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Audacious Reforms-Merilee S. Grindle 2000-09-20 Audacious Reforms examines the creation of new political institutions in three Latin American countries: direct elections for governors and mayors in Venezuela, radical municipalization in Bolivia, and direct election of the mayor of Buenos Aires in Argentina. Diverging from the usual incremental processes of political change, these cases marked a significant departure from traditional centralized governments. Such "audacious reforms," explains Merilee S. Grindle, reinvent the ways in which public problems are manifested and resolved, the ways in which political actors calculate the costs and benefits of their activities, and the ways in which social groups relate to the political process. Grindle considers three central questions: Why would rational politicians choose to give up power? What accounts for the selection of some institutions rather than others? And how does the introduction of new institutions alter the nature of political actions? The case studies of Venezuela, Bolivia, and Argentina demonstrate that institutional invention must be understood from theoretical perspectives that stretch beyond immediate concerns about electoral gains and political support building. Broader theoretical perspectives on the definition of nation and state, the nature of political contests, the legitimacy of political systems, and the role of elites all must be considered. While past conflicts are not erased by reforms, in the new order there is often greater potential for more responsible, accountable, and democratic government.

The Theory and Practice of Institutional Transplantation-M. de Jong 2012-12-06 Inevitably, at a panel discussion not too long ago comparing planning cultures the discussion turned on the issue of globalisation. As a member of the panel, this author asked those in the audience who lived and/or worked in a country different from their country of origin to raise their hands. About half of the audience of well over one hundred academic teachers and researchers from all comers of the world, the present author included did so. Next he asked who had a spouse or partner from a country different from their country of origin to also raise their hands. About half of the audience, the present author included, raised their hands. This is the soft side of globalisation. The soft side of globalisation is important. Exchanges, personal mobility, international romances, multi-culturalism and multi-lingualism (inevitably meaning non-native speakers struggling to keep up with native English speakers) are part of the academic scene, so much so that we can hardly imagine it to be otherwise. These are not entirely new phenomena, but they have become ever more prominent, relying on an ever more elaborate institutional infrastructure of exchange programmes, international journals, associations and the global conference industry. It was at the AESOP (Association of European Schools of Planning) congress at Bmo in the Czech Republic in July 2000 that the plan for this book was hatched.

Public Opinion, Democracy, and Market Reform in Africa-Michael Bratton 2005 Publisher Description

Democratic Latin America-Craig Arceneaux 2015-10-30 Drawing on new approaches in comparative politics, Democratic Latin America focuses on analyzing political institutions as a way to assess broader trends in the region's politics, including the rise of democracy. The text looks at the major institutions--executive, legislature, judiciary, military, and more--in 18 democratic countries to not only provide an expansive view of politics in Latin America but to also facilitate cross-national comparison. Democratic Latin America uniquely surveys the "what" of the region's politics as well as the "why" and "how" to help students critically consider Latin America's future.

Challenging the State-Merilee S. Grindle 1996-02-23 This book examines the development of Latin America and Africa in the face of challenging political and economic crises.

Argentina: A City and a Nation-James R. Scobie 2008-11-01

Political and Economic Liberalization-Gerd Nonneman 1996 This volume assesses the surges in the processes of democratisation and economic liberalisation, and the forms they have taken. Diverse country studies are used to advance the reader's understanding of the complexities of these processes.

DRCLAS News- 1999

S.E.L.A.- 2002

British Bulletin of Publications on Latin America, the Caribbean, Portugal, and Spain- 2002

Institutional Development and Transition-Asya El-Meehy 2013 "Have Arab uprisings opened space for deeper, grassroots-driven decentralization reforms in the region? What are the optimum designs, sequencing and models of decentralization for countries in political transition? While political discourse in the region uniformly emphasizes reforming State institutions, decentralization reform agendas have unfolded along contrasting trajectories across Arab transition countries. Both contextual and historical dynamics seem to shape visions for the orientation and pace of decentralization reforms as well as the empirical feasibility of shifting power relations among the various tiers of State administration. Drawing on findings from field research and recent analyses, this study argues that uprisings have created stronger momentum for revisiting the question of decentralization reforms in Libya and Yemen, where the very nature of the State is being redefined, compared to the cases of Egypt and Tunisia, where all stakeholders agree on preserving the unitary State model. In the latter cases, while there is evidence that new advocacy movements focused on reforming local government structures have emerged, they have thus far remained elite-led. Grassroots activism at local community levels has served to empower new actors, who, in some cases, have been successful at extracting concessions from local authorities. These efforts, however, predominantly focus on improving access to public services within the existing context of centralized State structures, and seem often to have failed to gain the trust of local community members as potential partners in local governance. Building on focus group discussions among working-class residents in Greater Cairo and on interviews with Egyptian political elites, the study highlights an emerging critical gap between youth expectations and, on the other hand, the envisioned plans of the political elite. While youth are more likely to demand deeper reforms across all three dimensions of decentralization (administrative, fiscal and political), political elites disagree not only on which particular dimension(s) of reforms should be implemented, but also on the urgency of decentralization during early phases of political transformation. The latter's wide range of views reflect deep concerns over political capture by traditional elites, weakness of political parties as well as potentially detrimental impacts of reforms on State capacity and the nation-State's territorial integrity. The study concludes by drawing lessons from France's successful contract-based record of decentralization and presents policy recommendations for countries that have emerged from the Arab uprisings with relatively strong centralized State structures and cohesive national identities."--Publisher's description.

