

## Going Public: The Role of Labor-Management **Relations in Delivering Quality Government** Services (LERA Research Volumes)

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The public sector currently employs around 40 percent of all union members in the United States. Pressures for cost-effective and quality government services have placed new demands on the labor-management relationship. A fluctuating set of expectations about the appropriate responsibilities of government and a shifting political culture are severely testing the ability of the public sector to meet demands for increased accountability and expanded services.

Especially in an age of knowledge workers, the traditional division between labor and management regarding leadership and work may no longer be viable. Going Public examines the forces affecting labor and management and the prospects for adopting service-oriented cooperative relationships as a key strategy for meeting the expanded demands on the public sector.

**Contributors:** Robert R. Albright, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; Lorenzo Bordogna, University of Milan; Jonathan Brock, University of Washington; John F. Burton Jr., Rutgers University; Adrienne E. Eaton, Rutgers University; Stephen Goldsmith, Harvard University; Jeffrey H. Keefe, Rutgers University; Charles Kerchner, Claremont Graduate School; David B. Lipsky, Cornell University; Martin H. Malin, Chicago-Kent College of Law; Marick F. Masters, University of Pittsburgh; Sonia Ospina, New York University; Terry Thomason, University of Rhode Island; Robert M. Tobias, American University; Paula B. Voos, Rutgers University; Allon Yaroni, New York University



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#### Review

"The contribution of *Going Public* is in its identification of the source of tensions between the rhetoric and (limited) practice of labor-management co-operation in the United States and the reality of its political and legal barriers."?Bernadine van Gramberg, *Journal of Industrial Relations*, September 2004

#### About the Author

Jonathan Brock is Associate Professor of Public Affairs at the University of Washington. He is the author of Managing People in Public Agencies and Bargaining Beyond Impasse: Joint Resolution of Public Sector Labor Disputes. David B. Lipsky is Professor in the School of Industrial and Labor Relations, and Director of the Institute on Conflict Resolution, at Cornell University. He is coauthor of Strikers and Subsidies: The Influence of Government Transfer Programs on Strike Activity and coeditor, with Thomas A. Kochan, of Negotiations and Change: From the Workplace to Society, from Cornell.

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