

ECMI Library Acquisitions

Complete List August 2014

Benedikter, Thomas (ed.), *Solving Ethnic Conflict through Self-Government. A Short Guide to Autonomy in Europe and South Asia*. Bolzano/Bozen: EURAC Research, 2009, 140 pp.

341.26

Autonomy, in the framework of a modern democratic state, was first established in 1921 in Finland's Aland Islands. Later such concepts of power sharing have been implemented in all continents, and, in 2009, operate in at least 60 regions in 20 states. Particularly after World War II, the idea of autonomy for the protection of ethnic or national minorities and the resolution of self-determination conflicts became a political reality in various European states as well as in India. In most cases, regional autonomy provided the legal-political framework for the "internal self-determination" of a smaller or indigenous people or of an ethnic minority, preserving a specific ethnic-cultural identity while maintaining the sovereignty of the state in which they live. Not only could autonomy bring about peace and stability in conflict-ridden societies, but it could also enhance new partnerships between the central state and the regional community. In the framework of the EURASIA-Network, an EU-funded exchange program of seven South Asian and European university departments, research institutes, and human rights institutions, the European Academy of Bolzano/Bozen (EURAC) has chosen the issue of regional autonomy for sharing experiences and insights highlighting its significance for the protection of human and minority rights and the resolution of ethnic conflicts. The publication, collecting twenty short essays by fifteen authors from both areas, should provide an overview of some of the most relevant cases of autonomy in Europe and South Asia. It aims to shed light on current developments in autonomous regions, as well as to explore the likelihood of implementing autonomy in societies still affected by ethnic conflict. The Editor's wish is to enhance a common critical discourse about autonomy and its potential to combine minority rights protection and self-government in South Asia and Europe.

Bieber, Florian, *Post-War Bosnia. Ethnicity, Inequality and Public Sector Governance*. Basingstoke and New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2005, 181 pp.

949.703

Even after more than ten years after the end of the war, Bosnian ethnicity continues to matter and the country remains dependent on international intervention. At the same time, the country is making strides to catch up with the European Integration process. The Dayton Peace Accord, signed in 1995, successfully ended the war, but froze the ethnic conflict in one of the most complex systems of government in the world. The book provides an in-depth analysis of governance in this divided post-war country, discussing power sharing, the return of refugees, electoral systems and international efforts at reforming the system of government. Bosnia has been the first of a number of international interventions in ethnically divided societies, from East Timor and Kosovo, to Afghanistan and Iraq, and can thus provide

important lessons.

Commercio, Michele E., *Russian Minority Politics in Post-Soviet Latvia and Kyrgyzstan. The Transformative Power of Informal Networks*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2010, 248 pp.

947

The collapse of the Soviet Union suddenly rendered ethnic Russians living in non-Russian successor states like Latvia and Kyrgyzstan new minorities subject to dramatic political, economic, and social upheaval. As elites in these new states implemented formal policies and condoned informal practices that privileged non-Russians, ethnic Russians had to react. In *Russian Minority Politics in Post-Soviet Latvia and Kyrgyzstan*, Michele E. Commercio draws on extensive field research, including hundreds of personal interviews, to analyze the responses of minority Russians to such policies and practices. In particular, she focuses on the role played by formal and informal institutions in the crystallization of Russian attitudes, preferences, and behaviors in these states. Commercio asks why there is more out-migration and less political mobilization among Russians in Kyrgyzstan, a state that adopts policies that placate both Kyrgyz and Russians, and less out-migration and more political mobilization among Russians in Latvia, a state that adopts policies that favor Latvians at the expense of Russians. Challenging current thinking, she suggests that the answer to this question lies in the power of informal networks. After the fall of the Soviet Union, the Communist party, Komsomol youth organization, and KGB networks were transformed into informal networks. Russians in Kyrgyzstan were for various reasons isolated from such networks, and this isolation restricted their access to the country's private sector, making it difficult for them to create effective associations capable of representing their interests. This resulted in a high level of Russian exit and the silencing of Russian voices. In contrast, Russians in Latvia were well connected to such networks, which provided them with access to the country's private sector and facilitated the establishment of political parties and nongovernmental organizations that represented their interests. This led to a low level of Russian exit and high level of Russian voice. Commercio concludes that informal networks have a stronger influence on minority politics than formal institutions.

Grant, Shelagh D., *Polar Imperative. A History of Arctic Sovereignty in North America*. Vancouver, Toronto, and Berkeley: Douglas & McIntyre Publishers, 2010, 540 pp.