Political Science Quarterly- 1931 A review devoted to the historical statistical and comparative study of politics, economics and public law.

Sustainable Public Sector Finance in Latin America- 1999

European Review of Latin American and Caribbean Studies- 2005

Crucial Needs, Weak Incentives-Robert R. Kaufman 2004-11-16 Lowden, and Patricia Ramirez.

Philanthropy and Social Change in Latin America-John H. Coatsworth 2005 Latin America is a profoundly philanthropic region with deeply rooted traditions of solidarity with the less fortunate. Recently, different forms of philanthropy are emerging in the region, often involving community organization and social change. This volume brings together groundbreaking perspectives on such diverse themes as corporate philanthropy, immigrant networks, and new grant-making and operating foundations with corporate, family, and community origins.

Electoral Competition and Institutional Change in Mexico-Caroline C. Beer 2003 An exploration of the consequences of democratic politics in Mexico. Focusing on struggles at the subnational level, the author assesses how increased electoral competition alters the long-term distribution of power across political instituions in ways that shift power away from established elites.

Choice's Outstanding Academic Titles, 1998-2002-Rebecca Ann Bartlett 2003

Choice- 2001

Democratic Institutions of Undemocratic Individuals-Peride K. Blind 2009-01-08 After almost three decades of economic adjustment and restructuring, what have been the political consequences of structural reforms? Democratic Institutions of Undemocratic Individuals is a cogent, intriguing and a long-overdue account of the real impact of economic globalization in the developing world. In this essential book, Blind bridges an important gap in the literature attempting to straddle the yawning chasm between those scholars who argue that privatizations are good for democracy and those who maintain that they are not. This book demonstrates the differential impact of privatizations on different sectors of society. It gives a different perspective on the virtues and shortcomings of labor unions in democratization processes, and introduces fascinating comparisons between Kemalist and Peronist templates of nation-building. It yields a judicious process-tracing of Turkish and Argentine labor developments and depicts the groundbreaking interlacing of privatization and democratization in the global era.

Administrative Reform as Credible Commitment-Robert Richard Taliercio 2000

Public Governance: Good governance-Mark Bevir 2007

Decentralisation and Democratic Governance-Axel Hadenius 2003 Decentralization implies the devolution of state authority. Decision-making capacity and resources are transferred from the center to organs at the local level. Such reforms can enhance the quality of democratic governance: the state becomes more effective

International Bibliography of Book Reviews of Scholarly Literature Chiefly in the Fields of Arts and Humanities and the Social Sciences- 2000

Latin American Democracies in the New Global Economy-Ana Margheritis 2003 Analyzes the economic, political, and social dimensions of changes in Latin America toward more open economies and more democratic governance.

Village Elections in China-Qingshan Tan 2006 This book chronicles the evolution and progress of village elections in China, and offers a roadmap as to what could eventually be the beginning of a more extensive liberalization and democratization process. Initiatives to allow greater autonomy to common people led to eventually allowing village elections, which allowed all villages to elect their mayor, or village chief and local council every three years.

Electoral Rules and the Transformation of Bolivian Politics-Betilde Muñoz-Pogossian 2008-09-15 "Electoral rules and the transformation of Bolivian politics: the rise of Evo Morales is the first book-length analysis of the rise in power of the [Bolivian] party Movement Towards Socialism (MAS) and its leader, President Evo Morales, in Bolivia. It examines the variations on electoral arrangements across time in this country, highlighting the most recent electoral reforms, and contends that the political outcomes of recent times in Bolivia are a byproduct of the electoral system. In doing this, the book offers an interesting contribution to the study of the Bolivian electoral system and recent political events in the country, in particular, and Latin American politics, in general." -- Book cover.

