



Sabrina Cavatorto, Antonio La Spina

The Politics of Public Administration Reform in Italy

- Examines administrative reforms in Italy, focusing on the waves that took place since the Nineties, and more specifically on the last five years
- Develops interpretations and explanations using the theoretical tools of policy analysis
- Argues that one of the most relevant problems of the Italian public service is the weakness of independent performance evaluation

This book provides a stimulating presentation of the Italian administrative system through an empirical and critical perspective on the processes of administrative reform at the national level. It focuses on some of the most recent changes developed during the years of austerity and fiscal crisis and offers an updated perspective on the attempts made by Italian governments to modernize national public administration through the 'new public management' and 'governance' paradigms. These frameworks have been suggested as models to enhance efficiency, transparency, accountability and public participation. The book studies international and supranational influence, policy diffusion, domestic politics and institutional dynamics, administrative traditions, and functional explanations—all determinants of policy outputs and outcomes, and possibly of policy learning as well. This book is the first to set out such a comprehensive and up-to-date analysis for non-Italian readers.

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