

Policy Shock

Policy Shock examines how policy-makers in industrialized democracies respond to major crises. After the immediate challenges of disaster management, crises often reveal new evidence or frame new normative perspectives that drive reforms designed to prevent future events of a similar magnitude. Such responses vary widely – from cosmetically masking inaction, to creating stronger incentive systems, requiring greater transparency, reorganizing government institutions, and tightening regulatory standards. This book situates post-crisis regulatory policy-making through a set of conceptual essays written by leading scholars from the fields of economics, psychology, and political science, which probe the latest thinking about risk analysis, risk perceptions, focusing events, and narrative politics. It then presents 10 historically rich case studies that engage with crisis events in three policy domains: offshore oil, nuclear power, and finance. It considers how governments can prepare to learn from crisis events – by creating standing expert investigative agencies to identify crisis causes and frame policy recommendations.

Edward J. Balleisen is Vice Provost for Interdisciplinary Studies and Professor of History and Public Policy at Duke University. His latest book, *Fraud: An American History from Barnum to Madoff* (2017), chronicles the history of regulatory governance in the United States. He received his Ph.D. from Yale University.

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Edited by E. J. Balleisen , L.S. Benneer , K.D. Krawiec , J.B. Wiener

Frontmatter

[More Information](#)

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Policy Shock

*Recalibrating Risk and Regulation after Oil Spills,
Nuclear Accidents, and Financial Crises*

Edited by

EDWARD J. BALLEISEN, LORI S. BENNEAR,
KIMBERLY D. KRAWIEC, AND JONATHAN B. WIENER

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Contents

<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>page</i> viii
<i>List of Tables</i>	xi
<i>List of Boxes</i>	xiii
<i>List of Contributors</i>	xiv
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xvi
1 Introduction	I
<i>Edward J. Balleisen, Lori S. Benneer, Kimberly D. Krawiec, and Jonathan B. Wiener</i>	
PART I THE CONCEPTUAL TERRAIN OF CRISES AND RISK PERCEPTIONS	
2 Economic Analysis, Risk Regulation, and the Dynamics of Policy Regret	43
<i>Lori S. Benneer</i>	
3 Revised Risk Assessments and the Insurance Industry	58
<i>Carolyn Kousky</i>	
4 Understanding Public Risk Perception and Responses to Changes in Perceived Risk	82
<i>Elke U. Weber</i>	
5 Focusing Events, Risk, and Regulation	107
<i>Thomas A. Birkland and Megan K. Warnement</i>	
6 The Story of Risk: How Narratives Shape Risk Communication, Perception, and Policy	129
<i>Frederick W. Mayer</i>	

vi	<i>Contents</i>	
PART II CASE STUDIES ON OFFSHORE OIL SPILLS		
7	From Santa Barbara to the Exxon Valdez: Policy Learning and the Emergence of a New Regime for Managing Oil Spill Risk <i>Marc Allen Eisner</i>	151
8	The Nordic Model of Offshore Oil Regulation: Managing Crises through a Proactive Regulator <i>Ole Andreas Engen and Preben H. Lindøe</i>	181
9	Reform in Real Time: Evaluating Reorganization as a Response to the Gulf Oil Spill <i>Christopher Carrigan</i>	204
PART III CASE STUDIES ON NUCLEAR ACCIDENTS		
10	Recalibrating Risks of Nuclear Power: Reactions to Three Mile Island, Chernobyl, and Fukushima <i>Elisabeth Paté-Cornell</i>	245
11	Nuclear Accidents and Policy Responses in Europe: Comparing the Cases of France and Germany <i>Kristian Krieger, Ortwin Renn, M. Brooke Rogers, and Ragnar Löfstedt</i>	269
12	Public Attitudes and Institutional Changes in Japan following Nuclear Accidents <i>Atsuo Kishimoto</i>	305
PART IV CASE STUDIES OF FINANCIAL CRISES		
13	Regulatory Responses to the Financial Crises of the Great Depression: Britain, France, and the United States <i>Youssef Cassis</i>	349
14	Financial Decommodification: Risk and the Politics of Valuation in US Banks <i>Bruce G. Carruthers</i>	371
15	Euro Area Risk (Mis)management <i>Barry Eichengreen</i>	395
16	The Regulatory Responses to the Global Financial Crisis: Some Uncomfortable Questions <i>Stijn Claessens and Laura Kodres</i>	435

Cambridge University Press & Assessment
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Nuclear Accidents and Financial Crises
Edited by E. J. Balleisen , L.S. Benneer , K.D. Krawiec , J.B. Wiener
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

Contents vii

PART V CONCLUSIONS

17	Institutional Mechanisms for Investigating the Regulatory Implications of a Major Crisis: The Commission of Inquiry and the Safety Board	485
	<i>Edward J. Balleisen, Lori S. Benneer, David Cheang, Jonathon Free, Megan Hayes, Emily Pechar, and A. Catherine Preston</i>	
18	Recalibrating Risk: Crises, Learning, and Regulatory Change	540
	<i>Edward J. Balleisen, Lori S. Benneer, Kimberly D. Krawiec, and Jonathan B. Wiener</i>	
	<i>Index</i>	562

