This is the second of three chapters on persistence and change in political parties. Its theme is the problem of party system change in western Europe, and its purpose, rather than to propose some rigorous definition of it, is simply to identify some of the problems involved in the understanding of party system change, and, through this approach, to place some key questions on the agenda for future debate and future research. The discussion is presented in six sections: (1) Party Change versus Party System Change; (2) Party System Change; (3) Electoral Volatility and Cleavage Change -- a discussion of the role of ‘social’ cleavage change (resulting from changes in the cleavage structure or social make-up of support to individual parties) in electoral change and party system change in the context of Lipset–Rokkan ‘law’ on ‘the freezing of party systems’; (4) How Much Electoral Change?; (5) The Electoral Bias; and (6) Key Problems.

This is the third of three chapters on political party systems and structures of competition, and presents an overall review. In the first section, Approaches to the Classification of Party Systems: A Review it looks at the principal existing approaches to the classification of party systems, pointing to both their limits and possibilities when applied
within comparative analysis. It then goes on in the second section, Party Systems and the Competition for Government, to underline the importance of understanding the structure of competition in any given party system, since in many ways the whole notion of a party system is centred on the assumption that there exists a stable structure of competition. Structures of competition can be seen to be either closed (and predictable) or open (and unpredictable), depending on the patterns of alternation in government, the degree of innovation or persistence in processes of government formation, and the range of parties gaining access to government. The emphasis in the third section, Party Systems and Electoral Outcomes, is on the need to distinguish between processes of electoral change on the one hand, and changes in party systems and the structures of competition on the other, a distinction which also allows the possibility of situations in which electoral change is the consequence rather than the cause of party system change.

Systemic Failure, Coordination, and Contingencies: Understanding Electoral System Change in New Zealand

Jack Vowles

in To Keep or To Change First Past The Post?: The Politics of Electoral Reform

Published in print: 2008 Published Online: September 2008
Item type: chapter

There are two interpretations of electoral system change in New Zealand; one, that it was a result of social and political changes generating a ‘systemic failure’ of the former single-member-plurality (SMP) electoral system, and thus expressing the intentions of key actors: a combination of evolution and design. The alternative interpretation assumes the process to have been contingent or even accidental. In determinist mode, this chapter argues that as a necessary but not sufficient condition ‘systemic failure’ set the agenda. In addition, failure went beyond the electoral system that was only one element of New Zealand's highly majoritarian institutional arrangements. In the electoral arena, multi-party politics had generated a partisan bias that parties and electors could not correct adequately by coordination. With necessary conditions set, actors' intentions combined with various contingencies provide sufficient explanations for change. Unintentional or accidental events may have accelerated the process and shaped how it happened. But pressure for change ran deep, and in alternative counterfactual scenarios other contingencies could have tipped the balance. Indeed, a probabilistic rather than deterministic explanation may better fit the process. Rational choice theories of party interests explain part
of the change. But perceptions of the need to enhance the normative performance of New Zealand democracy by reducing its majoritarian elements were, if anything, more important, bringing ‘systemic failure’ into the picture as a justification for change beyond its initial agenda-setting role.

Party System Change

Peter Mair

Published in print: 1998 Published Online: November 2003
Item type: book

This book looks at how the evidence of change and stability in modern political parties and party systems is interpreted. The emphasis is on western European political parties. The primary focus of the book is on processes of political adaptation and control, but it also concerns how parties and party systems generate their own momentum and ‘freeze’ themselves into place. Amidst the widespread contemporary discussion of the challenge to modern democracy and the crisis for traditional forms of political representation, it offers an emphasis on how party systems survive, and on how change, when it does occur, may be analysed and understood. The book has four parts, and the constituent chapters are from various essays reflecting work that has been carried out since the late 1980s. Part I contains an introductory chapter on the freezing of party systems. Part II has three chapters that deal with questions of persistence and change, and with the vulnerability and endurance of traditional parties. Part III has two chapters in which attention shifts to the question of party organization, and to the ways in which the established parties are increasingly coming to invade the state, finding there a new source of privilege and a new means of ensuring their own survival. Part IV has three chapters that focus on structures of competition in western party systems, as well as on the problems associated with the consolidation of the new party systems in post-communist Europe.

