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Open Reports Series

Just Managing?

What it Means for the Families of Austerity Britain

MARK O'BRIEN AND PAUL KYPRIANOU

 Read it online

These are the stories that bring the statistics of austerity and inequality to life. The dignity, work ethic and stoicism of the families in this book should haunt every politician and media commentator who has painted the false picture of a 'benefits culture' and 'shirkers and scroungers'; this illuminating book should be required reading for them.

—Kate Pickett, author (with Richard Wilkinson) of *The Spirit Level: Why Equality is Better for Everyone*

The 'just about managing', 'Hardworking families', 'Alarm-clock Britain'. In recent years British political discourse has been filled with these slogans, as politicians claim to speak on behalf of families who are in work, but struggling to get by. This book allows us to hear from some of these families directly. At a time when the impact of austerity is more relevant than ever, *Just Managing?* cuts through the debates and sloganeering to give some of the real people behind the headlines and statistics a chance to tell their stories. It tracks the lives of thirty working families in Liverpool over one year, as they struggle to manage on incomes at or around the National Minimum Wage. Their accounts are placed within the economic and political context that has shaped their experiences and that of millions of other working families across the country.

This book is required reading for anyone seeking to understand what life is like at the sharp end of 'austerity Britain'.

Security in a Small Nation

Scotland, Democracy, Politics

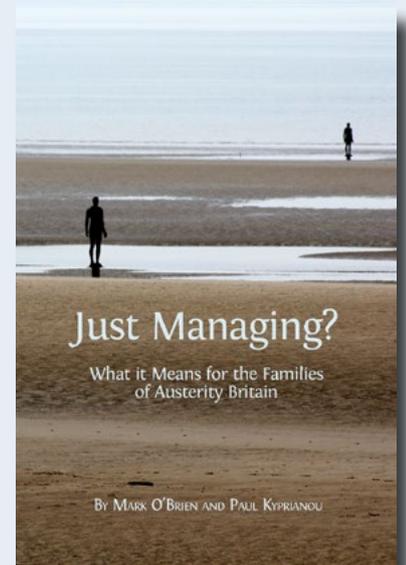
EDITED BY ANDREW NEAL

 Read it online

The 2014 Referendum on Scottish independence sparked debate on every dimension of modern statehood. Levels of public interest and engagement were unprecedented, as demonstrated by record-breaking voter turnout. Yet aside from Trident, the issue of security was relatively neglected in the campaigns, and there remains a lack of literature on the topic. In this volume Andrew Neal has collated a variety of interdisciplinary perspectives on security and constitutional change in Scotland and the UK, including writing from experts in foreign policy analysis, intelligence studies, parliamentary studies, and journalism.

The book draws on current debates about the extent of intelligence powers and their implications for accountability, privacy, and human rights. It examines the foreign and security policy of other small states through the prism of Scottish independence, providing unique insight into the bureaucratic and political processes associated with multi-level security governance. These contributions provide a detailed picture of the changing landscape of security, including the role of diverse and decentralised agencies, and new security interdependencies within and between states.

The analysis presented in this book will inform ongoing constitutional debates in the UK and the study of other secessionist movements around the world. *Security in a Small Nation* is essential reading for any follower of UK and Scottish politics, and those with an interest in security and nationhood on a global scale.

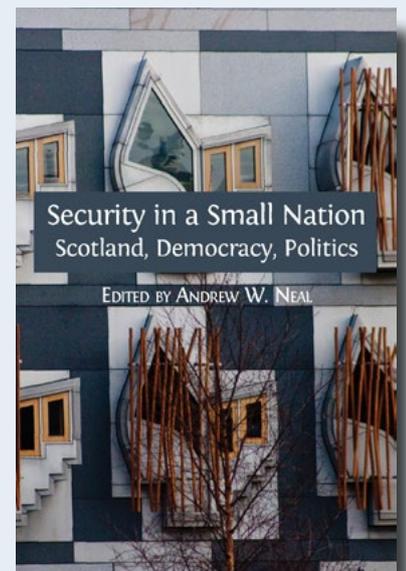


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<http://dx.doi.org/10.11647/OBP0112>
2017 | 234 x 156 mm | 244 pp. | 24 colour illus.



