



Palgrave Macmillan

1st  
edition

1st ed. 2018, XVII, 202 p. 2  
illus.

**Printed book**

Hardcover

**Printed book**

Hardcover

ISBN 978-3-319-70744-0

\$ 129,00

Available

**Discount group**

Palgrave Standard US (P5)

**Product category**

Monograph

**Other renditions**

Softcover

ISBN 978-3-319-88986-3

Political Science and International Relations : Public Policy

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# Policy Diffusion and Telecommunications Regulation

- Disentangles the major actors in the telecommunications sector and identifies their potentially conflicting economic and political interests
- Uncovers governmental strategies of policy-making in the telecommunications sector, including decisions of regional governments to develop policies
- Examines changes in regional trends and specifically the rise of Southern countries as regulatory weights in the telecommunications sector

This study investigates regulatory reforms in the telecommunications sector of Middle Eastern and North African (MENA) countries. It explores telecommunications innovations in three developing economies (Morocco, Jordan and Egypt), with a focus on regional and European trends in telecommunications policies. Common knowledge suggests that the European Union and its member states are the main influential regulatory power in the MENA region. However, the empirical analysis of selected telecommunications regulations: universal service obligation (USO) and spectrum management, reveals that reforms are not always determined by European countries but may also originate from other developing countries, such as Peru and Chile. This finding attests to the rise of regulatory influence from the Global South, which challenges traditional transfers of regulations originating from more industrially advanced countries.

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ISBN 978-3-319-70744-0 / BIC: JPP / SPRINGER NATURE: SC911060

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