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""Contents""; ""Acknowledgments""; ""Introduction: STV as an Embedded Institution / Shaun Bowler and Bernard Grofman""; ""Overview: Preferential Electoral Systems""; ""Through a Glass Darkly: Understanding the World of STV / David M. Farrell and Ian McAllister""; ""The Single Transferable Vote and the Alternative Vote Compared / Ben Reilly and Michael Maley""; ""A Sophisticated Voter Model of Preferential Electoral Systems / Neal G. Jesse""; ""STV in Ireland""; ""The (Relatively) Victorious Incumbent under PR-STV: Legislative Turnover in Ireland and Malta / Michael Gallagher""
""Candidate Centered but Party Wrapped: Campaigning in Ireland under STV / Michael Marsh""
""STV and the Politics of Coalition / Michael Laver""; ""STV in Australia, Malta, and Canada""; ""STV in Australia / Colin A. Hughes""; ""Malta: STV in a Two-Party System / Wolfgang Hirczy de MiA±o and John C. Lane""; ""Learning History's Lessons Anew: The Use of STV in Canadian Municipal Elections / J. Paul Johnston and Miriam Koene""; ""A Comparison of Improved STV Methods / Nicolaus Tideman and Daniel Richardson""
""Conclusion: STV's Place in the Family of Electoral Systems / Shaun Bowler and Bernard Grofman""
""References""; ""Contributors""; ""Index""

Sommario/riassunto

The Single Transferable Vote, or STV, is often seen in very positive terms by electoral reformers, yet relatively little is known about its actual workings beyond one or two specific settings. This book gathers leading experts on STV from around the world to discuss the examples they know best, and represents the first systematic cross-national study of STV. Furthermore, the contributors collectively build an understanding of electoral systems as institutions embedded within a wider social and political context, and begins to explain the gap between analytical models and the actual practice of elections in Australia, Ireland, and Malta. Rather than seeing electoral institutions in purely mechanical terms, the collection of essays in this volume shows that the effects of electoral system may be contingent rather than automatic. On the basis of solid empirical evidence, the volume argues that the same political system can, in fact, have quite different effects under different conditions. Contributors to the volume are Shaun Bowler, David Farrell, Michael Gallagher, Bernard Grofman, Wolfgang Hirczy, Colin Hughes, J. Paul Johnston, Michael Laver, Malcom Mackerras, Michael Maley, Michael Marsh, Ian McAllister, and Ben Reilly. Shaun Bowler is Professor of Political Science, University of California, Riverside. Bernard Grofman is Professor of Political Science, University of California, Irvine.