The Comparative Analysis of Party Funding Regimes

Michael Koß

in The Politics of Party Funding: State Funding to Political Parties and Party Competition in Western Europe

Published in print: 2010 Published Online: January 2011
Item type: chapter
This chapter defines important concepts such as ‘party funding regime’ and ‘private’, ‘public’, and ‘illegal’ sources of income of political parties. The differentiation of significant/insignificant and of public/private sources of income leads to four different cases being relevant for an examination of the politics of party funding: Germany is selected as a case where both public and private contributions play a significant role for the funding of political parties. Sweden is selected as a case where only public funding plays a significant role, whereas in Britain parties rely almost exclusively on private contributions. France is selected as a case where, at least up to 1988, neither public nor private, but illegal contributions (i.e. political corruption) were the only significant source of parties' income. The chapter concludes by analysing the conceptual problems that arise from the attempt to link highly complex phenomena such as party or party system change to developments in party funding regimes. Party funding regimes, it is argued, are a dependent rather than an independent variable.

Building Quality in the Healthcare Environment
Donald M. Berwick
in The Trust Crisis in Healthcare: Causes, Consequences, and Cures
Published in print: 2006 Published Online: September 2009
Publisher: Oxford University Press DOI: 10.1093/acprof:oso/9780195176360.003.04
Item type: chapter

The quality of care issues in healthcare has long been recognized and publicized in studies done by the Institute of Medicine and other organizations. This chapter explores the relationship between quality and trust. Quality results can build trust, and the fastest way to rebuild the trust in the healthcare system may be through healthcare quality improvement, but performance change is often blocked by systemic conditions. It explores how looking past Taylorism, accepting responsibility, and developing the skills to pursue an aim are key to generating change.

Landscape Effects on Ecosystem Structure and Function
Kimberly A. With
in Essentials of Landscape Ecology
Published in print: 2019 Published Online: August 2019
Publisher: Oxford University Press DOI: 10.1093/oso/9780198838388.003.0011
Item type: chapter
Landscape ecosystem ecology is concerned with the study of how landscape structure affects ecosystem structure and function, and how landscape heterogeneity in turn is generated or sustained by the redistribution of nutrients or organisms within and among ecosystems. This chapter begins with an overview of how landscape context influences ecosystem processes, including the effects of land management and land-cover change on nutrient dynamics and productivity. Next, the chapter considers the linkages among systems (metaecosystems) and how spatial subsidies are important for understanding ecosystem function in a landscape context. The chapter then explores under what conditions landscape function becomes disrupted, possibly precipitating irreversible system state changes, before concluding with a clarion call for landscape sustainability; that is, landscape management that preserves the productivity, multifunctionality, and ecological resilience of landscapes in the face of future societal demands, intensifying land use, and rapid climate change.

### Changing Asian Business Systems

Richard Whitley and Xiaoke Zhang (eds)


This book examines the changing patterns of economic organization across Northeast and Southeast Asia against the backdrop of market liberalization, political changes and periodic economic crises since the 1990s. It provides an interdisciplinary account of variations, continuities and changes in the institutional structures that shape business systems and practices and govern innovation patterns, together with analyses of their impact on established systems of economic coordination and control. It makes important contributions to current theoretical and policy debates on the comparative analysis of socio-economic institutions and dominant forms of economic organization by: (1) mapping recent changes in the major business systems of Northeast and Southeast Asian economies; (2) developing a range of causal propositions about how changing institutions and socio-political coalitions are affecting the nature of Asian business organizations; and (3) illustrating the causal pathways through which changing business systems have shaped the development of innovation patterns and strategies in the region.
The fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 was the beginning of one of the most interesting natural experiments in recent history. The East German transition from a Communist state to part of the Federal Republic of Germany abruptly created a new social order as old institutions were abolished and new counterparts imported. This unique situation provides an exceptional opportunity to examine the central tenets of life-course sociology. The empirical chapters of this book draw a comprehensive picture of life-course transformation, demonstrating how the combination of life-course dynamics coupled with an extraordinary pace of system change affect individual lives. How much turbulence was created by the transition and how much stability was preserved? How did the qualifications and resources acquired before 1989 influence the fortunes in the restructured economy? How did the privatization and reorganization of firms impact individuals? Did the transformation experiences differ by age/cohort and gender? How stable were social networks at work and in the family? Were personality characteristics important mediators of post-1989 success or failure, or were they rather changed by them? How specific were the East German life trajectories in comparison with those of Poland and West Germany?

