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978-0-521-62885-3 - Symbol and Ritual in the New Spain: The Transition to
Democracy After Franco

Laura Desfor Edles

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This is a book about the role of culture in social change and the Spanish transition to democracy after Franco. After Franco's death in 1975, Spain witnessed an extraordinary "period of consensus," unique in its own history. Laura Desfor Edles takes a distinctively culturalist approach to the "strategy of consensus" deployed by the Spanish elite at this time, and uses systematic text interpretation (with a particular focus on Spanish newspapers) to show how a new symbolic framework emerged in post-Franco Spain which enabled the resolution of specific events critical to the success of the transition. In addition to uncovering underlying processes of symbolization, she shows that politico-historical transitions can themselves be understood as ritual processes, involving as they do (to use Victor Turner's model) phases and symbols of separation, liminality, and reaggregation.

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Abbreviations

| | |
|-----------|--|
| AP | Alianza Popular, Popular Alliance |
| CCOO | Comisiones Obreras, Workers' Commissions |
| CD | Coalición Democrática, Democratic Coalition |
| CDS | Centro Democrático y Social, Democratic and Social Center |
| CEDA | Confederación Española de Derechas Autónomas, Spanish Confederation of the Autonomous Right |
| CiU | Convèrgencia i Unió, Convergence and Union |
| CNT | Confederación Nacional de Trabajo, National Confederation of Labor |
| EDC | Equipo Demócrata Cristiano del Estado Español, Christian Democratic Team of the Spanish State |
| EE | Euzkadiko Ezkerra, Basque Left |
| ETA | Euskadi Ta Azkatasuna, Basque Homeland and Freedom |
| ETA-Berri | New ETA |
| ETA-Zarra | Old ETA |
| FAI | Federación Anarquista Ibérica, Iberian Anarchist Federation |
| FDC | Federación de la Cristiana Democrática, Federation of Christian Democrats |
| FPD | Federación Popular Democrática, Popular Democratic Federation |
| FRAP | Frente Revolucionario Antifascista Patriótico, Anti-fascist Revolutionary Patriotic Front |
| GAL | Grupos Antiterroristas de Liberación, Anti-terrorist Liberation Group |
| HB | Herri Batasuna, Popular Unity |
| HOAC | Hermandades Obreras de Acción Católica, Workers' Brotherhood of Catholic Action |

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| | |
|-------|---|
| IDC | Izquierda Demócrata Cristiana, Democratic Christian Left |
| IU | Izquierda Unida, United Left |
| JOC | Juventudes Obreras Católicas, Catholic Workers' Youth |
| KAS | Koordinadora Abertzale Socialista, Patriotic Socialist Coordinating Council |
| LOAPA | Ley Orgánica de Armonización del Proceso Autonómico, Organic Law to Harmonize the Autonomy Process |
| MC | Minoría Catalana, Catalan Minority |
| ORT | Organización Revolucionaria de Trabajadores, Revolutionary Workers' Organization |
| OSE | Organización Sindical Española, Spanish Syndicate Organization |
| PCE | Partido Comunista Español, Spanish Communist Party |
| PDC | Pacte Democràtic per Catalunya, Democratic Pact of Catalonia |
| PNV | Partido Nacionalista Vasco, Basque Nationalist Party |
| POUM | Partido Obrero de Unificación Marxista. Workers' Party for Marxist Unification |
| PP | Partido Popular, Popular Party |
| PSOE | Partido Socialista Obrero Español, Spanish Socialist Workers' Party |
| PSP | Partido Socialista Popular, Popular Socialist Party |
| PSUC | Partit Socialista Unificat de Catalunya, Unified Socialist Party of Catalonia |
| PTE | Partido del Trabajo de España |
| SEU | Sindicato Español Universitario, Spanish University Syndicate |
| UCD | Unión del Centro Democrático, Union of the Democratic Center |
| UGT | Unión General de Trabajadores, General Workers' Union |

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