Michigan Journal of International Law- 2007

Contemporary Southeast Asia- 2003

Texas International Law Journal- 2006

Decentralizing Governance-G. Shabbir Cheema 2007 "Assesses the emerging concepts of decentralization (devolution, empowerment, capacity building, and democratic governance) in different contexts and regions. Details the factors driving the movement, including political changes such as the fall of the Iron Curtain and the ascendance of democracy; economic factors such as globalization and outsourcing; and technological advances"--Provided by publisher.

Exclusion and Engagement-University of London. Institute of Latin American Studies 2002 This collection offers a reappraisal of social policy in response to the scale of the challenges confronting Latin America. Divided into four sections--Concepts, Models and Practice; Health and Social Security; Education; and Household and Community--the book explores the functions of social policy and the prospects of it's performing a new and more dynamic role. The authors place contemporary social policy in historical perspective, study the connection between growth and welfare, and consider the efficacy of the state in the social sphere from both macro and micro perspectives. Underpinning the collection are issues relating to the question of the social contract between state and citizen and how the exercise of citizenship connects society and state.

Reinventing Leviathan-Ben Ross Schneider 2003 Scholars and development practitioners agree that developing countries urgently need cohesive administrative reforms to consolidate new market economies, promote sustainable development, and improve social welfare. Reinventing Leviathan provides extensive comparative research on the political processes that facilitate or block efforts designed to improve administrative performance. Studies of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Hungary, Mexico, and Thailand highlight distinctive patterns of reform, tracing the process from the prereform position of the bureaucracy to the design of reform packages and the contentious politics of implementation. The authors use a common framework to assess the relative importance of political institutions, international influences, social groups, and reform strategies. They relate their core findings both to practical policy debates and to broader theoretical discussions in the social sciences.

ReVista- 2001

Malapportionment, Mal Ambiente-Justin Pearlman 2005

Changing paths-Peter P. Houtzager 2003 Explores how the world's disadvantaged may be enabled to claim a greater share of material wealth

Decentralization and Democracy in Latin America-Alfred P. Montero 2004 The nine essays in this collection represent the first book-length treatment of one of the major changes that have shaped Latin America since independence: decentralization of the state. Contributors argue that though the assignment of political, fiscal, and administrative duties to subnational governments has been one of the most important political developments in Latin America, it is also one of the most overlooked. This volume is divided into three sections. Part one presents an overview of the topic by the editors; part two considers the political origins of decentralization; and part three examines decentralization and economic reforms. Decentralization and Democracy in Latin America explores the causes of decentralization in six significant case studies: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, and Venezuela. Shorter analyses of Uruguay and Peru are also included. The essays in this volume find substantial common ground across regime types, historical periods, and countries, and yield several substantive conclusions. First, historical-institutional and socioeconomic legacies matter. Second, democratization and neoliberal reform are neither necessary nor sufficient to explain

Political Change in China-Bruce Gilley 2008 How might China become a democracy? And what lessons, if any, might Taiwan's experience of democratization hold for China's future? The authors of this volume consider these questions, both through comparisons of Taiwan's historical experience with the current period of economic and social change in the PRC, and through more focused analysis of China's current, and possible future, politics.

A Theoretical Examination of Political Values and Attitudes in New and Old Democracies-Matthew T. Kenney 2003 This work examines the interplay between political values and the health and stability of liberal democracies. It examines a set of core political values by drawing on the insights and arguments of leading political theorists past and present.

Between Tyranny and Anarchy-Paul Drake 2009-02-27 Between Tyranny and Anarchy provides a unique comprehensive history and interpretation of efforts to establish democracies over two centuries in the major Latin American countries. Drake takes an unusual interdisciplinary approach, combining history and political science with an emphasis on political institutions. He argues that, without a thorough examination of the historical roots and causes of Latin American democracy, most general theories can not adequately explain its failures, successes, and forms. Latin America offers an extraordinary laboratory for the study of democratic experiments. Alongside a well-deserved reputation for authoritarianism, it boasts one of the world's deepest, richest histories of democratic movements, ideas, and institutions. Contrary to conventional wisdom, the region's leading democracies did not lag very far behind the United States and Western Europe in making numerous advances. In comparison with those countries, though, Latin America's democratic history has been distinctive because of its fundamental dilemma: how to reconcile political systems theoretically committed to legal equality with societies divided by extreme socio-economic inequalities.

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