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The definitive history of sovereignty in the North American Arctic, by the foremost expert in the field. Based on Shelagh Grant's groundbreaking archival research and drawing on her reputation as a leading historian in the field, *Polar Imperative* is a compelling overview of the

historical claims of sovereignty over this continent's polar regions. This engaging, timely history examines: the unfolding implications of major climate changes; the impact of resource exploitation on the indigenous peoples; the current high-stakes game for control over the adjacent waters of Alaska, Arctic Canada and Greenland; the events, issues and strategies that have influenced claims to authority over the lands and waters of the North American Arctic, from the arrival of the first inhabitants around 3,000 BC to the present; sovereignty from a comparative point of view within North America and parallel situations in the European and Asian Arctic. Told from a Canadian perspective, this book will become a standard reference on Arctic history and will redefine North Americans' understanding of the sovereign rights and responsibilities of Canada's northernmost region.

Griffin, Roger, *Terrorist's Creed. Fanatical Violence and the Human Need for Meaning.* Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012, 270 pp.

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In the tsunami of publications on terrorism which followed 9/11, few have probed effectively into the deeper layers of motivation that enable normal human beings to carry out such unimaginable acts. *Terrorist's Creed* casts a penetrating beam of empathetic understanding into the disturbing and murky psychological world of fanatical violence, explaining how the fanaticism it demands stems from the profoundly human need to imbue existence with meaning and transcendence. Drawing on sociology, psychology, novels and films, it shows how the need to defend or create a territorial or purely cultural 'home' in an unforgiving universe can precipitate a process of 'heroic doubling' which in extreme circumstances legitimates murder and suicide for the sake of a 'higher' cause.

Lewis, Ann (ed.), *The EU & Ukraine. Neighbours, Friends, Partners?* London: The Federal Trust, 2002, 318 pp.

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Ukraine is the second largest country in Europe, and has a population of some 50 million. It occupies a strategic position between Central Europe and Russia, sits astride the major energy routes into Western Europe, and is an important channel for westward migration. Following enlargement Ukraine will be on the EU's new frontier. The book looks at various aspects of Ukraine's internal development of relevance to its European aspirations, and at specific issues in EU/Ukraine relations. It examines the topics a wide variety of perspectives, with contributions from the policy-makers and analysts, professionals and practitioners, from Ukraine, the EU and beyond. It presents a kaleidoscopic picture, but one that is at once illuminating and thought-provoking.

Note: Includes "Between a (Russian) rock and a (Crimean Tatar) hard place? Ethnic, linguistic and minority issues", by Bill Bowring, and "The EU Common Strategy on Ukraine :

a response to Ukraine's 'pro-European choice?'", by Gwendolyn Sasse.

Motyl, Alexander (ed.), *Encyclopedia of Nationalism. Fundamental Themes. Volume 1.* San Diego, San Francisco and New York: Academic Press, 2001, 924 pp.

REF.

030

Nationalism has unexpectedly become a leading local and international force since the end of the Cold War. Long predicted to give way to pan-national or economic organizations, nationalism exerts its tremendous force on all continents and in a wide variety of ways. The *Encyclopedia of Nationalism* captures the aims and scope of this force through a wide-ranging examination of concepts, figures, movements, and events. It is the only encyclopedic study of nationalism available today. The key features include an International Editorial Board; the articles begin with short glossaries and conclude with short bibliographies of titles essential for further reading.

Patten, Alan, *Equal Recognition. The Moral Foundations of Minority Rights.* Princeton and Oxford: Princeton University Press, 2014, 327 pp.

341.4'81

Conflicting claims about culture are a familiar refrain of political life in the contemporary world. On one side, majorities seek to fashion the state in their own image, while on the other, cultural minorities press for greater recognition and accommodation. Theories of liberal democracy are at odds about the merits of these competing claims. Multicultural liberals hold that particular minority rights are a requirement of justice conceived of in a broadly liberal fashion. Critics, in turn, have questioned the motivations, coherence, and normative validity of such defenses of multiculturalism. In *Equal Recognition*, Alan Patten reasserts the case in favor of liberal multiculturalism by developing a new ethical defense of minority rights. Patten seeks to restate the case for liberal multiculturalism in a form that is responsive to the major concerns of critics. He describes a new, nonessentialist account of culture, and he rehabilitates and reconceptualizes the idea of liberal neutrality and uses this idea to develop a distinctive normative argument for minority rights. The book elaborates and applies its core theoretical framework by exploring several important contexts in which minority rights have been considered, including debates about language rights, secession, and immigrant integration. Demonstrating that traditional, nonmulticultural versions of liberalism are unsatisfactory, *Equal Recognition* will engage readers interested in connections among liberal democracy, nationalism, and current multicultural issues.

