THE NEW IMMIGRATION FEDERALISM

U.S. immigration laws have recently undergone a dramatic shift toward promoting integration. How are we to make sense of this new immigration federalism? What are its causes? And what are its consequences for the federal-state balance of power? In *The New Immigration Federalism*, Professor S. Karthick Ramakrishnan provides answers to these questions using a mix of quantitative, historical, and doctrinal legal analysis. Ramakrishnan refutes the popular “demographic necessity” argument put forward by anti-immigrant activists and politicians. He instead posits that immigration federalism is rooted in a political process that connects both federal and sub-federal actors: the Polarized Change Model. The model captures not only the spread of restrictionist legislation but also its abrupt turnaround in 2012, projecting valuable insights for the future.

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