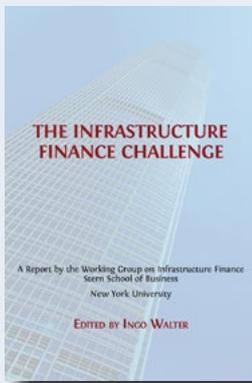
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<http://dx.doi.org/10.11647/OBP0078>
2017 | 234 x 156 mm | 250 pp.

Open Reports Series



The Infrastructure Finance Challenge

EDITED BY INGO WALTER

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ISSN: 2399-6668 (Print); 2399-6676 (Online)

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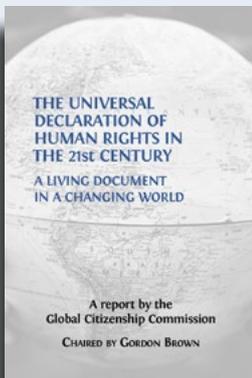
<http://dx.doi.org/10.11647/OBR.0106>

2016 | 234 x 156 mm | 136 pp.

The global interconnectedness of the world's economies, along with the torrid pace of urbanization in the developing world, lead to urgent and manifestly complex issues about infrastructure. This monograph takes on some of the fundamental questions in this area, attempting to clarify how to think about the boundaries of what is meant by 'infrastructure', its pricing, its potential adverse effects and its financing.

—Paul Boghossian, Director, Global Institute for Advanced Study, NYU

Infrastructure finance is among the most complex and challenging areas in the global financial architecture. Ingo Walter, Professor Emeritus of Finance, Corporate Governance and Ethics at the Stern School of Business, New York University, and his team of experts tackle the issue by focussing on key findings backed by serious theoretical and empirical research. The result is a set of viable guideposts for researchers, policy-makers, students and anybody interested in the varied challenges of the contemporary economy.



The Universal Declaration of Human Rights in the 21st Century

A Living Document in a Changing World

EDITED BY GORDON BROWN

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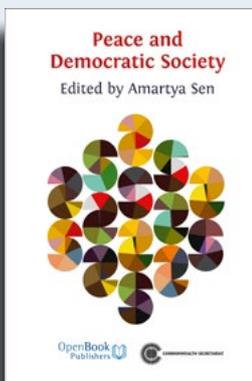
MOBI £1.99 | \$2.99 9781783742226

<http://dx.doi.org/10.11647/OBR.0091>

2015 | 234 x 156 mm | 146 pp.

The Global Citizenship Commission was convened, under the leadership of former British Prime Minister Gordon Brown and the auspices of NYU's Global Institute for Advanced Study, to re-examine the spirit and stirring words of The Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The result—this volume—offers a 21st-century commentary on the original document, furthering the work of human rights and illuminating the ideal of global citizenship. What does it mean for each of us to be members of a global community?

Bringing together world leaders and thinkers in the fields of politics, ethics, and philosophy, the Commission set out to develop a common understanding of the meaning of global citizenship—one that arises from basic human rights and empowers every individual in the world. This landmark report affirms the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and seeks to renew the 1948 enterprise, and the very ideal of the human family, for our day and generation..



Peace and Democratic Society

EDITED BY AMARTYA SEN

[Read it online](#)

Open Reports Series, Vol. 1

ISSN: 2399-6668 (Print); 2399-6676 (Online)

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<http://dx.doi.org/10.11647/OBR.0014>

2011 | 234 x 156 mm | 155 pp.

Recent acts of terrorism and the current unrest in the Middle East remind us how important it is to understand the relationship between violence, peace and democracy. In a challenging and insightful essay, Amartya Sen explores ideas around 'organised violence' (such as war, genocide and terrorism) and violence against the individual. Highlighting the inadequacies of some of the widely accepted explanations for violence—including the idea that the world is experiencing a 'clash of civilisations'—Sen makes a plea for a global, multilateral debate on the causes of conflict, and an understanding of the multiple identities of the individuals involved.

