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978-0-521-76439-1 - Is Democracy Exportable?
Edited by Zoltan Barany and Robert G. Moser
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IS DEMOCRACY EXPORTABLE?

Can democratic states transplant the seeds of democracy into developing countries? What have political thinkers going back to the Greek city-states thought about their capacity to promote democracy? How can democracy be established in divided societies?

In this timely volume, a distinguished group of political scientists seeks answers to these and other fundamental questions behind the concept known as “democracy promotion.” Following an illuminating concise discussion of what political philosophers from Plato to Montesquieu thought about the issue, the authors explore the structural preconditions (culture, divided societies, civil society) as well as the institutions and processes of democracy building (constitutions, elections, security sector reform, conflict, and trade). Along the way they share insights about what policies have worked, which ones need to be improved or discarded, and, more generally, what advanced democracies can do to further the cause of democratization in a globalizing world. In other words, they seek answers to the question: is democracy exportable?

Zoltan Barany is the Frank C. Erwin, Jr., Professor of Government at the University of Texas and the Susan Louise Dyer Peace Fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University.

Robert G. Moser is Associate Professor of Government at the University of Texas.

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Zoltan Barany and Robert G. Moser