

# Political Order and Political Decay

## About the Book

In *The Origins of Political Order*, Francis Fukuyama took us from the dawn of mankind to the French and American Revolutions. Here, he picks up the thread again in the second instalment of his definitive account of mankind's emergence as a political animal.

This is the story of how state, law and democracy developed after these cataclysmic events, how the modern landscape - with its uneasy tension between dictatorships and liberal democracies - evolved and how in the United States and in other developed democracies, unmistakable signs of decay have emerged.

If we want to understand the political systems that dominate and order our lives, we must first address their origins - in our own recent past as well as in the earliest systems of human government. Fukuyama argues that the key to successful government can be reduced to three key elements: a strong state, the rule of law and institutions of democratic accountability.

## About the Author

**Francis Fukuyama** is the Olivier Nomellini Senior Fellow at Stanford University's Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies.

He has previously taught at the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies of Johns Hopkins University and at the George Mason University School of Public Policy.

He was a researcher at the RAND Corporation and served as the deputy director in the State Department's policy planning staff.

He is the author of *The End of History and the Last Man*, *Trust*, and *America at the Crossroads: Democracy, Power, and the Neoconservative Legacy*. He lives with his wife in California.