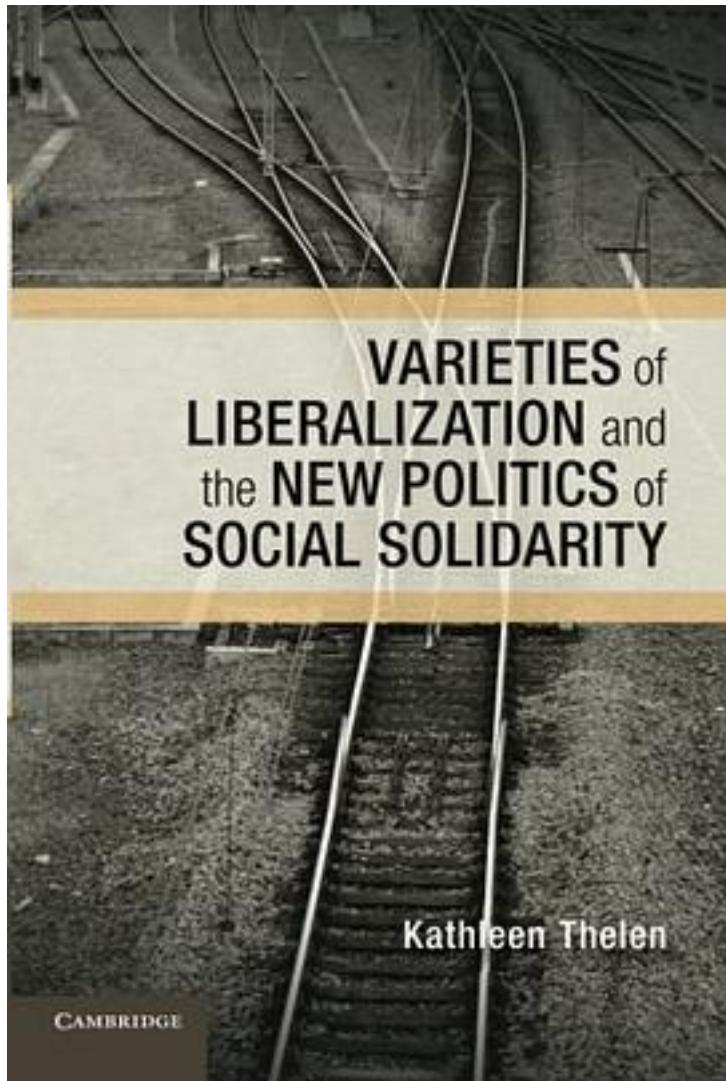


Varieties of Liberalization and the New Politics of Social Solidarity



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This book examines contemporary changes in labor market institutions in the United States, Germany, Denmark, Sweden, and the Netherlands, focusing on developments in three arenas - industrial relations, vocational education and training, and labor market policy. While confirming a broad, shared liberalizing trend, it finds that there are in fact distinct varieties of liberalization associated with very different distributive outcomes. Most scholarship equates liberal capitalism with inequality and coordinated capitalism with higher levels of social solidarity. However, this study explains why the institutions of coordinated capitalism and egalitarian capitalism coincided and complemented one another in the "Golden Era" of postwar development in the 1950s and 1960s, and why they no longer do so. Contrary to the conventional wisdom, this study reveals that the successful defense of the institutions traditionally associated with coordinated capitalism has often been a recipe for increased inequality due to declining coverage and dualization. Conversely, it argues that some forms of labor market liberalization are perfectly compatible with continued high levels of social solidarity and indeed may be necessary to sustain it.

作者介绍:

Kathleen Thelen is Ford Professor of Political Science at MIT. Her work focuses on the origins and evolution of political-economic institutions in the rich democracies. Her latest works are *Varieties of Liberalization and the New Politics of Social Solidarity* (Cambridge University Press 2014) and *Advances in Comparative Historical Analysis* (co-edited with James Mahoney, forthcoming 2015). Previous publications include *Explaining Institutional Change* (2010), *Beyond Continuity* (2005), and *How Institutions Evolve* (2004). Her awards include the Woodrow Wilson Foundation Award of the APSR (2005), the Mattei Dogan Award for Comparative Research (2006), and the Max Planck Research Award (2003). She was elected to the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences (2009), and received an honorary degree at the Vrije Universiteit of Amsterdam (2013).

Thelen serves on the APSA Executive Council as Association Treasurer. She was President of APSA's Comparative Politics Section (2011-13), Chair of the Council for European Studies (2002-2006), President of the APSA Section on Politics and History (2007-2008), as President of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (2008-2009). She is General Editor, along with Eric Wibbels, for the Cambridge University Press Series in Comparative Politics, and a permanent external member of the Max Planck Institut für Gesellschaftsforschung in Cologne, Germany.

目录: 1. Varieties of liberalization and the new politics of social solidarity
2. Industrial relations institutions
3. Vocational education and training
4. Labor market policy
5. Coalitional realignments and institutional change
6. The future of egalitarian capitalism, in light of its past.
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评论

KT的老本行，理论创新或许不瞩目，但经验材料扎实，注重在原有宏大理论、假设和分类学基础上做精细改进，分拆问题逐步解决。过了十几年还在同VOC及其引发的中层制度主义分支对话，恍如隔世。延续how institutions

evolve的视角：以权力分配、阶级联盟和利益为基础的制度起源和演化理论，制度的层层覆盖式推进和功能性再生/再利用，随时间推移、阶级联盟力量和偏好转变而改变的制度及制度功能。将VOC的问题进一步分解为资本主义体制的协调程度及（经济社会）平等程度，解释在1950-70的“黄金年代”何种条件下两者重合（相对同质化的工人阶级，稳固的中左政治联盟，工业为主导的生产体制，相对牢固的职业技能培训等），而在现代技术与经济条件变化后，社会变化进而使得协调与平等化两个潮流逐渐分离。

最初读完这本书的时候，真是感到一种很大的震撼与感动。就Thelen自己最初的学术研究而言，和我导师一样，一个是做德国的劳动政治，一个是做日本的劳动政治的。然而，私下里来说，个人觉得Thelen是真正比较有那种人文关怀和理解工人阶级在资本主义社会演变中命运波折的那种使命感的学者。这部作品比较好的将她的专长，劳动者工作技能的政治经济学，公共政策与劳使冲突关系的不同侧面结合了起来。一位资本主义市场经济条件下的劳动者，与一些自命不凡的强调人与人之间“能力”差异的“社会科学

工作者”不同，技能的专业性与泛用性和劳动力市场的结构是深刻左右劳动者命运的关键性要因。此书的理论性并非很强，到底也不过是历史制度主义先前的制度变迁理论的经验解释。不过在voc研究的分野里，此书绝对是非常值得一读的作品

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书评

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