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reality and future of the insular Republic when mentioning leaders, ideological orientations, election results and the potentials of each party as well.

The book is equipped with many diagrams, footnotes, and a list of primary and secondary sources. Along with a clear style and logical composition the resulting whole leads to the establishment of conclusive evidence that African democracy has been consolidated. At the same time, from the point of view of political science Vlastimil Fiala has faultlessly substantiated and presented a successful pattern for analysing other African democracies and regimes.

Jan Klíma

**Fiala, Vlastimil et al. 2012. *Politické strany Afriky, Asie a Latinské Ameriky. Rysy politického stranictví* [Political Parties in Africa, Asia and Latin America: Features of Political Partisanship]. Brno: CDK, 390 pages.**

The monograph *Political Parties in Africa, Asia and Latin America: Features of Political Partisanship* deals in detail with the issues of the development, character and position of political parties outside Europe. It is a comprehensive overview of the problems in Africa, Latin America and Asia, and partly in the Far East of establishing and the functioning of political parties. Much attention is paid to the analysis of the theories of the definition and genesis of these parties. The authors also want to make the readers familiar with historical, social and cultural contexts which played a part in the origin of the parties, and they try to define especially what makes them different from their “party partners” in Europe.

The monograph forms an integral whole. The team of authors adopted for their respective themes a uniform approach so that their work is not a mere mosaic of individual pieces of stone but is a logically conceived, comprehensive set of views and interpretations. Emphasis is put on topical themes (chapters on the position of women in countries of Latin America, by K. Kouba, P. Poskočilová, O. Plachý). The chapters are arranged so that the monograph at first covers the theoretical context of the analysis of political parties (chapters written by V. Fiala on the problems of methodology and typology of political parties, and the chapter by M. Strmiska on the segregationist and integrationist approach to the research in parties in the “old” and the “new” worlds), but the book also provides enough room for the analysis of specific problems of the origin of this modern political phenomenon. Whenever it is essential for the explanation of the genesis of a political party, the authors analyse the insti-

tutions meeting its function (this is the case especially of African countries). Special attention is paid to the typology of political parties (V. Fiala). General concepts are accompanied by case studies, which describe particular situations to which each concept of interpretation is related, and at the same time there is provided valuable information, mostly unavailable to the general reader - no matter whether it is the very complicated development in countries in Africa or in Latin America.

The readers may find here also examples of parties which so far have been discussed only marginally in Czech literature – for instance the monograph discusses the institutionalization of the Communist Party of China in the post-Maoist period (S. Myšíčka) or analyzes political parties in ethical and religious minorities in Turkey (A. Pešková). Other studies deal with perhaps the most well-known cases, as regards to facts, such as the Indian National Congress (M. Strmiska). The latter analyses differ from the factographic accounts by focusing rather on those specific features of the political environment which in general contributed to the formulation in the typology of the parties. The study on the guerilla movement (FSLN in Nicaragua, by M. Kudynová) deals with a phenomenon which has had a dramatic influence on life in many Latin American countries in the second half of the 20th century, and which therefore deserves the attention of both academics and the general public. Among the case studies the African themes are represented by a comprehensive and well documented analysis of Afro-Marxist political parties (V. Fiala). In this study especially the Czech reader will appreciate the comparison with the development of similar types of parties in central Europe, in particular in the former socialist Czechoslovakia.

It is natural that due to the extent of the monograph (limited by the publisher's budget) the authors had to select "illustrative" case studies. And it should be said that they have succeeded in that. Each case study covers a different phenomenon of partisanship and at the same time different social milieus. They are bound with the second half of the 20th century and thus are a source of data for the assessment of different typological qualities of the parties or the institutions/organizations meeting the role of the political parties in their territory now or in the past.

The work gives many stimuli for thoughts going beyond the genesis of non-European political systems, at least in two respects. It offers a complex survey of the contemporary main theories for analysis of parties or party systems and thus introduces the possibility of the application of "European" theories on regions with a different culture (use of typologies of such classics as G. Sartori, S. Mainwaring). And secondly, it provides new data for a general analysis of particular phenomena, e.g. the position of women in politics, in the

presidential systems (analysis of the relation of political partisanship to the position of women as presidents in Latin America).

