

Local Governance in Western Europe

Peter John



SAGE Publications
London • Thousand Oaks • New Delhi

Contents

<i>List of Figures and Tables</i>	ix
<i>Preface</i>	xi
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xiii
1 From Local Government to Local Governance	1
The central ideas of the book	1
Normative arguments	2
The comparative approach	3
What is Western Europe?	4
The elements of Western European local governments	6
Defining governance and identifying its causes	9
Complementary perspectives	18
Organization of the book	22
2 Local Government Systems in Western Europe	25
The comparative study of local government systems	25
The Page and Goldsmith framework	26
The contrast between northern and southern local government systems	34
Conclusion	37
3 Local Regimes in Western Europe	40
Defining regimes	41
Regimes in Western Europe?	43
The revival of the city	46
The academic disputation	47
Regimes and governance	52
Comparative research	58
Conclusion	59
4 The Europeanization of Sub-national Governance	61
The international dimension to local politics	61
The European Union	63
The development of the EU	66
Perspectives on Europeanization	71
The comparative context	74
The Europeanization of policies and organizations	77

European programme partnerships	80
Lobbying the EU	84
The future	90
Conclusion	91
5 Privatization and the New Public Management	93
Management structures in Western European local governments	94
The New Public Management	97
Management changes at the sub-national level	100
Conclusion	107
6 Institutional Formation and Regionalism	109
Institutions and governance	109
Meso or regional government?	111
'Top-down' regionalization	112
'Bottom-up' factors	117
The progress and performance of regional governments	122
Conclusion	131
7 Leadership and the Local Executive	134
Pressures for reform	134
Local government leadership	136
The move to governance	141
Leadership change	143
Institutional change	146
Conclusion	152
8 Renewing Local Democracy	154
The normative dimension to governance	154
Democratic renewal and participation	157
Western European experiences	159
Conclusion	166
9 Conclusions	167
From local government to local governance	167
Caveats and limitations	169
The comparative experience of governance	172
<i>References</i>	176
<i>Index</i>	197