Figures

1.1	The impact of Lehman Brothers' bankruptcy ripples through world markets, chronicled by the American press	page 2
1.2	A shorebird covered in crude oil from the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill	7
1.3	<i>Business Week</i> shows a Japanese girl being tested for radiation after the Fukushima reactor meltdowns	7
1.4	Our three types of crisis-response case studies	18
1.5	Map of potential pathways from crisis to policy change	19
1.6	Schematic of policy options in response to crisis	20
4.1	Perceived risk versus actual risk	85
5.1	Risk perception matrix and the competing influences of terror	119
5.2	Two models of the influence of focus events on policy actors and levels	123
7.1	Petroleum imports, 1960–2000	157
7.2	Offshore petroleum production, 1960–2000	158
7.3	Total volume of spills by spill size, 1973–2009	174
7.4	Number of significant spills by spill size, 1973–2009	174
8.1	Two modes of risk regulations	187
9.1	Gallup Poll results measuring public preference for economic growth or environmental protection (1984–2012)	210
9.2	<i>New York Times</i> and <i>Washington Post</i> article mentions of offshore oil and gas (January 2002–December 2012)	211
9.3	Timeline of select congressional bills proposing reorganization of MMS and related functions (2008–2012)	229
10.1	History of the global nuclear power industry	254

List of Figures ix

11.1	France, fuel mix, total production, 2010	273
11.2	Germany, fuel mix, total production, 2010	274
11.3	Nuclear reactors in operation, France and Germany, 1955–2025	275
11.4	French fuel mix, total energy consumption, 1970–2006	276
11.5	German fuel mix, total energy consumption, 1970–2006	276
12.1	Simplified event model	307
12.2	Transitions in the administrative systems that govern nuclear power	307
12.3	Time series variations of public opinion surveys and the five major nuclear accidents	310
12.4	Transition in the power supply share in Japan prior to 2011 (billion kWh)	313
12.5	Public opinion before and after the <i>Mutsu</i> accident	316
12.6	Public opinion on nuclear power before and after the TMI accident	319
12.7	Public perception of safety measures before and after the radiation leakage from the Tsuruga Nuclear Power Station	321
12.8	Change in public opinion shortly after the Fukushima accident	334
12.9	Scope of the new requirements compared with former requirements	336
12.10	Shift in the share of votes in proportional representation	340
15.1	Bank leverage ratios in the Euro Area and the United States	397
15.2	Sovereign spread compression in the Euro Area (1990–2011)	399
15.3	Divergence and adjustment of unit labor costs	401
15.4	Change in private sector credit in the Euro Area and the United States	402
15.5	Convergence of Euro Area countries (1960–92)	411
15.6	Internet Incidence of Euro crisis-related terms (Google Trends)	420
16.1	Dimensions of regulatory reform	473
17.1	Spectrum of independence possessed by policy investigatory bodies in the United States	486
17.2	Forms of national commissions of inquiry in the five case countries	490
17.3	Summary of the commission of inquiry process	492

x	<i>List of Figures</i>	
17.4	Organizational charts, National Transportation Safety Board (2014) and Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (2013)	506
17.5	Results of NTSB recommendations, 1967–2000	507
17.6	Results of NTSB recommendations averaged by year, 1967–2000	507
17.7	History of independent investigatory bodies in American transportation and chemical safety	512
17.8	Relationship maps between interested parties, NTSB and CSB	518
17.9	Mapping economic sectors by frequency of crisis events and degree of perceived community of fate	530

Tables

1.1	Offshore oil crises and responses	<i>page</i> 22
1.2	Nuclear reactor crises and responses	27
5.1	Key issues addressed in aviation security legislation	117
5.2	Levels of policy codification	122
7.1	State oil pollution liability regimes	168
9.1	Subject matter of Congressional Hearings in which MMS or successor agency personnel testified by topic (1982–2012)	208
9.2	Reforms enacted in response to Gulf oil spill (May 2010–May 2013)	216
10.1	Partial history of subduction-plate earthquakes along the Sanriku and Sendai coasts	263
11.1	Key nuclear policy actors established between 1945 and 1979	279
11.2	Selected nuclear policies and regulations between 1945 and 1979	280
11.3	Key nuclear policy actors established between 1986 and 2011	283
11.4	Selected nuclear policies and regulations between 1986 and 2011	285
11.5	Nuclear actors, policies and regulations after 2011	290
11.6	Internationally comparable opinion polls on nuclear energy, 1982–2011	292
12.1	Impacts of the five accidents on public opinion and regulatory policies in Japan	311

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Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

xii	<i>List of Tables</i>	
12.2	Accidents and investigatory commissions and their reports	342
15.1	Determinants of 10-year government bond spreads relative to German bunds 2005Q1–2011Q4	415
15.2	Determinants of 10-year government bond spreads relative to German bunds, 2005Q1–2011Q4 with post-2008Q2 interaction effects	415
15.3	First mention of crisis phrases	417
17.1	Major commissions appointed in response to crisis events (1960–2010)	493

Boxes

4.1	Hormone Replacement Therapy	<i>page</i> 83
4.2	Nuclear Power	84
4.3	2008 Subprime Mortgage Crisis	85
16.1	Overall approaches to determine specific reforms	449

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Frontmatter

[More Information](#)

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xv

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Frontmatter

[More Information](#)

Acknowledgments

xvii

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