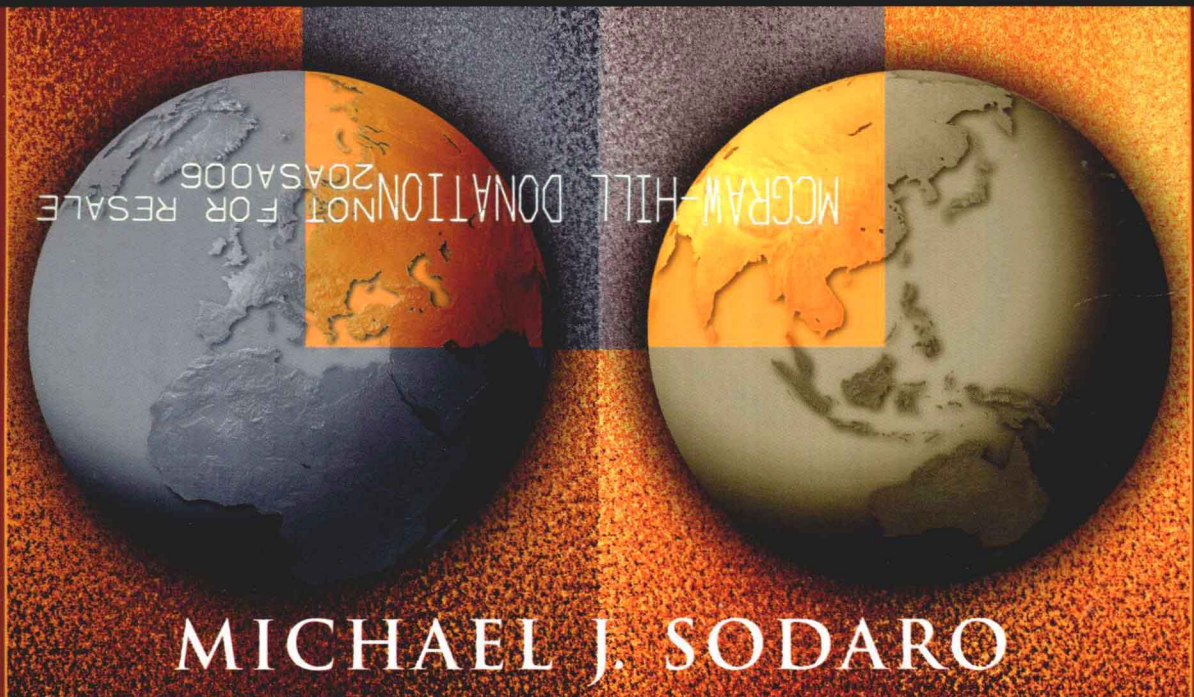




SECOND EDITION

COMPARATIVE POLITICS

A GLOBAL INTRODUCTION



MICHAEL J. SODARO

COMPARATIVE POLITICS

A Global Introduction

SECOND EDITION

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COMPARATIVE POLITICS: A GLOBAL INTRODUCTION

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PREFACE

The favorable reception that the first edition of *Comparative Politics: A Global Introduction* has received since it appeared at the start of 2001 has been truly gratifying. As academics, we are naturally quite grateful for the positive comments the book has elicited from our colleagues: professors, high school teachers, and other professionals who have used the book in their courses or reviewed it with a critical eye. We are grateful as well as for their thoughtful suggestions for improving the book's content, and we have tried to accommodate as many of their recommendations as possible.

Most of all, we are overjoyed at the reactions of students. Young people can be unsparing critics, as anyone who has taught them can attest. Fortunately, instructors who have assigned the first edition have overwhelmingly reported positive student responses. We are particularly gratified (and, quite frankly, relieved!) at these results because we intended our book to be the most intellectually challenging introduction to comparative politics currently available. In terms of its conceptualization, its critical-thinking dimension, and its sheer length, *Comparative Politics: A Global Introduction* is admittedly quite demanding.

But to our great delight, the first edition's success has buttressed our belief that there is a wide audience for a conceptually sophisticated introductory approach to comparative politics. Not only have we won assurances that good students can handle the book's challenges; we have learned that they actually *welcome* them, whether they are in top-flight universities, community colleges, or high schools. We

have also learned that instructors can deal with the book's length by picking and choosing the topics and countries they wish to highlight. Our book is a smorgasbord, and—invariably—people will differ in their tastes.

What's the Same?

