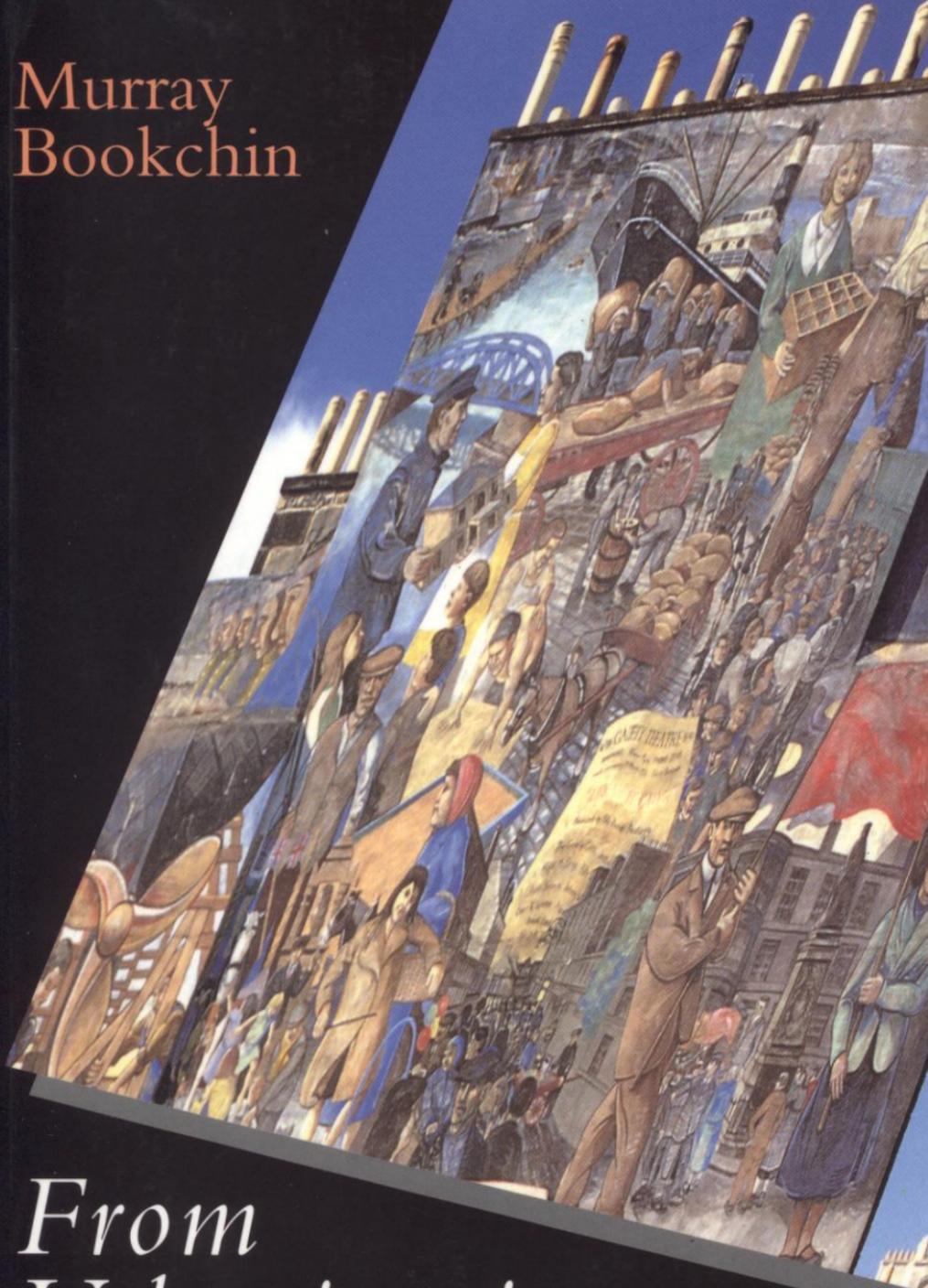


Murray
Bookchin



*From
Urbanization
to Cities*

TOWARD A NEW
POLITICS
OF CITIZENSHIP

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From Urbanization to Cities

TOWARD A NEW POLITICS OF CITIZENSHIP

Today, when the nation-state and parliamentary parties are more distrusted than they have been for generations, a sentiment is growing for a more democratic polity, a more empowered citizenry, and more humanly scaled communities. A new populism is emerging – one that may well move to the extreme right if it does not sputter out in frustration in the absence of a relevant left. In *From Urbanization to Cities*, Murray Bookchin surveys a great tradition of politics as the popular management of the community, as distinguished from statecraft; citizenship as the art of self-governance in a direct democracy, as distinguished from ‘representative’ oligarchies; town and municipal confederalism, as distinguished from the centralized nation-state and emerging regional superstates like NAFTA and the European Union.

Deeply informed by historical examples – many of them unknown to the general public – this remarkable book advances a new communalist agenda of a municipalist politics that offers the only serious alternative to the growing usurpation of power by statist forms of organization. The book raises the challenging vision of a new municipalist politics that will counterpose a genuinely radical and truly democratic confederal power to oligarchical power based on nation-states – a vision that can be increasingly realized in a transformative municipalist movement for a free cooperative society.

Murray Bookchin was a radical activist in the American labour movement of the 1930s and has been a social theorist on the left throughout his life. A very early voice on environmental issues, he is the author of *Post-Scarcity Anarchism*, *The Ecology of Freedom* and *Re-enchanting Humanity*. A co-founder of the Institute for Social Ecology in Vermont, he has worked in foundries and taught in universities.



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