Although the present team work is undoubtedly a well-balanced analysis, it has a few weak points. The introductory study is a large, comprehensive account of the themes, including a survey of literature from the second half of the 20th century dealing with this problem. V. Fiala's survey study is of high quality, with only one weak point, the preference of the typology of parties in Africa, in particular sub-Saharan Africa. African conditions dominate in the theoretical part of the monograph, which will please those who are interested in the developments in African countries. Even students will find fundamental information here if they want to study these issues professionally. In a different way the "africanization" of the theme will be regarded by specialists and laymen interested in other non-European countries. For them, fortunately, the monograph brings studies, which though not so extensive and detailed as the studies of Africa, definitely belong to the best in Czech academia in area studies (in particular Latin America and India).

Due to the general orientation of the study it would be suitable to give more references to case studies from other territories.

I also believe that the authors as a priority wanted to answer the questions put by Czech specialists and the general public, referring to parties outside Europe but not giving "correct (sic!) answers", as it is claimed at the end of the chapter on the typology of political parties. In the case study of Argentina, for reasons unknown, the name of the "main female character" has two different spellings: Kristina/Cristina Kirchner (In the text *Transformation of labour-based parties in Argentina* by Ondřej Plachý both variants are present, but the text of Karel Kouba and Petra Poskočilová, *Political partisanship and women in presidential office in Latin America* only gives the Cristina variant. These are minor comments only and do not affect the quality of the book. Still, one more, this time strictly on a personal note: I believe that the authors should not use the term "political science" in Czech but keep the term common in Czech, "politology".

In the general assessment of the monograph *Political Parties in Africa, Asia and Latin America: Features of Political Partisanship* it should be stressed that the issues of political systems outside Europe, be it analysis of the systems as such or discussion of some of their aspects, have not been dealt with much in Czech political science literature. And yet the study of the specific features of the development of countries in Africa, the Far East and Latin America was twenty years ago a major region in social studies, and many Czech experts were acknowledged as the foremost specialists in the world (let us mention at least one of them, Ivan Hrbek). The Czech return to this area of research is

thus both proper and justified and has long been expected by the Czech academe. So the work of the team of authors headed by Professor Vlastimil Fiala has a chance of becoming a text whose theoretical, analytical and informative aspects will be appreciated both by people interested in the regions outside Europe and by political scientists and specialists from other social sciences.

Blanka Řířhová

**Forde, Fiona. 2011. *An Inconvenient Youth. Julius Malema and the 'New' ANC*. Johannesburg: Picador Africa, 236 pages.**

The value of this thick paperback is not its references but its original research. The Irish journalist based in Cape Town managed to interview dozens of key personalities around the ANC and other prominent South African politicians. Most importantly Fiona Forde gained the trust of Julius Malema, the controversial left-leaning youthful politician; during the most crucial years of his ascent and surfing at the top while President of the ANCs Youth League (ANCYL). The author describes Malema's childhood and the importance of his grandmother in it and after it. Malema's strength is not so much his recent opulent lifestyle but his poor background in a township near Pietersburg/Polokwane in the north of Transvaal, today Limpopo province. Apparently he showed signs of an intrepid character from the very beginning of his education at school. And his political activism started as early as his teens. For years Malema was a very copious ANC supporter and activists but also very ambitious nascent politician.

Today Julius Malema is a household name in South Africa. Many fear him, many more admire him. How many will follow him when he puts himself in front of them to lead a revolution? The book is full of facts which could serve as prerequisites for a revolution. One of them is well known: the majority of South Africans continue to live in poverty while the majority of whites enjoy well-endowed lives and with them the new class of blacks who gained privileges because of their positions in the ANC power structure and COSATU trade union. Malema pictures himself as a continuator of Nelson Mandela, especially in his guise of ANC youth leader. Thus the young Mandela assuming the leading role as a youth leader is an inspiration for Malema who first gave support to Jacob Zuma only to denounce him later when he became President of the country. The book was closed at the moment of Malema's controversies with the ANC leadership short of his exclusion or suspension as both ANCYL