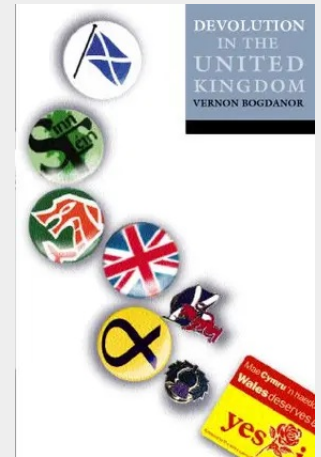


Devolution in the United Kingdom

The issue of devolution has often been one for polemic rather than reasoned analysis. This book places recent developments in the United Kingdom in their historical context, examining political and constitutional aspects of devolution in Britain from Gladstone's espousal of Home Rule in 1886 right up to the 1998 legislation governing the Scottish Parliament and the Welsh Assembly. As well as considering what devolution will mean for Scotland and Wales, and how it will work in practice, Vernon Bogdanor discusses parallels with earlier devolution debates, giving special attention to the issue of Irish Home Rule which dominated British politics from 1886 to 1914. He also examines the experience of devolution in Northern Ireland and analyses the 1998 Good Friday Agreement, as well as considering the impact and implications of the new arrangements for the government of London under the Mayoral system implemented in May 2000. Devolution in the United Kingdom cuts across the boundaries of disciplines such as history, political science, and law, and will be required reading for anyone seeking to understand the significance of the most important constitutional development of our time.

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29,60 €

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Lieferfrist: bis zu 10 Tage

Artikelnummer: 9780192801289

Medium: Buch

ISBN: 978-0-19-280128-9

Verlag: OUP UK

Erscheinungstermin: 01.04.2001

Sprache(n): Englisch

Auflage: updated Auflage

Produktform: Kartoniert

Gewicht: 364 g

Seiten: 342

Format (B x H): 129 x 198 mm

