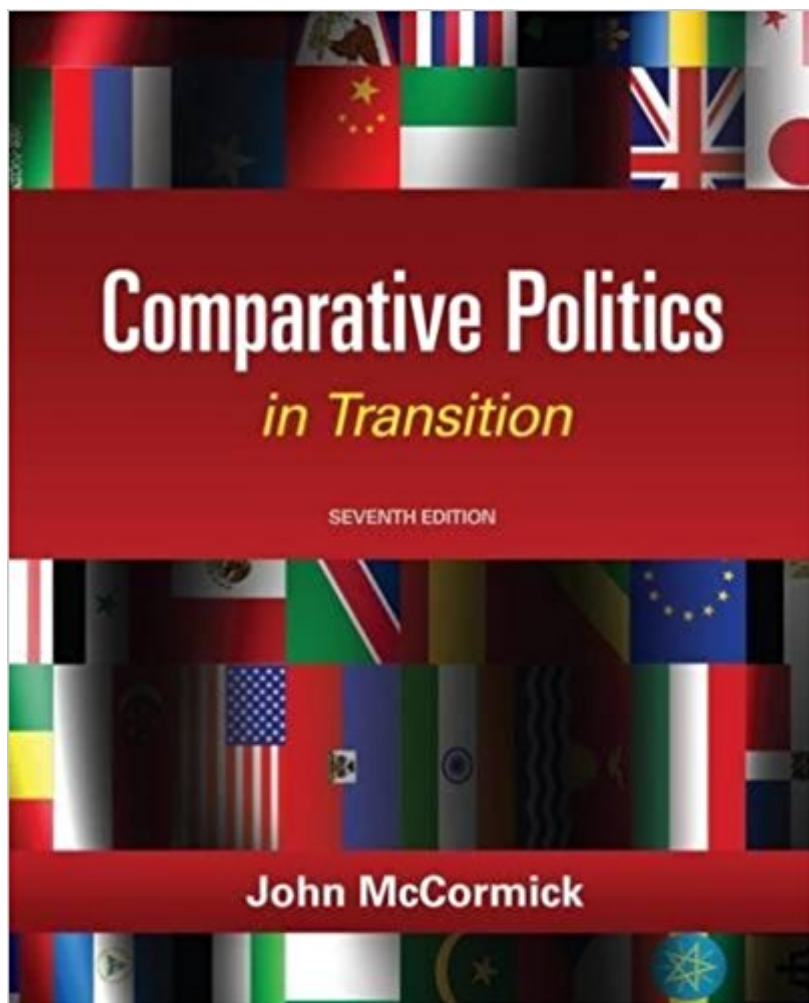


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Comparative Politics In Transition, 7th Edition



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Book Information

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John McCormick is Jean Monnet Professor of European Union Politics at Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI). He was educated at Rhodes University (South Africa), the

University of London, and Indiana University, and has been a visiting professor at Exeter University and the University of Sussex in Britain, and at the College of Europe in Bruges, Belgium. He has lived in, traveled to, or undertaken research in nearly 40 countries in North and Central America, Europe, Southeast Africa, and Southeast Asia. Before completing his Ph.D. in political science, he worked in the public sector for two environmental interest groups and was a consultant for a number of specialized agencies of the United Nations, including FAO and the UN Environment Program. His teaching and research interests lie in comparative politics and public policy, with particular interests in environmental policy, British politics, and the politics of the European Union. His other publications include EUROPEAN UNION POLITICS (Palgrave Macmillan, 2011), EUROPEANISM (Oxford University Press, 2010), and CONTEMPORARY BRITAIN (Palgrave Macmillan, 2nd edition, 2006).

Used as a textbook I found the material fairly current, with good text boxes, and informative. I especially liked the sections on Great Britain and China, but found the section on Islam/Sharia confusing in places. Then after all, that is what you have a professor for!

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I give it 2.5 stars. This text was a mandated reading for a related class. The author tends to present analysis of national cultural and State political systems in a basic and cursory analysis. It reads as a freshman/100 level course text. The historical context is sorely lacking though. The defeat of the Islamic Ottoman Empire in 1683 at the gates of Vienna [Wien], Austria is never mentioned in the Islamic nations section. Likewise, the 1917-1919 invasion of northeastern Russia by the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and the United States in support of the White Russian faction, is never mentioned in regard to the Russian suspicions about other nations motives in dealing with Russia. Both events are critical to both Islamic and Russian national identities and have current relevance in geopolitics. This work is a basic primer in the subject and once read, is too perfunctory to be used as a reference material afterwards.

NOTE: This item is the international edition but has the identical content to that of the US edition. I used this book in place of 978-1111832575 at ISU.

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