

Reforming Parliamentary Committees

Israel in Comparative Perspective

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Reforming Parliamentary Committees Israel In Comparative Perspective

Thomas Poguntke, Paul Webb



Reforming Parliamentary Committees Israel In Comparative Perspective:

Reforming Parliamentary Committees Reuven Y. Hazan, 2001 Here Reuven Y Hazan argues that committees are essential for the efficient dispatch of parliamentary business and shows how several parliaments have recently reformed their committee systems to function more effectively In particular he gives an in depth knowledge and a broader understanding of Israel s committees and how they compare with the committees of other legislatures throughout the world

Parliamentary Committees in the Policy Process Sven T. Siefken, Hilmar Rommetvedt, 2021-08-19 This book sheds new light on the often shadowy but essential role of committees which exist in modern parliaments around the globe and it questions the conventional notion that the real work of parliament happens in committees Renowned country specialists take a close look at what goes on in committees and how it matters for policy making While committees are seen as the central place where policy is made they often hold their sessions closed to the public and calls for transparency are growing To understand this black box it is necessary to look within but also beyond the walls of the committee rooms and parliament buildings Bringing together formal and informal aspects rules and practices shows that committees are not a paradise of policy making They have great relevance nonetheless as crystallization points in the policy networks as drivers for division of labor and for socialization and the integration of MPs The new insights presented in this book will be of interest to scholars students and professionals in parliamentary affairs legislative studies government and comparative politics They are also relevant for political analysts journalists and policymakers

Parliamentary Committees in a Party-Centred Context Tim Alexander Mickler, 2022-03-15 This book examines the working procedures of parliamentary party groups within specialised committees the backstage but primary means for MPs to influence policy It explains which MPs specialise in particular policy areas how they make policy choices in committees and subsequently how these individual decisions are aggregated and unified within and via parliamentary party groups In doing so the book expertly reveals the internal working procedures of parliaments and the role of individual MPs vis vis the parliamentary party group leadership Based on an analysis of more than 3 000 committee assignments and over 100 in depth interviews with MPs it shows that individual experts in committees have a central role and decision making power which is more varied and decentralised from the leadership than commonly assumed It demonstrates that most policy decisions are prepared bottom up rather than dictated top down and that parliamentary party groups are not strictly hierarchical organisations dominated by elites This book will be of key interest to scholars and students of legislative and parliamentary studies representative democracy comparative politics and journalists and practitioners within parliaments

Israeli Identity David Tal, 2013-07-18 For many years before and after the establishment of the state of Israel the belief that Israel is a western state remained unchallenged This belief was founded on the predominantly western composition of the pre statehood Jewish community known as the Yishuv The relatively homogenous membership of Israeli Jewish society as it then existed was soon altered with the arrival of hundreds of

thousands of Jewish immigrants from Middle Eastern countries during the early years of statehood Seeking to retain the western character of the Jewish state the Israeli government initiated a massive acculturation project aimed at westernizing the newcomers More recently scholars and intellectuals began to question the validity and logic of that campaign With the emergence of new forms of identity or identities two central questions emerged to what extent can we accept the ways in which people define themselves And on a more fundamental level what weight should we give to the ways in which people define themselves This book suggests ways of tackling these questions and provides varying perspectives on identity put forward by scholars interested in the changing nature of Israeli identity Their observations and conclusions are not exclusive but inclusive suggesting that there cannot be one single Israeli identity but several Tackling the issue of identity this multidisciplinary approach is an important contribution to existing literature and will be invaluable for scholars and students interested in cultural studies Israel and the wider Middle East

"The War on Terror" and the Growth of Executive Power?" John E. Owens, Riccardo Pelizzo, 2010-06-21 This book examines whether the strong emphasis now placed on terrorism and the global war on terror in national politics has led to significant accretions of executive power at the expense of the legislature and features case studies on Australia Indonesia Israel Italy Russia and the UK

The Oxford Handbook of Israeli Politics and Society Reuven Y. Hazan, Alan Dowty, Menachem Hofnung, Gideon Rahat, 2021 Few countries receive as much attention as Israel and are at the same time as misunderstood The Oxford Handbook of Israeli Politics and Society brings together leading Israeli and international figures to offer the most wide ranging treatment available of an intriguing country It serves as a comprehensive reference for the growing field of Israel studies and is also a significant resource for students and scholars of comparative politics recognizing that in many ways Israel is not unique but rather a test case of democracy in deeply divided societies and states engaged in intense conflict The handbook presents an overview of the historical development of Israeli democracy through chapters examining the country's history contemporary society political institutions international relations and most pressing political issues It outlines the most relevant developments over time while not shying away from the strife both in and around Israel It presents opposed narratives in full force enabling readers to make their own judgments