Assessing Effects of Reforms: Changing the Electoral System
Shaun Bowler and Todd Donovan

in The Limits of Electoral Reform

This chapter offers the first of several tests of claims about the transformative effects of electoral reform. It examines what may be seen as the ‘biggest’ of electoral reforms: changes in the electoral system. Much of the attention here is directed at the effects of adopting proportional representation (PR). Advocates of PR, and some academic literature, suggest this reform should increase voter efficacy, increase support for smaller parties, and stimulate political engagement and voter turnout. Examining the effects of the adoption of MMP in New Zealand, as well as the adoption of STV in Australia, suggests changing electoral
systems had minimal effects. Additional examples presented here from Germany, Italy, and Japan illustrate no evidence that changes in the electoral system affected turnout. Most results in this chapter contradict findings in research using cross-sectional data.

Gender and Party Change
Monique Leyenaar and Drude Dahlerup

in Breaking Male Dominance in Old Democracies
Published in print: 2013 Published Online: September 2013
Item type: chapter

This chapter addresses party and party system changes in relation to the future development of women’s representation in politics. What is the effect on women’s representation of the crisis of representative democracy (albeit disputed) and of the decline of parties? It argues that the effects of the ongoing dealignment process in politics, such as personalization, the strong focus on leadership, the mediatization as well as the fragmentation of the party system, and especially the electoral success of populist parties, have a profound impact on the recruitment of women. Some effects are positive, some are negative, but all in all they contribute positively to a future gender balance in politics. The chapter pays specific attention to two types of parties, the greens and the populist, xenophobic parties, identifying the first type as often feminist and the latter type as often disruptive to women’s political representation.

New Beginnings
Deborah K. Padgett, Benjamin F. Henwood, and Sam J. Tsemberis

in Housing First: Ending Homelessness, Transforming Systems, and Changing Lives
Published in print: 2015 Published Online: October 2015
Item type: chapter

This chapter notes that the story of HF so far has been virtually unprecedented in the annals of systems change in social and health services. At the same time, it considers HF’s limitations and address different homeless populations, such as families and youths, for whom specific tailoring of HF’s tenets is needed. The question “housing first, what’s second?” is addressed including the challenges of social and
community integration. Systems changes wrought by HF may be found not only in homeless services but also in mental health care. The chapter concludes by noting that systems changes are not the same as structural change, and that there are still important challenges in meeting the needs of homeless men, women, and children.

Conclusion
Xiaoke Zhang and Richard Whitley

in Changing Asian Business Systems: Globalization, Socio-Political Change, and Economic Organization

In this book we have considered three questions: first, how dominant business systems have changed across Asian political economies since the early 1990s; second, how such changes can be understood and explained; and, third, how changing business systems have shaped the development of innovation strategies in the region. In the concluding chapter, we reconsider these questions in the light of the empirical evidence presented in the preceding contributions as well as that available from other sources. The first section compares the main patterns of change in nationally dominant business systems in different Asian economies over recent decades. The second section discusses the causes of these changes and variations through a comparison of endogenous and exogenous factors. The third section summarizes how state and corporate actors have managed technology development challenges differently across major Asian political economies as a result of variations in dominant business systems in the region.

Paradigm Shifts and Systems Change
Deborah K. Padgett, Benjamin F. Henwood, and Sam J. Tsemberis

in Housing First: Ending Homelessness, Transforming Systems, and Changing Lives

This chapter sets forth a framework for understanding Housing First (HF) that draws on yet transcends its particulars. First, it addresses what is meant by “housing first” as it was developed by Pathways to Housing in
the early 1990s. Next, it explores the mainstream approach to services for homeless adults, which has endured for over three decades in the United States and elsewhere, and which ultimately gave rise to HF. Finally, the chapter draws on theories of implementation science and institutional change to develop explanatory frameworks or theoretical lenses through which the rise of HF can be understood. The conceptual frameworks that emerge—addressing change at both the micro- and macro-levels—constitute the scaffolding for the remainder of the book.

To Reform or Not to Reform?
Camille Bedock

in Reforming Democracy: Institutional Engineering in Western Europe

Published in print: 2017 Published Online: June 2017
Item type: chapter

This theoretical chapter presents the existing contributions in order to enable understanding of the determinants of democratic reforms, but also the processes leading to reform in established democracies. It focuses, first, on the sets of incentives and obstacles to change of the institutions: political crisis, political instability, and the state of the pre-existing institutional system. On the other hand, the research in this field has confirmed the existence of several barriers to change, the importance of taking the roles of complexity and uncertainty into account, and how the type of reform and the type of process leading to reform (or non-reform) are intrinsically linked. Second, this chapter shows that authors often fall into traps, of which there are several, and these mainly derive from the absence of cross-national and multidimensional data on institutional change: that reforms are rare, mainly self-interested, and tend to happen as isolated events.