The introductory essay draws on the findings of the Commonwealth Commission on Respect and Understanding, which was chaired by Sen, and established to promote mutual communication and understanding among all faiths and communities in the Commonwealth. Its timely report, 'Civil Paths to Peace', suggests that governments, media and educators—indeed, everyone—must take the time to understand the complexities around violent behaviour and its causes, without prejudging what these might be.

Deliberation, Representation, Equity

Research Approaches, Tools and Algorithms for Participatory Processes

LOVE EKENBERG, KARIN HANSSON, MATS DANIELSON, GÖRAN CARL ET AL.

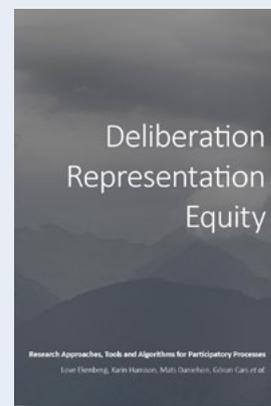
 Read it online

In democratic societies there is widespread acknowledgment of the need to incorporate citizens' input in decision-making processes in more or less structured ways. But participatory decision making is balancing on the borders of inclusion, structure, precision and accuracy. To simply enable more participation will not yield enhanced democracy, and there is a clear need for more elaborated elicitation and decision analytical tools.

This rigorous and thought-provoking volume draws on a stimulating variety of international case studies, Editors Love Ekenberg (senior research scholar, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis [IIASA], Laxenburg, professor of Computer and Systems Sciences, Stockholm University), Karin Hansson (artist and research fellow, Department of Computer and Systems Sciences, Stockholm University), Mats Danielson (vice president and professor of Computer and Systems Sciences, Stockholm University, affiliate researcher, IIASA) and Göran Carl (professor of Societal Planning and Environment, Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm) draw innovative collaborations between mathematics, social science, and the arts.

They develop new problem formulations and solutions, with the aim of carrying decisions from agenda setting and problem awareness through to feasible courses of action by setting objectives, alternative generation, consequence assessments, and trade-off clarifications.

As a result, this book is important new reading for decision makers in government, public administration and urban planning, as well as students and researchers in the fields of participatory democracy, urban planning, social policy, communication design, participatory art, decision theory, risk analysis and computer and systems sciences.



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<http://dx.doi.org/10.11647/OBP.0108>
2017 | 254 x 203 mm | 380 pp. | 130 colour illus.

Tyneside Neighbourhoods

Deprivation, Social Life and Social Behaviour in one British City

DANIEL NETTLE

 Read it online

Nettle's book presents the results of five years of comparative ethnographic fieldwork in two different neighbourhoods of the same British city, Newcastle upon Tyne. The neighbourhoods are only a few kilometres apart, yet whilst one is relatively affluent, the other is amongst the most economically deprived in the UK. *Tyneside Neighbourhoods* uses multiple research methods to explore social relationships and social behaviour, attempting to understand whether the experience of deprivation fosters social solidarity, or undermines it. The book is distinctive in its development of novel quantitative methods for ethnography: systematic social observation, economic games, household surveys, crime statistics, and field experiments. Nettle analyses these findings in the context of the cultural, psychological and economic consequences of economic deprivation, and of the ethical difficulties of representing a deprived community. In so doing the book sheds light on one of the main issues of our time: the roles of culture and of socioeconomic factors in determining patterns of human social behaviour.



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<http://dx.doi.org/10.11647/OBP.0084>
2015 | 234 x 156 mm | 146 pp. | 30 colour illus.

