Book review

Eugenia Udangiu, Sociologia politicii [Sociology of politics]

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The book "Sociologia politicii" [Sociology of politics] written by Eugenia Udangiu is a comprehensive and insightful exploration of the complex relationship between sociology and politics.

As a sociologist and professor with extensive in-depth knowledge and expertise in the field, Eugenia Udangiu offers a multidisciplinary approach to understanding the complicated dynamics between society and politics in contemporary contexts. The author takes readers on a journey through the social dynamics that shape political processes and institutions and shows us how power operates within political structures, shedding light on the complex dynamics of our societies.

One of the book's strengths is its interdisciplinary perspective. The author masterfully integrates concepts and theories from sociology and political science, providing readers with a holistic understanding of the interplay between society and politics.

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Eugenia Udangiu begins the work by mentioning in the introduction that this book is addressed to students majoring in the field of social sciences, who are initiated, during one semester, in the specific issue of political sociology.

The author's writing style is clear and concise. Despite dealing with complex sociological concepts, professor Udangiu manages to present her arguments in a manner that is approachable for both academics and general readers. She avoids excessive jargon and provides adequate explanations for key terms and theories, making the book accessible even to those unfamiliar with the field of sociology.

The book encompasses a wide range of topics, covering various aspects of the sociological study of politics. Eugenia Udangiu skillfully delves into the intersections between politics and policy, political actors, power, political parties, state, political culture and political behavior, providing readers with a nuanced understanding of how sociology contributes to a deeper understanding of politics and helps identify the underlying factors driving its evolution.

Eugenia Udangiu's book is divided into four well-structured chapters, each focusing on a specific aspect of the sociology of politics. The progression of topics allows readers to grasp the core concepts gradually, building a strong foundation for deeper exploration.

The first chapter, "Politics and policy" starts from a definition of the concepts and then makes a detailed analysis of the political regimes.

The second chapter "Politics related to power", analyzes the psychological perspective and the sociological perspective on power, detailing the general forms of manifestation of power and the problems related to its definition and localization, and also addressing the subject of rational power. By examining these issues, she highlights the multidimensional nature of power and its implications.

The third chapter "Politics as a system" begins with a section that includes theoretical analyzes of concepts and functions and then investigates topics such as: the structure of political action, political actors, elites and political people, political parties and the state as a global political actor. Moreover, her analysis adds depth to the book and provides valuable insights into the dynamics of society and political transformation.

The fourth chapter, "Elements of political culture" examines various aspects related to ideology, ritual, language and political action, but also related to myth and political action.

This nuanced perspective enriches the reader's understanding of politics as a social construct.

While the book covers a broad range of topics, given the vastness of the subject matter, it is inevitable that certain aspects receive more attention than others. However, Udangiu's efforts to present a comprehensive overview of the sociology of politics must be appreciated.

In conclusion, Sociologia politicii [Sociology of politics] by Eugenia Udangiu is a valuable resource for anyone interested in understanding the intersection between politics and society. Through its interdisciplinary, balanced, and accessible approach, this book proves to be an essential read for those seeking a deeper understanding of the sociology of politics.

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