



Italy: Politics and Policy

Volume Two

Robert Leonardi and Marcello Fedele

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his second volume of Italy: Politics and Policy documents the changes in the Italian political system and policy making process since the watershed election of 1992 and the parliamentary elections of 1996. Volume Two critically evaluates the policy consequences of the Berlusconi, Prodi and D'Alema administrations. It examines whether policy making is dependent on the structure of political choices at national level, or whether it is now the result of a complex interaction of various levels of government and socio-economic interests above and beyond the political orientation of the national government. The book also looks at the autonomy of national policy making in light of developments at the sub-national as well as European levels, and the continuity in policy making brought about by multi-level interest representation. It will be an essential resource for academics, researchers and students of Italian, European and comparative politics and policy making.

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'«The paramount changes in Italian politics during the 1990s attracted the attention of scholars and practitioners interested in the future of democracies, and not only of democracy in Italy. This volume makes a...step forward by helping us understand the most profound, behind-the-scene changes in contemporary Italian politics and policy, once the most visible aspects are over.» Leonardo Morlino, University of Florence, Italy and Visiting Professor, Stanford University, USA

'What the volume does is to examine the impact of political changes in Italy since 1992 on public policies in the economic and social field. In the process the volume shows the extent to which political outcomes in Italy are increasingly being influenced by policy developments at the European level, while the national level of policy making is giving way to sub-national institutions and interests. The result is a valuable and illuminating assessment of political and policy changes in Italy, indicating new directions in which research can move to clarify what makes the Italian case unique and what makes it resemble that of other European countries. This volume suggests how misleading it is to continue to celebrate the mysteriousness of recent political changes in Italy.

No one with any interest in Italian and European politics can fail to find new and valuable information, and stimulus to thought, in this volume. The standard of papers in this volume is excellent. Even more remarkable, they read very well as a collection, a tribute to both editors and, in particular, Robert Leonardi 's thoughtful introduction.»
Professor Filippo Sabetti, McGill University, Montreal

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