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GOVERNMENTAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INSTITUTIONS

INSTITUTIONS POLITIQUES ET ADMINISTRATIVES

(a) Central institutions / Institutions centrales


In 2011, Nigeria legally established a sovereign wealth fund (SWF) with a view to find a lasting solution to the frequent short-fall of funds needed for key budgetary and infrastructural developments in the country. This is as a result of the volatility in the price of crude oil, which is Nigeria's major source of foreign exchange revenue. This article examines the role that Nigeria's SWF could play in the economic growth of the country. Importantly, as Nigeria continues to struggle with its first economic recession in decades, the article suggests it needs to adopt lessons from Singapore's SWF experience. [R]


This article argues that the very nucleus of French dirigisme lives on. This claim is developed by analyzing post-1980 change in three major industries (agriculture, defense aerospace and pharmaceuticals). If the inscription of French producers in international markets and global finance has indeed eroded national capacity to unilaterally determine economic practices and outcomes, often through investing in the European scale, many renewed modes of intervention have actually enabled French capitalism to retain its most significant institutions. Explanation for the political success of this "neo-dirigisme" is traced to struggles that have taken place within and beyond the state. During these conflicts, actors seeking to embed neo-liberal content into economic interventionism have consistently won out over opponents who advocate a wider range of interventionist policy tools. [R, abr.]


Does Chile need a new constitution? If yes, what would be the best way to achieve such outcome? The highly political subject area of constitution-making should be studied from the double point of view of law and politics. A purely empirical approach tends to lose sight of the object domain and often winds up discovering regularities that the best lawyers and political actors already knew too well. A purely legal approach, however, tends to mistake formal process for the real thing. There are four different democratic pathways of constitution-making. Assuming for the moment that Chile does need a new Constitution, which of these four methods would be most appropriate? Being ultimately ideal types, could two of them even be combined?

68.6032 ASKIM, Jostein ; KARLSEN, Rune ; KOLTVET, Kristoffer — The sky who loved me? Cross partisan in the core executive. Public Administration 98(2), 2018 : 243-258.

Political appointees from different parties from that of their minister — cross-partisan appointees (CPAs) — are increasingly found in the core executive. Ministerial advisory scholarship has overlooked CPAs, while the coalition governance literature sees them as "spies" and "coalition watchdogs". This article argues theoretically and demonstrates empirically that this conceptualization is overly limited. The empirical basis is a qualitative follow up survey of CPAs. The results show that CPAs monitor on behalf of their party, provide cross-partisan advice to their minister and perform many of the same tasks as regular partisan appointees, including exercising independent decision-making power. In this research context, most CPAs act as coalition liaison officers who, rather than create tension and negative dynamics, contribute to building trust between coalition partners. [R]


The role of national parliaments in EU matters has become an important subject in the debate over the democratic legitimacy of the EU. Yet despite a remarkable increase in parliamentary involvement in EU affairs, the added value in terms of democratic legitimacy will remain limited if citizens are not aware of their activities. Given that citizens mainly experience politics through the media, the aim of the paper is therefore to explore whether and under what conditions parliamentary involvement in EU matters is visible in national newspapers. The paper draws on two quantitative datasets covering parliamentary EU activities and relevant newspaper articles in seven Member States between 2010 and 2013. Results suggest that the efforts of active parliaments pay off. [R, abr.]


Three distinctive elements of secessionism are analyzed: its political basis, centered on sovereignty; the construction of a new legality; and the reasons that have caused the failure of the independence movement. In the second part of the paper, the author analyzes the measures adopted to defend the Constitution. They have been of broad spectrum covering the performance of the Constitutional Court, the attempt to abort the referendum, the criminal prosecution of those responsible, the speech of the King and the activation of Art. 155. [R]


Most proposals for a structural reform of the German Bundesrat focus on voting rules. This is due to the role of state coalitions including parties that are part of the Federal Government as well as parties that are in opposition at the federal level. These "mixed" state coalitions tend to abstain in votes in case of non-agreement of the coalition partners. But with the Bundesrat’s approval needed for a lot of laws to pass, these abstentions have the same effect as nays. Despite discussions on the pros and cons of diverse reform proposals, their empirical potential for more effective federal legislation has only been analyzed in a very static fashion. The more dynamic approach chosen here is to compare the Federal Government’s bargaining chances under absolute, relative and inverted majority voting. [R]


This article assesses the policy influence of the House of Commons Justice Select Committee, established to oversee the work of the Ministry of Justice following its creation a decade ago. The committee has, from the outset, overseen many contentious policy and legislative developments in the penal field, although none so extensive as those introduced following the formation of the Conservative-Liberal Democrat coalition government in 2010. Despite the newsworthiness of its business, the committee has to, some extent, operated in the shadows of its high-profile sister, the Home Affairs Select Committee, and has received surprisingly limited attention from criminologists and political scientists alike. Forming part of a wider investigation into the work of the committee, this article examines the extent to which it was able to influence penal developments during the coalition years. [R, abr.][See Abstr. 68.6121]