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REINVENTING GOVERNMENT IN ICELAND

A CASE STUDY
OF PUBLIC
MANAGEMENT
REFORM

Reinventing Government In Iceland

Petr Kopecký, Peter Mair, Maria Spirova

Reinventing Government In Iceland:

Reinventing Government in Iceland Ómar Hlynur Kristmundsson, 2003 The book describes a case study of governmental reform in Iceland during the period 1993-2000. Public management reform has become a political priority in Iceland as elsewhere in the world in the last two decades as a response to economic and administrative problems during this time. It has also been a reaction to ideas which have come in vogue for both diagnosing the problems of government and providing solutions. The problems identified involve the growing cost of the public sector and an inefficient and unresponsive bureaucracy. The solutions offered focus on ensuring efficiency, effectiveness and flexibility by transferring government activities to the competitive marketplace through privatization or by adopting a market mechanism within government. The literature has identified both theoretical flaws and potential limitations in the application of current governmental reform. The literature however does not provide voluminous empirical data on its effects. The book includes data on the significance of public management for the central government in Iceland and illustrates how various situational factors such as administrative characteristics, reform management capacity and experiential learning efforts have contributed to the reform outcome.

The A to Z of Iceland Gudmundur Halfdanarson, 2010-05-10 While Iceland is the second largest inhabited island in Europe with only 313 000 inhabitants in 2007, the Icelanders form one of the smallest independent nations in the world. Around two thirds of the population lives in the capital Reykjavík and its suburbs while the rest is spread around the inhabitable area of the country. Until fairly recently the Icelandic nation was unusually homogeneous both in cultural and religious terms. In 1981 around 98 percent of the nation was born in Iceland and 96 percent belonged to the Lutheran state church or other Lutheran religious sects. In 2007 these numbers were down to 89 and 86 percent respectively, reflecting the rapidly growing multicultural nature of Icelandic society. *The A to Z of Iceland* traces Iceland's history and provides a compass for the direction the country is heading. This is done through its chronology, introductory essays, appendixes, map, bibliography and hundreds of cross-referenced dictionary entries on important persons, places, events and institutions and significant political, economic, social and cultural aspects.

Historical Dictionary of Iceland Sverrir Jakobsson, Gudmundur Halfdanarson, 2016-02-15 Iceland demonstrates most of the characteristics of a modern liberal democracy. It has maintained political stability through a democratic process which enjoys universal legitimacy. Rapid economic modernization has also secured its inhabitants one of the highest living standards in the world and a comprehensive and highly developed health system has ensured them longevity and one of the lowest rates of infant mortality in the world. Icelanders face however formidable challenges in maintaining their status as an independent nation. First the Icelandic economy is fairly fragile as overexploitation threatens the fish stocks that remain among Iceland's principal economic resources. Second the country is rich in unused energy resources because many of its rivers are still not harnessed and geothermal power is abundant. But using these resources will necessarily damage the pristine nature of the country, forcing the politicians and the Icelandic

public to choose between environmental protection and industrial expansion Finally it remains to be seen if a country with just over 329 740 inhabitants will be able to manage its foreign relations in a complex and constantly changing world This third edition of Historical Dictionary of Iceland contains a chronology an introduction and an extensive bibliography The dictionary section has over 200 cross referenced entries on important personalities politics economy foreign relations religion and culture This book is an excellent access point for students researchers and anyone wanting to know more about Iceland

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International Encyclopedia of Social Policy Tony Fitzpatrick, Huck-ju Kwon, Nick Manning, James Midgley, Gillian Pascall, 2013-07-04 Available in paperback for the first time this milestone work offers an in depth treatment of all aspects of the discipline and practice of social policy globally Supported by a distinguished international advisory board the editors have compiled almost 900 000 words across 734 entries written by 284 leading specialists to provide authoritative coverage of concepts policy actors welfare institutions and services along a series of national regional and transnational dimensions Also included are biographical entries on major policy makers and shapers The editors have particularly striven to provide strong coverage of differing geographical and cultural traditions so that the variety of social policy as both an academic discipline and a domain of governance is reflected Contributors draw in and make the necessary connections with social policy's associated disciplines to provide a rich picture of this vast and highly diverse field Comprehensive and authoritative the Encyclopedia has sought to open up rather than to foreclose the numerous areas in which there is on going research debate and sometimes serious disagreement and divergence in theory and practice To this end entries attempt to introduce a core or common ground of understanding before moving on to a wider discussion of debates regarding different conceptual and geographical approaches The whole is integrated by cross referencing and each entry includes a bibliography for further reading There is a full index The International Encyclopedia of Social Policy provides the most substantial mapping of the international study and practice of social policy to date and will stand as a vital storehouse of knowledge for many years to come

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Nordic debate in to a stimulating European context How far are the Nordic welfare traditions still of significance since all welfare states are similarly challenged by the global market economy Can welfare organisations provide opportunities even for the most vulnerable groups to achieve full citizenship

Party Patronage and Party Government in European Democracies Petr Kopecký, Peter Mair, Maria Spirova, 2012-07-26 Party Patronage and Party Government in European Democracies brings together insights from the worlds of party politics and public administration in order to analyze the role of political parties in public appointments across contemporary Europe Based on an extensive new data gathered through expert interviews in fifteen European countries this book offers the first systematic comparative assessment of the scale of party patronage and its role in sustaining modern party governments Among the key findings are First patronage appointments tend to be increasingly dominated by the party in public office rather than being used or controlled by the party organization outside parliament Second rather than using appointments as rewards as used to be the case in more clientelistic systems in the past parties are now more likely to emphasize appointments that can help them to manage the infrastructure of government and the state In this way patronage becomes an organizational rather than an electoral resource Third patronage appointments are increasingly sourced from channels outside of the party thus helping to make parties look increasingly like network organizations primarily constituted by their leaders and their personal and political hinterlands Comparative Politics is a series for students teachers and researchers of political science that deals with contemporary government and politics Global in scope books in the series are characterised by a stress on comparative analysis and strong methodological rigour The series is published in association with the European Consortium for Political Research For more information visit www.essex.ac.uk/ecpr The Comparative Politics series is edited by Professor David M Farrell School of Politics and International Relations University College Dublin Kenneth Carty Professor of Political Science University of British Columbia and Professor Dirk Berg Schlosser Institute of Political Science Philipps University Marburg

Phallological Museum Sigurjón Baldur Hafsteinsson, 2014 In an age of various kinds of surgical and imaginary penis augmentations the Icelandic Phallological Museum has appeared on the world stage as a tour de force of global castration and local creativity In this timely book Professor Sigurjon Baldur Hafsteinsson portrays some of the aesthetic political moral social and cultural significance of the unique and internationally famous Icelandic Phallological Museum The book shows that the museum both ridicules and undermines traditions in Western cultures when it comes to the nature of histories scholarly fields and cultural institutions simultaneously offering an alternative in knowledge production and cultural representation by focusing on and displaying the highly sensitive subject of penises Series Museums Past and Present Museen Geschichte und Gegenwart Vol 7 *Political Handbook of the World 2020-2021* Tom Lansford, 2021-05-31 The Political Handbook of the World by Tom Lansford provides timely thorough and accurate political information with more in depth coverage of current political controversies than any other reference guide The updated 2020 2021 edition will continue to be the most

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