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978-0-521-76516-9 - Introduction to Comparative Politics: The State and its Challenges

Robert Hislope and Anthony Mughan

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INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE POLITICS

This stimulating and accessible introduction to comparative politics offers a fresh perspective on the fundamentals of political science. Its central theme is the enduring political significance of the modern state despite severe challenges to its sovereignty. There are three main sections to the book. The first traces the origins and meaning of the state and proceeds to explore its relationship to the practice of politics. The second examines how states are governed and compares patterns of governance found in the two major regime types in the world today: democracy and authoritarianism. The last section discusses several contemporary challenges – globalization, ethnic nationalism, terrorism, and organized crime – to state sovereignty. Designed to appeal to students and professors alike, this lively text engages readers as it traces states' struggles against the mutually reinforcing pressures of global economic and political interdependence, fragmented identities and secessionism, transnational criminal networks, and terrorism.

Robert Hislope is Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science at Union College.

Anthony Mughan is Professor of Political Science and Director of International Studies at The Ohio State University.

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Introduction to Comparative Politics

THE STATE AND ITS CHALLENGES

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Union College

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Robert Hislope: *To my wife, Ann-Marie Rajhmundhani.*

Anthony Mughan: *To my parents, Frank and Norah,
who made everything possible.*

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