

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910967244003321
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Titolo	Understanding American political parties : democratic ideals, political uncertainty and strategic positioning // Jeffrey M. Stonecash
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York : , : Routledge, , 2013
ISBN	1-136-33920-5 1-283-60692-5 9786613919373 1-136-33921-3 0-203-12344-1
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource
Disciplina	324.273
Soggetti	Political parties - United States Democracy - United States
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	1. Democracy and the ideal role of political parties -- 2. Enduring doubts about political parties -- 3. Notions of party and conflict -- 4. Shifting electoral bases -- 5. Conflicting interpretations of change -- 6. The lack of a majority -- 7. Continuing social change and events -- 8. Voters, partisanship and the media -- 9. Enduring uncertainty and troubling behaviors -- 10. Pursuing coalitions and an identity : long-term strategies -- 11. Disparaging the other party : short-term strategies -- 12. Democracy and the continuous campaign.
Sommario/riassunto	How do parties respond to the electorate and craft winning strategies? In the abstract parties are the vehicles to make democracy work, but it is often difficult to see the process working as well as we think it might. Indeed, voters often struggle to see parties as the valuable vehicles of representation that so many academics describe. There is a clear discrepancy between the ideal expressed in many textbooks and the reality that we see playing out in politics. Noted scholar Jeffrey Stonecash gives us a big picture analysis that helps us understand what is happening in contemporary