In view of the encouraging feedback we have received, we have not tampered with the basic approach we adopted in the first edition. Like its predecessor, the present edition of *Comparative Politics: A Global Introduction* strives to achieve three basic goals: (1) *conceptual richness*; (2) the enhancement of *critical-thinking and analytical skills*; and (3) a survey of a wide array of *countries and political leaders*.

Concepts The fourteen chapters that form Part I ("Concepts and Critical Thinking") address such basic topics of comparative politics as *democracy and democratization; authoritarianism and its variants; power; state institutions; electoral systems; voting behavior; parties and interest groups; class, ethnicity, gender and other aspects of political sociology; nationalism; political culture; ideology* (including Marxism, fascism, and Islam); *dissent and revolution; political economy; and political development*, among others. Drawn from seminal works of academic political science and traditional political philosophy, these ideas come to life through numerous illustrative examples taken from recent events around the world. Democracy occupies an especially prominent place throughout the book. In addition to providing an in-depth theoretical exploration of democracy's various facets, we present a list of ten factors whose presence often contributes to the creation and long-term survival of democracy and whose absence can thwart the very emergence of democracy or cripple its chances for success. We have also retained our eclectic approach to theoretical issues, incorporating a wide range of conceptual orientations, both traditional and contemporary, rather than concentrating on just one (like structural-functionalism).

Critical Thinking One of the book's unique features is that it systematically seeks to enhance the *critical thinking skills* of its readers by introducing them to some of the ways that scientific logic applies to the study of politics. At a rudimentary level and in a clearly written fashion, it explains the application of such elementary scientific concepts as theories, hypotheses, variables, correlations, models, paradigms, and the like to the study of political phenomena. It also takes students through the logic of qualitative hypothesis testing in political science and provides numerous examples of how it is done. To drive home the step-by-step logic of this analytical technique, *virtually every chapter in the book contains a hypothesis-testing exercise*. Like the conceptual definitions introduced in Part I, these exercises are taken from real-world political phenomena and from influential works by scholars and political thinkers.

Countries and Leaders This book seeks to provide as much breadth and depth as possible in covering an assortment of *countries* around the world, integrating their treatment with the conceptual and analytical frameworks developed in Part I. To these ends we devote the eight chapters of Part II ("Countries and Leaders") to ten major states: the *United Kingdom, France, Germany, Japan, Russia, China, Mexico, Brazil, Nigeria, and South Africa*. Each chapter highlights key historical events in the development of the country under investigation and explores its political system in detail. To enliven these accounts and illustrate how personalities interact with institutions, all these chapters contain vivid biographical profiles of important political *leaders*. These capsule biographies provide substantial material for courses focused on the theory and practice of leadership. The country studies also treat some of the most salient political issues animating debate in these countries—such as economic policy, ethnic conflict, foreign policy, and the like—and they invite students to make comparisons with the ways roughly similar issues are dealt with in their own country, above all the United States. Although there is no chapter devoted specifically to the United States, the book makes numerous explicit comparisons between political phenomena in other countries and analogous features of American politics.

Along with covering the aforementioned ten countries surveyed in Part II, we provide pertinent information about a host of additional countries in Part I as part of our effort to illustrate the concepts and ideas treated in the first fourteen chapters. *Canada* and *Yugoslavia*, for example, illustrate some of the problems encountered by states with minorities that want greater autonomy or outright independence. A number of countries treated in Part I figure prominently as front-line states in the war on terrorism and related contemporary events, including *Afghanistan, India, Iraq, Iran, Israel, Pakistan, and Turkey*.

What's New?

The criticism of the first edition most frequently articulated by academic reviewers and students alike was its length. In response, we have shortened the volume by eliminating the chapter on Israel and by consolidating material in all the other chapters. At the same time, we have sacrificed neither breadth nor depth in our overall treatment of concepts or key countries. (Israel and the Palestinians, for example, are discussed in Part I.) We have updated our coverage of recent events up to the end of 2003. Along the way we cover elections and other important developments that have occurred in our key countries since the publication of the first edition. (A first-hand account of election campaigns in Britain and France is a new feature of the second edition.) Most of all, we have made a special effort to address some of the critical issues affecting the world in the aftermath of September 11, 2001 and the war in Iraq in 2003. To this end we not only include new or expanded coverage of the front-line states mentioned above; we also provide more extensive treatment of the relationship between domestic politics and foreign policy in a number of countries.