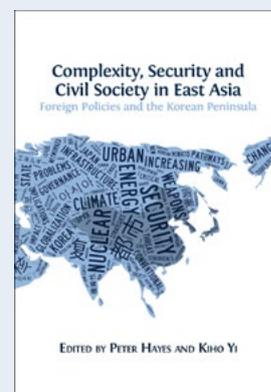
Complexity, Security and Civil Society in East Asia

Foreign Policies and the Korean Peninsula

EDITED BY PETER HAYES AND KIHO YI

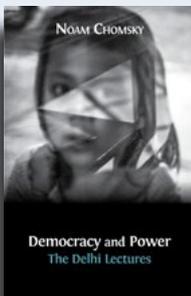
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Complexity, Security and Civil Society in East Asia offers the latest understanding of complex global problems in the region, including nuclear weapons, urban insecurity, energy, and climate change. Unusually, this book is both theoretical and practical. *Complexity, Security and Civil Society in East Asia* presents strategies that can be led by civil society and negotiated by its diplomats to realize peace, security, and sustainability worldwide. It shows that networked civic diplomacy offers solutions to these urgent issues that official 'complex diplomacy' cannot. By providing a new theoretical framework based on empirical observation, this volume is a must read for diplomats, scholars, students, journalists, activists, and individual readers seeking insight into how to solve the crucial issues of our time.



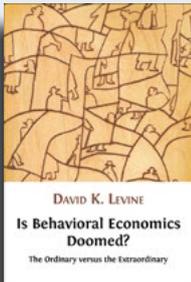
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<http://dx.doi.org/10.11647/OBP.0059>
2015 | 234 x 156 mm | 470 pp. | 33 b&w illus.



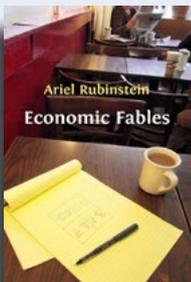
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<http://dx.doi.org/10.11647/OBP.0021>
2012 | 234 x 156 mm | 152 pp. | 14 b&w illus.



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EPUB £2.95 9781906924805
MOBI £2.95 9781906924812

<http://dx.doi.org/10.11647/OBP.0020>
2012 | 198 x 129 mm | 253 pp. | 8 b&w illus.

Democracy and Power

The Delhi Lectures

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NOAM CHOMSKY. INTRODUCTION BY JEAN DRÈZE

Chomsky makes the world a more intelligent place. He is a marksman whose eye never wanders and whose aim never lets him down.

— Arundhati Roy

Noam Chomsky visited India in 1996 and 2001 and spoke on a wide range of subjects, from democracy and corporate propaganda to the nature of the world order and the role of intellectuals in society. He captivated audiences with his lucid challenge of dominant political analyses, the engaging style of his talks, and his commitment to social equality as well as individual freedom. Chomsky's early insights into the workings of power in the modern world remain timely and compelling. Published for the first time, this series of lectures also provides the reader with an invaluable introduction to the essential ideas of one of the leading thinkers of our time.

Is Behavioral Economics Doomed?

The Ordinary versus the Extraordinary

[Read it online](#)

DAVID K. LEVINE

It is fashionable to criticize economic theory for focusing too much on rationality and ignoring the imperfect and emotional way in which real economic decisions are reached. All of us facing the global economic crisis wonder just how rational economic men and women can be. Behavioral economics—an effort to incorporate psychological ideas into economics—has become all the rage. This book by well-known economist David K. Levine questions the idea that behavioral economics is the answer to economic problems. It explores the successes and failures of contemporary economics both inside and outside the laboratory.

Economic Fables

[Read it online](#)

ARIEL RUBINSTEIN

Part memoir, part crash-course in economic theory, this deeply engaging book by one of the world's foremost economists looks at economic ideas through a personal lens. Together with an introduction to some of the central concepts in modern economic thought, Ariel Rubinstein offers some powerful and entertaining reflections on his childhood, family and career. In doing so, he challenges many of the central tenets of game theory, and sheds light on the role economics can play in society at large. The book is as thought-provoking for seasoned economists as it is enlightening for newcomers to the field. Sylvia Nasar, author of *A Beautiful Mind*, describes *Economics Fables* as a 'wonderfully inviting introduction to game theory, rich in personalities, history and sense of place'.

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