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## The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Military in Politics

3-Volume Set

People tend to think of civil-military relationships in binary terms. Either the military takes its orders from its usually civilian government leaders without any resistance or the military calls the governmental shots by taking over the government when it is displeased with civilian behavior. Reality, of course, is much different. There is an incredible variety of civil-military relationships around the globe, ranging between the continuum end points of full obedience to governmental authority and military coups d'etat. It is ordinarily difficult to tap into that variety easily because edited collections of country studies are constrained by space limitations to covering a handful of representative or interesting political systems. That constraint often leads to focusing on a few well known cases normally, ones involving intermittent military rule. Other examinations limit themselves to more in-depth analysis of single cases. The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Military in Politics is the first of its kind in the sense that it contains 92 chapters encompassing roughly a hundred cases examining the evolution of civil-military relationships over time. Approximately half of the cases encompass states in which the military more or less accepts political subordination. In the other half, they either have refused to be subordinated or become politically insubordinate intermittently. Authors were recruited from around the world to address these issues from a variety of perspectives. In addition, another 32 chapters examine topical questions such as what factors encourage military coups, what are the consequences of military rule, how do the military vote, or whether military expenditures boost economic growth.



**677,50 €** 633,18 € (zzgl. MwSt.)

Lieferfrist: bis zu 10 Tage

ArtikeInummer: 9780190921514

Medium: Buch

ISBN: 978-0-19-092151-4

**Verlag:** Sinauer Associates Is an Imprint of Oxford University Press **Erscheinungstermin:** 01.04.2022

Sprache(n): Englisch

Auflage: Erscheinungsjahr 2022

**Produktform:** Gebunden **Gewicht:** 4722 g

Seiten: 2880

Format (B x H): 193 x 268 mm



