""; ""J""; ""K""; ""L""; ""M""; ""N""; ""O""; ""P""; ""Q""; ""R""; ""S""; ""T""; ""U""; ""V""; ""W""; ""Z""</p>
Sommario/riassunto	<p>This book argues that representative democracies can be understood as chains of delegation and accountability between citizens and politicians. Under parliamentary democracy, this chain of delegation is simple but also long and indirect. Principal-agent theory helps us to understand the perils of democratic delegation, which include the problems of adverse selection and moral hazard. Citizens in democratic states, therefore, need institutional mechanisms by which they can control their representatives. The most important such control mechanisms are on the one hand political parties and on the other external constraints such as courts, central banks, referendums, and supranational institutions such as those of the European Union. Traditionally, parliamentary democracies have relied heavily on political parties and presidential systems more on external constraints.</p>