Understanding Israel Joel Peters, Rob Geist Pinfold, 2018-10-11 The State of Israel is an unlikely powerhouse in a troubled region Since 1948 Israel has retained its status as a democratic state without interruption An investor friendly environment and skilled workforce have led to a thriving economy whilst the Israel Defense Forces are one of the most powerful armed forces in the world Yet Israel is also blighted by a plethora of foreign domestic and security challenges some of which threaten the very fabric of the state The cost of living continues to soar political corruption appears endemic and the conflict with the Palestinians divides domestic opinion and sours Israeli foreign relations Thus contemporary Israel remains perplexing resisting any straightforward categorizations or generalizations This book provides a comprehensive multi disciplinary analysis of the external and internal threats opportunities and issues facing contemporary

Israel The book comprises sixteen chapters written by recognized authorities in the field of Israeli Studies Together the chapters offer a detailed overview of Israel while separately they provide stand alone coverage of specific topics under discussion Part I examines the Israeli Political System such as the Knesset political parties and extra parliamentary politics Part II addresses issues in Israeli society including the Israeli economy the divides between Jews and Arabs religious and secular Israelis and the struggle for gender equality and Part III focuses on security geopolitical and foreign policy challenges looking at relations between Israel and the Jewish Diaspora Israeli foreign policy borders and settlements and regional security threats By filling an important gap in the study of contemporary Israel this book is of interest to multiple audiences most notably students and scholars of Israeli politics the Middle East and comparative politics **Legislative**

Assemblies Shane Martin, Kaare Strøm, 2023 This book analyzes national legislative assemblies in the world's 68 most populous democracies based on three models of ideal types of democratic assembly The authors show that the fate of incumbents is dependent on member resources and leadership control but is ultimately constrained by voter confidence

The Presidentialization of Politics Thomas Poguntke, Paul Webb, 2007-04-27 The Presidentialization of Politics shows that the politics of democratic societies is moving towards a presidentialized working mode even in the absence of formal institutional changes These developments can be explained by a combination of long term structural changes in modern politics and societies contingent factors which fluctuate over time While these contingent short term factors relate to the personalities of office holders the overall political agenda and the majority situation in parliament there are several structural factors which are relatively uniform across modern nations First the internationalization of modern politics which is particularly pronounced within the European Union has led to an executive bias of the political process which has strengthened the role of political top elites vis vis their parliamentary groups and or their parties Their predominance has been amplified further by the vastly expanded steering capacities of state machineries which have severely reduced the scope of effective parliamentary control At the same time the declining stability of political alignments has increased the proportion of citizens whose voting decisions are not constrained by long standing party loyalties In conjunction with the mediatization of politics this has increased the capacity of political leaders to by pass their party machines and to appeal directly to voters As a result three interrelated processes have led to a political process increasingly moulded by the inherent logic of presidentialism increasing leadership power and autonomy within the political executive increasing leadership power and autonomy within political parties and increasingly leadership centred electoral processes The book presents evidence for this process of presidentialization for 14 modern democracies including the US and Canada While there are substantial cross national differences the overall thesis holds modern democracies are increasingly following a presidential logic of governance through which leadership is becoming more central and more powerful but also increasingly dependent on successful immediate appeal to the mass public Implications for democratic theory are considered **Politics and**

Government in Israel Gregory S. Mahler, 2016-03-03 This balanced and comprehensive text explores Israeli government and politics from both institutional and behavioral perspectives After briefly discussing Israel s history and the early development of the state Gregory Mahler then examines the social religious economic cultural and military contexts within which Israeli politics takes place He makes special note of Israel s geopolitical situation of sharing borders with and being proximate to several hostile Arab nations The book explains the operation of political institutions and behavior in Israeli domestic politics including the constitutional system and ideology parliamentary government the prime minister and the Knesset political parties and interest groups the electoral process and voting behavior and the machinery of government Mahler also considers Israel s foreign policy setting and apparatus the Palestinians and the Israeli Palestinian conflict the particularly sensitive questions of Jerusalem and the Israeli settlement movement and the Middle East peace process overall This clear and concise text provides an invaluable starting point for all readers needing a cogent introduction to Israel today

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