Institutional imperatives of system change
Dimitris N. Chrysochoou, Michael J. Tsinisizelis, Stelios Stavridis, and Kostas Ifantis

in Theory and Reform in the European Union

Published in print: 1999 Published Online: July 2012
Item type: chapter

This chapter discusses the institutions that are considered central in the debate on European security, namely the Union, the Organisation
on Security and Co-operation in Europe, the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation and the Western European Union. It examines the interrelationship between these institutions, and deals with European integration using the perspective of security and foreign policy. The chapter then addresses the issue of the Union's role in a post-Cold War world, as well as the institutional responses to the geostrategic and geopolitical challenges of system change in the fields of European defence, foreign policy and security. Finally, it studies European ‘security architecture’ and identifies what the Union is in terms of its international behaviour.

Conclusions
Nicole Bolleyer

in New Parties in Old Party Systems: Persistence and Decline in Seventeen Democracies

This chapter summarizes the major theoretical and empirical insights of the study and discusses their implications for the nature of party system change in advanced democracies, e.g. whether – having observed some new parties could consolidate a niche in most party systems studied over last decades and given the programmatic offers to voters have diversified as a consequence – new parties entering national parliament in the future will find it harder to establish themselves and be more likely to be temporary phenomena. More specifically, it discusses what the findings suggest regarding the likely fates of new parties that entered their national parliaments only recently and whose long-term development is difficult to assess at this point. These include the Dutch Freedom Party, the Swiss Greenliberal Party, the UK Greens or Australian Family First.

Housing First
Deborah K. Padgett, Benjamin F. Henwood, and Sam J. Tsemberis

Little more than two decades ago, the “Housing First” (HF) approach pioneered by Pathways to Housing, Inc. was a small but determined challenge to the burgeoning yet ineffective service system for homeless
persons. Today, the success of HF has brought about paradigm-shifting systems change not only in the homeless “industry” but in related service systems. Drawing on rigorous research and the hard work of “institutional entrepreneurs,” HF has been adopted both nationally and internationally, presenting an unusual blend of evidence-based practice and consumer choice. As a result, it has changed the conversation away from “housing readiness” and “managing homelessness” to the “right to housing” and “ending homelessness.” This book employs conceptual frameworks drawn from theories of institutional change and innovation, as well as from implementation science, to explore the rise in homelessness in the United States, the “lineages” of responses to the problem, and the subsequent rise of HF. Research on HF has produced consistent findings including rates of housing stability of 75% to 95% when compared with non-HF programs. In addition, qualitative studies describe the profound benefits of having a home as well as the challenges of recovering from a life of adversity. Findings from studies of HF in the United States, Canada, Europe, and Australia have converged on a bottom line: Providing immediate access to an apartment and support services to someone with mental illness and addiction is not only humane but effective. This book traces the origins of HF as a paradigm shift that has transformed homeless services in the United States and abroad.

Recovery-Oriented Mental Health Policies

Myra Piat and Lauren Polvere

in Community Psychology and Community Mental Health: Towards Transformative Change

The chapter reviews how the concept of recovery has been incorporated into mental health policies in New Zealand, England, Australia, Canada and the United States. After reviewing the concept of recovery and examining its congruence with transformational change, the chapter then describes its examination of policy documents in the five countries in terms of the following dimensions: (a) the overall purpose and theme, (b) concepts and definitions of recovery, and (c) five transformative change strategies (stigma and discrimination, social inclusion, consumer and survivor involvement, consumer and survivor leadership, and power relations). Although the policy documents in all five countries include progressive language about recovery, the chapter reports that most do not have the concrete mechanisms or systems outcomes indicators that
are vital for ensuring accountability of systems’ stakeholders to core recovery dimensions, such as addressing power imbalances between consumers and professionals.

Community Lost Or Freedom Gained? Changes of Social Networks After 1989
Martin Diewald and Jörg Lüdicke (eds)

in After the Fall of the Wall: Life Courses in the Transformation of East Germany
Published in print: 2006 Published Online: June Publisher: Stanford University Press
DOI: 10.11126/
Item type: chapter

This chapter examines the patterns of social networks before 1989 and after the first periods of transformation in order to assess the impacts of both system change and transformation. The core family especially proved to be a haven of stability in an unstable environment and, moreover, a most reliable buffer against individual strains and losses. In contrast, the formerly close social networks centered on the workplace did not survive. Social relations in a socialist society may have been precious as a resource to obtain scarce goods and services and as attempts to maintain some degree of uncontrolled private sphere. If so, the East German transformation should have led to extraordinary changes in the density and character of such networks.