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Citizens and Democracy in Europe

Contexts, Changes and Political Support

Series: Palgrave Studies in European Political Sociology

- Provides an innovative framework for understanding attitudes towards democracy and political institutions
- Presents the effects of contextual changes and citizens' social and political characteristics
- Explores longitudinal and cross-countries differences in satisfaction with democracy and political trust in 31 European countries

This book provides an innovative and in-depth analysis of how attitudes towards democracy and political institutions differ across 31 countries in Europe, and how these attitudes have fluctuated over time. After addressing conceptual and measurement issues about the evaluative dimension of political support, the authors develop a unique framework assessing the role of the institutional format, the quality of the political process, macro-economic conditions and inequality to explain trends and differences in political satisfaction and trust. The book further explores how education, employment and electoral status create gaps in political support. Citizens and Democracy in Europe will be of interest to students and scholars in comparative politics, political sociology and public opinion.

1st ed. 2020, XIV, 242 p. 28 illus.

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