Reiser, Marion | Holtmann, Everhard (Eds.)  
Farewell to the Party Model?  
Independent Local Lists in East and West European Countries  

Local independent lists are a general phenomenon on the local level in many European countries - in established Western countries as well as in new democracies in Middle and Eastern Europe. The research is linked to the much-discussed phenomenon of the growing disenchantment with political parties and the sceptical evaluation of political parties on the local level. Typically, these lists understand themselves as non-parties or anti-parties and therefore assume a contra position in the local party system. The edited book aims first at developing a theoretical and conceptual framework for these non-partisan lists. Second, the contributions describe and analyse for the first time comparatively presence, success, organisational structure, behaviour and performance of these local actors in twelve West and East European countries.

Bäck, Henry | Heinelt, Hubert | Magnier, Annick (Eds.)  
The European Mayor  
Political Leaders in the Changing Context of Local Democracy  
2006. 392 pp. with 41 Fig. and 99 Tab. Softc. EUR 39,90 - ISBN 978-3-531-14574-7  (volume 10)

With this book we aim at describing and analysing the selection, daily life, networks and values of local top political leaders in seventeen European countries. The empirical nourishment to the investigation into town halls across Europe is a survey conducted in 2003 with mayors and corresponding top local political leaders. The data covering responses from 2700 leaders is a unique and rich material allowing descriptions and analyses pursuing a number of lines of inquiry.

Szücs, Stefan | Strömberg, Lars (Eds.)  
Local Elites, Political Capital and Democratic Development  
Governing Leaders in Seven European Countries  
2006. 386 pp. with 124 Fig. and 26 Tab. Softc. EUR 42,00 - ISBN 978-3-531-15059-8  (volume 9)

- out of print -

Hoffmann-Martinot, Vincent | Wollmann, Hellmut (Eds.)  
State and Local Government Reforms in France and Germany  
Divergence and Convergence  
2006. 268 pp. with 12 Fig. and 64 Tab. Softc. EUR 34,90 - ISBN 978-3-531-14596-9  (volume 7)

The edited book aims at comparatively analysing the development and current situation of state and local government reforms in France and Germany. The articles address State and administrative traditions, intergovernmental relations, decentralisation, administrative modernisation, public finances, public sector personnel, local democracy, local (mayoral) leadership and decentral/local social policy.

Hoffmann-Martinot, Vincent | Sellers, Jefferey (Eds.)  
Metropolitization and Political Change  
2005. 443 pp. with 88 Fig. and 131 Tab. Softc. EUR 44,90 - ISBN 978-3-531-14532-7  (volume 6)

Around the world, metropolitan areas are emerging as the predominant form of human settlement. Processes like suburbanization, geopolitical fragmentation and metropolitan segregation, once thought to be confined to exceptions like the United States, have become facts of political and social life throughout advanced industrial countries. These global transformations are also contributing to major shifts in political orientations, electoral participation and governance. This book presents the first systematic comparative analysis of these social, spatial and political shifts. Employing a common analytical and methodological framework, the fifteen contributors examine variants of these changes underway in throughout North America, Eastern and Western Europe, and beyond.
Intra-municipal decentralisation in Scandinavian cities is unique with regard to the volume of services devolved to urban districts. The book investigates the democratic and efficiency effects of decentralisation reforms in six major Scandinavian cities. Special attention is given to consequences of different institutional arrangements as well as to providing an understanding of reform processes. Data for the descriptions and analyses are provided by a number of sources: Surveys with district politicians and samples of citizens, published evaluation reports and interview data from three case studies especially done for this study. Institutional arrangements differ between Copenhagen with relatively autonomous districts and Swedish and Norwegian cities whose districts are more closely integrated with the centre. These differences do matter, both with regard to reform effects and the trajectories of reform processes. Institutionalisation, adaptation and power seeking behaviour of political parties are important factors for understanding the reform processes.
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