Does peacekeeping work?: shaping belligerents' choices after civil war

N Entessar

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relations, comparative politics, and political ethics. Summing Up:
Highly recommended. *** Graduate collections and above.—B. A.
Veilada, Portland State University

46-4082 JZ5538 2007-47168 CIP

The post-Cold War era has been marked by numerous intractable civil wars. Consequently, the number, scope, and size of peacekeeping missions as a tool of establishing peace in war-ravaged regions of the world have increased significantly. However, the scholarly literature on international peacekeeping is scant. As a result, knowledge of the effectiveness of peacekeeping remains anecdotal. In this well-researched and solidly argued book, Fortna (Columbia Univ.) examines the causal relationship between peacekeeping and durable peace in a number of different settings. By relying on the theories of international bargaining and cooperation, she assesses the effectiveness of peacekeeping from the perspectives of the international community, the peacekeepers, and the main belligerents in the conflict. Fortna develops a sophisticated framework to examine how and under what conditions peacekeeping works. She studies four types of peacekeeping: observation missions, interpositional missions, multidimensional missions, and peace enforcement missions. Using quantitative analysis (logit and multinomial logit regression) and qualitative case analysis of conflicts in Bangladesh, Mozambique, and Sierra Leone, the author provides detailed information on international peacekeeping. Summing Up: Recommended. **

Upper-division undergraduates through faculty.—N. Entessar, University of South Alabama

46-4083 H97 2007-47317 CIP

Genieys (Univ. of Montpellier, France) and Smyrl (Univ. of Denver) have written a thought-provoking volume on the dynamics of change (and continuity) in public policy. They argue that policy makers' pursuit of legitimate authority frames decisions about whether to try to change existing public policies. In particular, the editors emphasize the relevance of policy sectors and subsectors in which a dominant elite in a given policy sector either tries to defend past practices against external shocks and criticisms or chooses to adopt some reforms in an effort to retain and consolidate its power. Four case studies focus on France while the other four deal with other wealthy, industrialized economies. As can happen in edited volumes, not all of the case studies succeed in applying the editors' theoretical framework in the manner conveyed in the framing chapters. Nevertheless, the editors' two introductory chapters and their concluding chapter make for very rewarding reading. For an examination of the role of ideas as a potential engine of change in middle-income countries, see Kurt Weyland's Bounded Rationality and Policy Diffusion (CH, Mar'08, 45-4030). Summing Up: Highly recommended. ***

Upper-division undergraduates and above.—C. H. Blake, James Madison University

46-4084 KHD3421 2008-6698 CIP

McAllister (Univ. of San Diego School of Law) gives an excellent description of the interrelationship among several agencies and branches of federal and state governments in Brazil in their approaches to the enforcement of environmental law. The star of the system is the Ministério Público, or public prosecutor. This is a largely independent agency, which exists both at the federal and state levels. The public prosecutor responds to violations of the law, whether committed by private companies or individuals, or by government agencies or individual public servants. McAllister describes the ways by which the prosecutors have achieved independence, including organized lobbying of the 1988 constitutional convention and the advising of legislators in the crafting of statutes. Federal and state agencies specifically created to deal with environmental questions have earned a reputation for ineffectiveness, often because of political interference by the executive. But with a zealous Ministério Público at its back, some have reasserted themselves. McAllister details the relations between these agencies, the Ministério Público, and federal and state courts in a clear, interesting manner. The reader may be pleasantly surprised to learn that environmental law enforcement in Brazil now has some teeth.

Summing Up: Recommended. *** Graduate, research, and professional collections.—D. Schwaum-Baird, University of North Florida

46-4085 JC423 2007-44303 CIP

Norris (Harvard Univ.), author of Electoral Engineering (CH, Oct'04, 42-1232) and other recent books, was recently director of Democratic Governance at the United Nations Development Programme. Driving Democracy is an important, ambitious, and readable book that attempts to determine whether "power sharing" regimes are better than "power concentrating" regimes, particularly in multiethnic societies. The theory is that power sharing will produce cooperation, while concentrating political power produces a zero-sum game that reduces incentives to play by the rules. This is an extension of the consociational theory pioneered by Aaron Lijphart. Power-sharing regimes are characterized by proportional representation, balance of power at the national level, federalism, and independent mass media. The theory is tested by a statistical comparison of 191 countries for 30 years since the early 1970s; it is illuminated by ten very useful case studies of success and failure in democratic consolidation. The results confirm the advantages of power-sharing institutions, particularly for deeply divided societies, although there are many other relevant variables. Summing Up: Highly recommended. ***

Upper-division undergraduates and above.—R. E. Hartwig, Texas A&M University—Kingsville

46-4086 JQ1758 2008-6783 CIP

The volume edited by Lust-Okar (Yale Univ.) and Zerhouni (Mohammed V Univ., Morocco) includes 13 chapters analyzing political participation in seven primary cases: Iran, Jordan, Egypt, Palestine, Bahrain, Morocco, and Tunisia. Instead of simply focusing on electoral politics, the book analyzes political participation in the broadest sense, including, but not limited to, political activism in labor unions, trade unions, and religious groups. Chapters include both survey data and ethnographic analysis. Some essays are informative for those interested in a particular case, while others also have generalizable results. Tetzir, for example, successfully