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978-0-521-77743-8 - Democracy and the Media: A Comparative Perspective

Edited by Richard Gunther and Anthony Mughan

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## Democracy and the Media

This book presents a systematic overview and assessment of the impacts of politics on the media, and of the media on politics, in authoritarian, transitional, and democratic regimes in Russia, Spain, Hungary, Chile, Italy, Great Britain, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, and the United States. Its analysis of the interactions between macro- and micro-level factors incorporates the disciplinary perspectives of political science, mass communications, sociology, and social psychology. These essays show that media's effects on politics are the product of often complex and contingent interactions among various causal factors, including media technologies, the structure of the media market, the legal and regulatory framework, the nature of basic political institutions, and the characteristics of individual citizens. The authors' conclusions challenge many forms of conventional wisdom concerning the political roles and effects of the mass media on regime support and change, on the political behavior of citizens, and on the quality of democracy.

Richard Gunther is Professor of Political Science and Executive Director of International Studies at Ohio State University. He has served as cochair of the Social Science Research Council's Subcommittee on Southern Europe and as Director of the West European Studies Program at Ohio State University. He is author of *Public Policy in a No-Party State* (1980) and coauthor or coeditor of other volumes, including *Spain after Franco* (1986), *Elites and Democratic Consolidation in Latin America and Southern Europe* (1992), *Society and Democracy: The Case of Spain* (1993), *The Politics of Democratic Consolidation* (1995), and *Parties, Politics and Democracy in the New Southern Europe* (2000).

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A COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

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Richard Gunther

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*The Ohio State University*



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For our incomparable children

Elizabeth

Siân and Tomos

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