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KENNETH NEWTON is Emeritus Professor of Comparative Politics at the University of Southampton.

JAN W. VAN DETH is Professor of Political Science and International Comparative Social Research at the University of Mannheim.

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Foundations of Comparative Politics

Democracies of the Modern World

THIRD EDITION

KENNETH NEWTON and JAN W. VAN DETH



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom
One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
4843/24, 2nd Floor, Ansari Road, Daryaganj, Delhi – 110002, India
79 Anson Road, #06–04/06, Singapore 079906

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781107131835

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First published 2005
Second edition 2010
Third edition 2016
3rd printing 2017

Printed in the United Kingdom by Bell and Bain Ltd, Glasgow

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication data

Newton, Kenneth, 1940– author. | Deth, Jan W. van, author.
Foundations of comparative politics / Kenneth Newton and Jan W. van Deth.

University Press, 2016. | Series: Cambridge textbooks in comparative politics | Includes bibliographical references and index.

LCCN 2016003479 | ISBN 9781107131835 (hardback)

LCSH: Democracy. | Comparative government. | Representative government and representation.

LCC JC423 .N484 2016 | DDC 320.3–dc23

LC record available at <http://lcn.loc.gov/2016003479>

ISBN 978-1-107-13183-5 Hardback

ISBN 978-1-107-58285-9 Paperback

Additional resources for this publication at www.cambridge.org/newton3

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this publication, and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.

Cambridge University Press
978-1-107-13183-5 — Foundations of Comparative Politics
3rd Edition
Frontmatter
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This book is dedicated to Konstanza and Joke

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Preface and acknowledgements to the third edition

A major revision of our text book was required after the third wave of democracy slowed down in the 2000s and the financial crises hit many countries in the same decade. The result is this third edition, in which the text has been extensively revised and updated, based in large part on the comments and suggestions of anonymous readers contacted by Cambridge University Press. We could not follow all their suggestions but have acted on most of them, resulting in a great many changes to the book, including a new chapter on public policy and a completely revised chapter on the recent development of democratic states in the world. Joshua Fischer, Sören Götz and Nicolas Toth-Feher at the University of Mannheim checked many of the entries and provided updated information. In particular, we are very grateful to Claire Dekker for carefully copy editing the whole manuscript.

The three editions of this book are the result of our discussions and contacts with many people at various places in the last ten to fifteen years. Ken Newton would also like to thank colleagues at the University of Southampton, who provided friendship and intellectual stimulation. Jan van Deth would like to thank his collaborators at the University of Mannheim and the Mannheim Zentrum für Europäische Sozialforschung (MZES) for similar friendship and intellectual stimulation. Both of us thank a number of colleagues for their willingness to share their knowledge and experience and provide us with many insights: Matthijs Boogaards, Tom Cusack, Jan Delhey, Wolf-Dieter Eberwein, Benjamin Engst, Dieter Fuchs, Rick Hofferbert, Ron Inglehart, Jana Jughard, Max Kaase, Henk van der Kolk, Hans-Dieter Klingemann, Fritz and Mocha Metzeler, Wolfgang Müller, Christiane Neumann, Marion Obermaier and Edeltraud Roller. Sadly, many of our most brilliant theories and insights were shot down in flames in these discussions, by colleagues who based their criticism on no more than acute intelligence, hard information, a thorough knowledge of the subject and a sharp eye for a weak argument.

As political scientists, not politicians, we cannot blame any faults and errors in this third edition on anybody but ourselves, least of all those named above.

Ken Newton and Jan W. van Deth

Abbreviations and acronyms

AfDB	African Development Bank
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
AV	alternative vote
Benelux	Belgium, Netherlands, Luxembourg economic union
BSE	bovine spongiform encephalopathy
CA	Consumers' Association
CBA	Cost–benefit analysis
CEO	Chief executive officer
CIS	Confederation of Independent States
CND	Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament
CoR	Committee of the Regions (EU)
DARS	Democratic Arab Republic of the Sahara
DGB	Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund (trade union association, Germany)
EAPC	Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council
ECHR	European Court of Human Rights
ECJ	European Court of Justice
ENA	Ecole Nationale d'Administration
EP	European Parliament
ESA	European Space Agency
ETUC	European Trade Union Confederation
EU	European Union
FBI	Federal Bureau of Investigation (USA)
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
GM	genetically modified
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank)
ICJ	International Court of Justice
IDA	International Development Association
IISS	International Institute for Strategic Studies
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IOC	International Olympic Committee
IOM	International Organization for Migration

List of abbreviations and acronyms

IPU	Inter-Parliamentary Union
IT	information technology
JV	joint venture
MCW	minimum connected winning (coalition)
MITI	Ministry of International Trade and Industry (Japan)
MMD	multi-member districts
MMP	mixed-member proportional voting system
MNC	multinational corporation
MWC	minimum winning coalition
NAFTA	North American Free Trade Association
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration (USA)
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NGO	non-governmental organisation
OAU	Organization of African Unity
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
OFCOM	Office of Communications (UK)
OPEC	Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries
OSCE	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
PAC	Political Action Committee (USA)
PPP	purchasing-power parity
PR	proportional representation
R&D	Research and Development
SB	second ballot (voting system)
SES	socio-economic status
SMSP	single member, simple plurality voting system
SNTV	single non-transferable vote
STV	single transferable vote
TI	Transparency International
TNC	transnational Corporation
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
UNHCR	(Office of the) UN High Commissioner for Refugees
UNITAR	UN Institute for Training and Research
USA	United States
USSR	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (Soviet Union)
WDIs	World Development Indicators
WEU	Western European Union
WHO	World Health Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization

How to use this book

This book has many special features to help you work your way through the chapters efficiently and effectively and to understand them. This section shows you what these features are and how they help you work through the material in each chapter.

- Each chapter contains an introduction with a brief account of the topics it covers, so that you know what to expect.
- The last part of each chapter presents the main theoretical approaches of the topic.
- Each chapter ends with a summary of its main findings and what we have learned from using the comparative approach to government and politics.
- ‘Key term’ entries. When a new concept is introduced it is picked out in bold letters in the text and defined in brief and simple terms in the margin. All the key terms are then brought together in the ‘Glossary of key terms’ at the end of the book. This makes it easy to refresh your memory about concepts.
- ‘Controversy boxes’ provide you with an overview of the most contentious topics in comparative government and politics.

The end material of the chapters also includes:

- Two or three small projects that you can use to test your understanding and consolidate your learning.
- A short list of further reading and details of useful websites.

The Introduction that follows spells out the main themes that run throughout the book. It tells you what to keep in mind and look out for as you work your way through the chapters. Finally, at the end of the book we have added a Postscript on the main methodological questions in comparative politics.

Extensive online resources, including all the material listed above, are available on the book’s website. You can search this material for yourself at www.cambridge.org/newton.

For **students** additional material includes an updated reading list, websites and advanced further reading. Multiple-choice questions allow students to test their understanding of each chapter.

For **instructors**, all figures and tables from the book are available along with lecture slides. Additional student questioning includes exam and essay questions.