A Global Approach Like the first edition, the second edition of *Comparative Politics: A Global Introduction* presents what we believe to be an unusually comprehensive one-volume introduction to comparative politics, an approach that is truly global in scope. We have also sought to unite high scholarly standards with an engaging style. This is not a dumbed-down textbook, nor is it excessively advanced for introductory-level students. All its contributors are accomplished scholars with a commitment to educating students. And reactions to the first edition conclusively demonstrate that students can learn the value of concepts and theories, as long as these abstractions are *clearly presented* and as long as the students are shown *how the conceptual tools of comparative politics relate to real-world situations*.

We want students to appreciate the relevance of concepts and ideas to the events they read about in newspapers and see on television. We also want this book to be interesting and fun to read. Accordingly, clarity and ease of expression have been our watchwords. We hope that students and teachers alike will find this new edition of *Comparative Politics: A Global Introduction* to be an insightful and readable guide to the complexities of our highly globalized, and increasingly dangerous, post-9/11 world—a world in which the study of comparative politics matters more than ever.

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This book is the product of many hands, and I am very grateful to a number of people whose help has proved invaluable. To begin with, it is a privilege for me to thank the four contributors to this volume: Dean Collinwood (who wrote chapter 18, on Japan); Bruce Dickson (chapter 20, on China); Joseph Klesner (chapter 21, on Mexico and Brazil); and Timothy Sisk (chapter 22, on Nigeria and South Africa). Without their contributions, this book would fall far short of providing a “global” introduction to comparative politics. I would also like to thank Nathan Brown, who wrote the chapter on Israel for the first edition. Nathan’s work provided the basis of this edition’s section on Israel and the Palestinians in chapter 6. Each of us assumes final responsibility for our respective contributions. As the author of chapters 1–17 and 19, I am solely responsible for their content, including any errors or shortcomings they contain. Although I am also responsible for the book’s overall concept and structure, I gave the contributors ample latitude to employ their knowledge and analytical talents to the full. The quality of their chapters, in my view, thoroughly reflects the high standards we set for ourselves.

All of us owe a continuing debt of gratitude to our families and loved ones, and I join with the other contributors in applauding their continuing support and inspiration. On a personal note, I would like to express special thanks to my mother, Ellen DeVincentiis Sodaro, for her steadfast love and generosity, and heartfelt thanks as well to Gloria, Paul, Alexandra, and Marshall.

The contributors and I are heavily indebted to a number of talented and dedicated people associated with McGraw-Hill. Once again it was

a delight to collaborate with Sponsoring Editor Monica Eckman, just as it was in preparing the first edition. Developmental Editor Kate Scheinman did an outstanding job supervising the revision process. Wendy Nelson was without doubt the best copyeditor I have ever worked with: her sharp eye for details and her stylistic sensitivity improved the manuscript immeasurably. Cassandra Chu supervised the cover design and other artwork. And Project Managers Mary Lee Harms and David Sutton put it all together, spinning these many contributions into a final product we can all be proud of. Behind these folks stands a phalanx of other professionals who made important contributions of their own to this volume's publication.

Among the many research assistants who helped me over the years, I wish to single out Michelle Riebeling, Michelle Sparkman, and Krista Vogt for their indispensable contributions to this edition. I also wish to thank the Institute for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies at The George Washington University, and particularly its director, James Goldgeier, for providing my assistants with financial support and for providing me with a congenial research base. Thanks also to the Elliott School of International Affairs, my main institutional base at GW, and to the Elliott School's dean, Harry Harding. I am also indebted to a number of friends and colleagues who provided important advice, research, material, or other assistance, above all Shoshana and Brian Foster, Olga Safronova, and Margrit and Ingo Volland. My thanks also go to the following reviewers whose critiques resulted in a significantly improved second edition: Andrew Appleton, Washington State University; Hannah E. Britton, Mississippi State University; Brian Brophy-Baermann, University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point; Terry D. Clark, Creighton University; Jonathan Isacoff, Saint Joseph's University; Amie Kreppel, University of Florida; R. William Liddle, The Ohio State University; Amy G. Mazur, Washington State University; Andrey A. Meleshevich, Allegheny College; Robert Porter, Ventura College; Christopher Stefes, Colorado University, Denver; Duane Swank, Marquette University; and Timothy J. White, Xavier University. Finally I wish to thank my colleagues and students at George Washington for providing a supportive and stimulating environment for research and teaching over the course of my career.

The contributors and I collectively dedicate this book to our students. As an eternally youthful source of information, insight, criticism, amusement, and—occasionally—bewilderment, it is the students at our colleges and universities who have inspired us to write this volume, and with whom we wish to share our hopes, our concerns, and our love of the world.

Michael J. Sodaro

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