International Handbook of Local and Regional Government
A Comparative Analysis of Advanced Democracies

Alan Norton
Institute of Local Government Studies
University of Birmingham

Edward Elgar
# CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>List of Tables</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreword</td>
<td>xii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acknowledgements</td>
<td>xvi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>xix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PART I: A GENERAL SURVEY</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Local and Regional Government in Advanced Countries</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1 History and Traditions</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2 The Status of Local and Regional Government</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3 Concepts and Values</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4 National Structures of Local and Regional Government</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5 Inter-Authority Relations and Organisation</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6 Inter-Governmental Relations</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.7 Local and Regional Government Services</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.8 Implementation of Services</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.9 Local and Regional Government Finance</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.10 Electoral Representation</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.11 The Internal Organisation of Local and Regional Authorities</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.12 Citizen Participation in Local Government</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.13 The Governance of Metropolitan Areas</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PART II: SELECTED COUNTRIES</strong></td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. France</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1 History and Traditions</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2 The Status of Local and Regional Government</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3 Concepts and Values</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4 National Structure</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5 Inter-Authority Relations and Organisation</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.6 Inter-Governmental Relations</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.7 Local and Regional Services</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.8 Implementation of Services</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.9 Local and Regional Finance</td>
<td>166</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Contents

### 2.10 Electoral Representation 171

### 2.11 The Internal Organisation of Local and Regional Authorities 176

### 2.12 Citizen Participation and Decentralisation within Cities 183

### 2.13 The Governance of Metropolitan Areas 185

### 3 Italy

3.1 History and Traditions 190
3.2 The Status of Local and Regional Government 195
3.3 Concepts and Values 198
3.4 National Structure 201
3.5 Inter-Authority Relations and Organisation 205
3.6 Inter-Governmental Relations 207
3.7 Local and Regional Services 211
3.8 Implementation of Services 218
3.9 Local and Regional Finance 220
3.10 Electoral Representation 223
3.11 The Internal Organisation of Local and Regional Authorities 226
3.12 Citizen Participation and Decentralisation within Cities 232
3.13 The Governance of Metropolitan Areas 235

### 4 Germany

4.1 History and Traditions 237
4.2 The Status of Local Government 243
4.3 Concepts and Values 246
4.4 National Structure 250
4.5 Inter-Authority Relations and Organisation 255
4.6 Inter-Governmental Relations 258
4.7 Local Services 264
4.8 Implementation of Services 270
4.9 Local Government Finance 271
4.10 Electoral Representation 275
4.11 The Internal Organisation of Local Authorities 277
4.12 Citizen Participation and Decentralisation within Cities 283
4.13 The Governance of Metropolitan Areas 286

### 5 Sweden

5.1 History and Traditions 289
5.2 The Status of Local Government 291
5.3 Concepts and Values 294
5.4 National Structure 296
5.5 Inter-Authority Relations and Organisation 300
Contents

5.6 Inter-Governmental Relations 301
5.7 Local Government Services 303
5.8 Implementation of Services 307
5.9 Local Government Finance 308
5.10 Electoral Representation 311
5.11 The Internal Organisation of Local Authorities 313
5.12 Citizen Participation and Decentralisation within Cities 317
5.13 The Governance of Metropolitan Areas 319

6 Denmark
6.1 History and Traditions 321
6.2 The Status of Local Government 322
6.3 Concepts and Values 325
6.4 National Structure 327
6.5 Inter-Authority Relations and Organisation 329
6.6 Inter-Governmental Relations 331
6.7 Local Government Services 333
6.8 Implementation of Services 336
6.9 Local Finance 337
6.10 Electoral Representation 341
6.11 The Internal Organisation of Local Authorities 343
6.12 Citizen Participation and Decentralisation within Cities 347
6.13 The Governance of Metropolitan Areas 348

7 Britain
7.1 History and Traditions 350
7.2 The Status of Local Government 355
7.3 Concepts and Values 359
7.4 National Structure 362
7.5 Inter-Authority Relations and Organisation 366
7.6 Inter-Governmental Relations 368
7.7 Local Government Services 373
7.8 Implementation of Services 377
7.9 Local Government Finance 379
7.10 Electoral Representation 383
7.11 The Internal Organisation of Local Authorities 386
7.12 Citizen Participation and Decentralisation within Cities 390
7.13 The Governance of Metropolitan Areas 391

8 The United States of America
8.1 History and Traditions 392
# Contents

8.2 The Status of Local Government 395  
8.3 Concepts and Values 398  
8.4 National Structure 401  
8.5 Inter-Authority Relations and Organisation 404  
8.6 Inter-Governmental Relations 406  
8.7 Local Services 409  
8.8 Implementation of Services 413  
8.9 Local Government Finance 414  
8.10 Electoral Representation 417  
8.11 The Internal Organisation of Local Authorities 420  
8.12 Citizen Participation and Decentralisation within Cities 426  
8.13 The Governance of Metropolitan Areas 428  

9 Canada  
9.1 History and Traditions 431  
9.2 The Status of Local Government 434  
9.3 Concepts and Values 435  
9.4 National Structure 437  
9.5 Inter-Authority Relations and Organisation 441  
9.6 Inter-Governmental Relations 442  
9.7 Local Services 443  
9.8 Implementation of Services 446  
9.9 Local Government Finance 447  
9.10 Electoral Representation 448  
9.11 The Internal Organisation of Local Authorities 450  
9.12 Citizen Participation and Decentralisation within Cities 452  
9.13 The Governance of Metropolitan Areas 453  

10 Japan  
10.1 History and Traditions 455  
10.2 The Status of Local Government 458  
10.3 Concepts and Values 460  
10.4 National Structure 462  
10.5 Inter-Authority Relations and Organisation 465  
10.6 Inter-Governmental Relations 467  
10.7 Local Services 470  
10.8 Implementation of Services 473  
10.9 Local Government Finance 475  
10.10 Electoral Representation 479  
10.11 The Internal Organisation of Local Authorities 481  
10.12 Citizen Participation and Decentralisation within Cities 484
Contents

10.13 The Governance of Metropolitan Areas 487

References
1. An International Survey 491
2. France 500
3. Italy 506
4. The Federal Republic of Germany 509
5. Sweden 516
6. Denmark 518
7. Britain 521
8. The United States of America 524
9. Canada 528
10. Japan 531

Index 534