

Democrazie e capitalismi: dalla qualità alla varietà

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Democracy and Capitalism: from Quality to Variety

Abstract: Focusing on the relationship between democracy and capitalism, the article describes the potentiality of an approach that relativizes the terms of comparison. It adopts the qualitative criterion suggested by Leonardo Morlino to analyze the performances of democratic governments in the field of equality and social rights, combined with certain new institutional contributions to comparative political economy that examines the political, institutional and cultural underpinnings of national economic systems. It can be useful to recognize the uniformities between types of democracy (and their traditional kind of social policies) and varieties of capitalism. Moreover, it can provide the empirical bases to define the normative content to which each democratic system adheres, translating it into its institutional character.

Keywords: Democracy, Capitalism, New institutionalism, Comparative political economy.

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