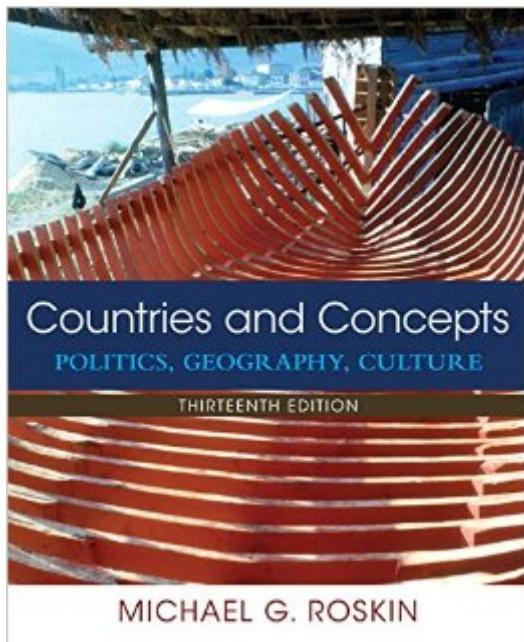


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Countries And Concepts: Politics, Geography, Culture (13th Edition)



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You won't find this book generally in the bookstore, unless you're in the college bookstore, looking on the shelf marked 'Required'. Most likely you would never want to read this book even if it was required. Flipping through the table of contents and the pages, it screams textbook. It even has vocabulary words at the end of each chapter. How much more dry, dull, and boring can you get?Fr. Kurt, what are you doing reviewing this book? Don't tell us you're actually going to recommend this book to us!? Please don't tell us that!!Yes, I recommend this book.Sorry. I have an undergraduate degree in political science, have taught political science, and have a large collection of sample texts that I have been sent in hopes that I would teach some large 400-student introductory politics class and use the book. Most of these books have been traded for more worthwhile books at the local used book stores. This book, however, 'Countries & Concepts: An Introduction to Comparative Politics', by Michael Roskin, is one that I had to purchase. And I've used it in earlier editions. And I shall again in this and later editions.Despite the textbook-layout (which is in fact fine, if one wants a textbook, and only a minor inconvenience if one does not), this is an insightful, informative, clearly-written text, with a much broader range that goes into deeper detail than most of its type. This is why I use it.This is a text for those who have already had American politics -- I didn't want to rehash the first-semester material, so I chose a book that did not have an American section or chapter. If I were to choose a more complete volume, I would consider that a minus.Roskin begins with a chapter on general political concepts.

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