Representative Bureaucracy in Action

Country Profiles from the Americas, Europe, Africa and Asia

Edited by Patrick von Maravić, University of Alberta, Canada and Zeppelin University, B. Guy Peters, University of Pittsburgh, US and Zeppelin University, Germany and Eckhard Schröter, Zeppelin University, Germany

‘This volume confronts one of the most central issues in the study and practice of bureaucracy. Questions about representativeness of public institutions raises key issues about legitimacy, especially in contexts characterised by ethnic diversity and cleavages. Debates are shaped by normatively informed positions that contrasts those in favour of representativeness with those who point to limitations and side-effects. This volume offers a set of important contributions to these debates by linking the long-standing debates about representative bureaucracy with an impressive range of country studies. This volume is a fundamental contribution to the theme of representative bureaucracy.’

– Martin Lodge, London School of Economics, UK

The book explores one of the most topical issues of public bureaucracies worldwide: the relationship between the composition of the public sector workforce and the nature of the society it serves.

Taking a comparative and analytical perspective, the authoritative, yet accessibly written, country chapters show how salient the politics of representativeness have become in increasingly diverse societies. At the same time, they illustrate the wide variety of practice based on different political systems, administrative structures, and cultural settings.

Providing comprehensive up-to-date information and analysis, these studies will interest scholars and practitioners alike, from comparative public administration and management, government, public policy, and diversity studies.


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