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Abstract

In the first part of the manual we study the birth of the Greek city-state, the role of the nation in this birth, its evolution, the stages of its institutional integration and its ideal type as a political unity. We study its basic functions and the relations between the cities. Then we examine the intermediate political form of the Hellenistic Kingdoms, before the transition to the Roman Empire, where we examine first the creation of the Roman state and the function of the Roman Republic. At the end of the first part, we examine the Roman Empire of Augustus with the apparition of the first centralized State and the ideology of universality, which is achieved with the administrative unification of the Empire. In the second part of the manual, we consider the Carolingian Empire as a form of government "from above", whose decline leaves room for new institutions of stability which are due to the seigneurial organization of the European Space. The privatization of power leads to the "feudal anarchy" which is stabilized thanks to the concentration

of power associated with the "feudal kingdoms". The clash of the feudal kingship with the supra-national forms of organization such as the Catholic Church and the Empire led to the "territorial kingdom", which coexists with the free cities, before being replaced by the "sectarian State". The third part starts with the analysis of the absolutist state based on the French paradigm in chapter 9. After setting the conceptual framework of the absolutist monarchy, we shall demonstrate the basic mechanisms which developed in it. We shall focus on the basic executive mechanisms of the absolutist state, as well as on its limitations. In the 10th chapter, we shall focus on the modern state. After the discussion of parliamentarism, as it developed in England, the focus shifted to the French revolutionary paradigm and then to the procedures of the construction of the German state in the 19th century. In the end, we shall consider the two states which dominated the bipolar world, before analyzing the crisis of the state in the 70's.









