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ABSTRACTS

THE DIALECTICS OF DECENTRALIZATION: ECONOMIC REFORM AND REGIONAL INEQUALITY IN YUGOSLAVIA

By N. R. LANG

Economic reform in Communist states is usually evaluated in terms of a dichotomy between traditional "command" economies and systems in which production and investment decisions are "decentralized" in the hands of immediate producers. This distinction tends to be misleading, especially when applied to multinational and/or federal states. This is the case for two reasons. First, the concept of decentralization may be disaggregated into a number of political and economic policy packages whose goals are not necessarily compatible. Second, differences in policy preferences among sub-national leaders are resolved in favor of a particular set of alternatives by the form of decentralization chosen at the national level. In Yugoslavia, decentralist reforms have subordinated the goal of reducing interregional economic inequality to the goals of rapid and stable economic growth, despite the fact that both "decentralist" goals have been equally espoused by federal planners.

THE POLITICS OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES: THE CONFEDERAL PHASE

By P. TAYLOR

In the Confederal phase of integration in the European Communities since 1969, governments on the one hand have been confirmed as essential actors because of the way in which decisions are taken and because of their reaction to the growing range of interdependencies among member states. On the other hand, they are compelled to enter into alliances with other governments and with other actors within the state: they have lost some of their traditional powers and authority, as nongovernmental actors have increased theirs; the Commission of the European Communities reflects these changes in abandoning its claim to be a European government in embryo. Consequently, governments tend to oscillate, in their policies toward each other, between advanced schemes for integration and the reassertion of their separate interests.

TOWARD A SYNTHESIS OF CONFLICT AND INTEGRATION THEORIES OF NATIONALISM

By C. HAH and J. MARTIN

This study is an attempt to generate a theory of nationalism through a synthesis of the conflict and integration theories of nationalism. On the premise that conflict and integration theories have tapped different aspects of the same phenomenon, a more powerful theory of nationalism may be distilled. Such an endeavor, however, requires the inclusion of concepts and relationships heretofore neglected in the literature of nationalism, e.g., the concept of relative deprivation.

NORTHERN IRELAND AS A CASE STUDY OF DECENTRALIZATION IN UNITARY STATES

By N. FURNISS

Decentralization is widely advocated as a means of alleviating the perceived central stultification of modern nation-states, especially those lacking federal constitutional structures. The experience of a separate administrative and decision-making structure in Northern Ireland is examined in an effort to gain an insight into the advantages and weaknesses of decentralization in practice.

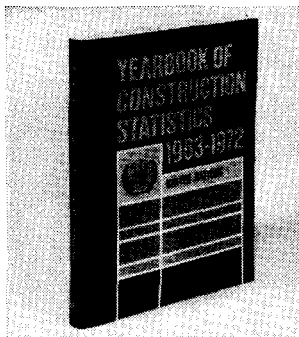


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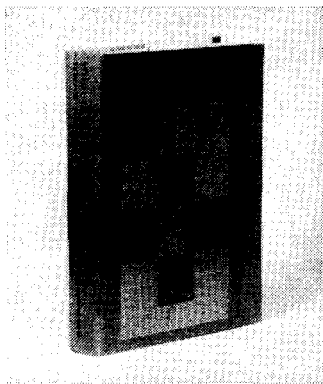


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ALLIANCE MANAGEMENT IN EASTERN EUROPE (THE NEW TYPE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS)

By N. JAMGOTCH, JR.

The theory of international relations of a new type characterizes Soviet-East European relations. Six functional aspects include pragmatic adjustments to polycentric communism; theoretical provisions for a transitional phase prior to the realization of communism on an international level; emphasis upon the East European subsystem as an indispensable core of Soviet national security; organizational efforts toward economic and political integration through COMECON and WTO; Communist summit conferences to forge and publicize unity; and the internationalist duty of socialism with special military obligations toward the territorial defense and security of Marxist-Leninist regimes. Faced with the unacceptable costs and military risks in forcibly expanding the international socialist system, the Soviets have concentrated on the maintenance of their East European subsystem: for as long as the Soviet Union maintains its exclusivist Marxist-Leninist doctrine, Eastern Europe will constitute the only dependable source of regime security and ideological fulfillment for the CPSU.

COMMUNAL VIOLENCE: THE ARMENIANS AND THE COPTS AS CASE STUDIES

By M. J. WYSZOMIRSKI

Historically, communal conflict seems to have occurred in four environments—during the evolution of the major European states, in post-independence colonies, during the disintegration of polyglot empires, and in post-industrialized societies. Within these environments, six conditions serve to heighten the possibility of the use of violence. These conditions include: (1) the presence of communal cleavages based on religion, race, or language, combinations of these cleavages being more volatile than their occurrence singly; (2) the absence of a common value or identity; (3) the concurrent development of antagonistic nationalisms; (4) the possession of an economic or cultural elite status by a subordinate communal group; (5) differential rates of modernization; and (6) the displacement of anticolonial feelings upon a communal group perceived as associated with a colonial power. The examples of the Copts in Egypt and the Armenians in the Ottoman Empire are presented as illustrations of the interaction of these conditions in two different environments and the use or absence of violence in communal conflict.

SMALL STATES: A TOOL FOR ANALYSIS?

By P. R. BAEHR

The usefulness of the concept of "small states" as an analytical tool is discussed in a review of books by Edward Azar and Marshall Singer. The size of states has both domestic and international ramifications. Authors who use the concept of "small states" struggle with the problem of defining it. Such definitions can be clear and unambiguous but arbitrary at the same time; more sophisticated definitions are also more ambiguous and difficult to apply to concrete cases. Inquiry into the role of small states in international politics is shown to be still in a very elementary stage. Although there does of course exist a continuum of size of states in international relations, small states form too broad a category for purposes of analysis.

DRYDEN PRESS 1975

Nations and Men, Third Edition

Ivo D. Duchacek

A concise, introductory text in international politics that seeks to provide today's students with the essential tools for analyzing how nations, people, and the system of nation states interact. Focuses on why nations and people act as they do and how they can be expected to act—in all probability—in the last decades of the twentieth century. Includes an increased number of short insert-featurettes which quote original documents and statements (for example: Nixon-Chou-Peking communique, the Arab-Israeli disengagement agreement, the Brezhnev Doctrine, etc.) and which give the student the exact wording—and flavor—of legal and ideological rhetorics. Published Spring 1975

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