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**Fiala, Vlastimil. 2011. Politické stranictví  
v lusofonních zemích (Mosambik). Olomouc:  
Iuridicum Olomoucense.**

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to rule the state under one of the best democratic constitutions. Ellis refers to the role of communist heritage in the modern history of South Africa incessantly. His book is obsessed with this ominous fact and is the crucial problem with all his work.

Otakar Hulec

**Fiala, Vlastimil. 2011. *Politické stranictví v lusofonních zemích (Mosambik)*. Olomouc: Iuridicum Olomoucense, 224 pages.**

The book under review - Political Party Systems in Lusophone Countries (Mozambique) - is another major step in the realization of the project "Political Parties of Africa, Asia, Latin America and Oceania". It widens the focus and develops the preceding works (Vlastimil Fiala et al. 2011. Teoretické a metodologické problémy výzkumu politických stran Afriky, Asie, Latinské Ameriky a Oceánie. Hradec Králové-Brno-Ústí n. Orli.: OFTIS) as well as a special study Vlastimil Fiala. 2010. Politické stranictví v afrických lusofonních zemích (Ostrov sv. Tomáše a Princův ostrov). Olomouc: Univerzita Palackého.

In the introduction the reader is introduced to the specific character of Mozambique and the principal sources of political history of this large African country are assessed. The core of the work is a logically composed account comprising of four chapters. The Domestic Development of Mozambique (p 15-62) deals with Mozambique's more recent history, up to 2010. The Development of the Party System (p. 63-120) describes the beginnings of land nationalisation, but since the foundation of FRELIMO the author naturally concentrates more on this party. Only in the period of independence did an opposition party emerge, the RENAMO, while a wider party range was only possible after Mozambique's democratisation during the Second Republic, from 1992. This recent period enables the author to evaluate the motivation and vitality of each party with a national or regional programme, their grouping or coalition cooperation in parliamentary or municipal elections. An in-depth politological analysis is found in the third main part named The Mozambique Party System (p. 121-174). There the author analyzes the socio-political make-up of the party system in Mozambique, the influence of the electoral system on the party

system, and especially the theoretical and practical circumstances of the institutionalization of the Mozambique party system. The resulting typology of this system is the most important contribution of this work. The final Survey of the Political Parties in Mozambique (p. 175-212) brings the profiles of defunct or existing parties and coalitions in connection with the parliamentary elections in 1994-2009, including regional parties. The Conclusion sums up and generalizes the achievements of the research. The list of sources and literature contains especially printed sources, most of them are in English, works originally published in Portuguese are generally referred to in their English translation. The emphasis on the more or less current events may explain the absence of some commonly quoted works dealing with the roots of African politics (Mário de Andrade. 1998. *Origens do nacionalismo africano*. Lisboa: Publicações Dom Quixote).

The text offers numerous detailed data, in particular on the electoral process and election results; in many sections the political events in Mozambique are compared with the political process in related (e.g. Angola) or comparable countries (e.g. Ghana). The author presents and supplements the views of recognized political scientists. African democracy takes place in an environment of different political ideas and social traditions. This praiseworthy detailed politological research helps us consider all the specific features accompanying and influencing political practice in African states. The annotated work contributes to the diffusion of the theory of democracy as well as to the general aspects of the possibilities of democracy in a big African country, whose efforts at strengthening the plurality of the political system has made it part of the hopeful zone of development in Africa.

Jan Klíma