Skaale, Sjørður (ed.), *The Right To National Self-Determination. The Faroe Islands and Greenland.* Leiden and Boston: Martinus Nijhoff Publishers, 2004, 208 pp.

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What are the Faroese and the Greenlanders? Are they peoples in their own right, indigenous peoples or Danish minorities? And what is their status under international law? Do they have the right to national self-determination? And if so, what does this right include? This volume describes the constitutional history of the Faroes and Greenland, it analyses the current international status of the two countries and compares it to countries in similar situations, and looks at how Denmark has administered the sovereignty of its dependencies. It thus sheds new light on a constitutional arrangement that by some is described as, democratic, creative and imaginative, and by others is deemed colonial. But the book also deals with the status of non-sovereign polities and the right to self-determination in general, as well as with the current attitude of the UN towards such matters. It thus offers insights which can be of value for other countries, struggling with the issue, as well as scholars working in this field.

Skutch, Carl (ed.), *Encyclopedia of the World's Minorities. Volume 1, A-F*. London and New York: Routledge, 2005, 476 pp.

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This study of minorities involves the difficult issues of rights, justice, equality, dignity, identity, autonomy, political liberties, and cultural freedoms. The A-Z Encyclopedia presents the facts, arguments, and areas of contention in over 560 entries in a clear, objective manner.

Skutch, Carl (ed.), *Encyclopedia of the World's Minorities. Volume 2, G-O*. London and New York: Routledge, 2005, 938 pp.

REF.
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This study of minorities involves the difficult issues of rights, justice, equality, dignity, identity, autonomy, political liberties, and cultural freedoms. The A-Z Encyclopedia presents the facts, arguments, and areas of contention in over 560 entries in a clear, objective manner.

Skutch, Carl (ed.), *Encyclopedia of the World's Minorities. Volume 3, P-Z, Index*. London and New York: Routledge, 2005, 1413 pp.

REF.
030

This study of minorities involves the difficult issues of rights, justice, equality, dignity, identity, autonomy, political liberties, and cultural freedoms. The A-Z Encyclopedia presents the facts, arguments, and areas of contention in over 560 entries in a clear, objective manner.

Topidi, Kyriaki, and Alexander H.E. Morawa (eds.), *Constitutional Evolution in Central and Eastern Europe. Expansion and Integration in the EU*. Surrey: Ashgate, 2011, 279 pp.

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This book examines EU enlargement by studying how domestic constitutional evolution in the new member states contributes to European integration. In contrast to the usual top-down analytical pattern, it reverses the paradigm by looking at constitutional developments and dynamics from the bottom-up, studying how domestic constitutional evolution contributes to European integration. The authors analyze constitutional trends from the perspective of 'new Member States' as policy-makers and not strictly as policy-takers. The issue of conditionality is also explored in a discussion of the extent to which pre-2004 and 2007 conditionality has had lasting effects at the level of constitutionalization of different areas and norms and if so, of what kind. The exploration of Europeanization effects in recent Member States substantiates and demonstrates how enlargement has been an important driving-force for the effective export of EU legal rules in this region. The book utilizes a comparative approach to highlight the merits and obstacles created by the growing diversity in the constitutional rules and patterns of the new Member States. It also contains a section that places the CEE constitutionalizing map in a broader comparative European and global context, establishing links with similar transitional regimes in the continent and elsewhere.

van Dijk, Teun A., *Elite Discourse and Racism*. Newbury Park, London, and New Delhi: Sage Publications, 1993, 320 pp.

341.26

This volume takes a critical approach to the study of prejudice and discrimination by focusing on the role of elites in the reproduction of racism. Van Dijk's main thesis is that racism in North America and Europe is primarily 'top down' and preformulated by the elites, and is not only - as the elites would have it - a 'popular' phenomenon. The book opens with a wide-ranging study of the ways parliamentarians in the Netherlands, Germany, France, the UK and the USA debate immigration, refugees and civil rights, subtly contributing to the negative image of minorities. It goes on to examine how managers of international corporations talk about affirmative action and minority employment. A chapter on racism in social science textbooks focuses on the educational representation of minorities, and is followed by an analysis of academic sociology introductions used in the UK and the USA. The influence of these political, corporate, educational and academic elites, their text and talk, is finally studied in relation to the fundamental role of the press in the reproduction of racism.