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Red Sunset
Philip G. Roeder 2021-05-11 Why did the Soviet system fail? How is it that a political order, born of revolution, perished from stagnation? What caused a seemingly stable political order to collapse? Philip Roeder finds the answer to these questions in the Bolshevik "constitution"—the fundamental rules of the Soviet system that evolved from revolutionary times into the post-Stalin era. These rules increasingly prevented the Communist party from responding to the immense social changes that had it itself set in motion; although the Soviet political system initially had vast resources for transforming society, its ability to transform itself became severely limited. In Roeder's view, the problem was not that Soviet leaders did not attempt to change, but that their attempts were so often defeated by institutional resistance to reform. The leaders' successful efforts to stabilize the political system reduced its adaptability, and as the need for reform continued to mount, stability became a fatal flaw. Roeder's analysis of institutional constraints on political behavior represents a striking departure from the biographical approach common to other analyses of Soviet leadership, and provides a strong basis for comparison of the Soviet experience with constitutional transformation in other authoritarian polities.


Why Did the Soviet Union Collapse?: Understanding Historical Change
Robert Sireyer 2016-06-16 Taking the Soviet collapse - the most cataclysmic event of the recent past - as a case study, this text engages students in the exercise of historical analysis, interest theory, and institutionalism. At the heart of the book is a passionate argument on the causes of the collapse. The author introduces and applies concepts such as great power politics, imperial decline, revolution, ethnic conflict, colonialism, economic development, totalitarian ideology, and democracy in a dynamic and accessible way. Questions and controversies, and extracts from documentary and library sources, anchor the text at key points. This book is intended for use in history and political science courses on the Soviet Union or more generally on the 20th century.

Brezhnev Reconsidered
E. Bacon 2002-10-11 Leonid Brezhnev was leader of the Soviet Union for almost two decades when it was at the height of its powers. This book is a long overdue reappraisal of Brezhnev and the main system over which he ruled. By incorporating much of the new material available in Russian sources, Brezhnev's political course is reconstructed. The book addresses the received wisdom about the Brezhnev years, and provides a fascinating insight into the life and times of one of the twentieth century's most neglected political leaders.

The Failure of Elisabeth Eleanor Frances Young 1989

David R. Marples 2016-09-17 Why did the Soviet Union collapse in 1991? The collapse of the Soviet Union has widely been seen as the result of the arms race and Cold War, and the failure of the Soviet side to keep pace with new technology. This book argues that the dissolution of the Soviet Union was instead a result of two interlinked factors: the main result of the Soviet national revolution, and the manipulation of the new Russian presidency by Boris Yeltsin in which become a direct power struggle between Yeltsin and the Soviet leader, Gorbachev. Written in a clear and accessible manner, the book provides: an explanation of how the political and economic crisis of the national policy was precipitated to the year 1991; from the reform movement to the Soviet Union to the unforeseen dissolution of the country by the decision of a personalist of the personal and political conflicts that precipitated the collapse; and Gorbachev's anti-communist and stabilizing role. The Collapse of the Soviet Union is essential reading for students of twentieth century European history.

The Aftermath of Communist Collapse
Professor Michael McFaul, PhD 2004-09-06 Publisher Description

Russia and Society
Richard Sakwa 2020-08-15 Fully revised and updated to reflect the considerable changes in Russia over the last decade, the fifth edition of this classic text builds on the strengths of previous editions to provide a comprehensive and sophisticated analysis of Russian politics and society. The new edition incorporates the latest debates about Russian politics, analysing recent institutional and political developments, and examines the electoral cycle and prospects of the presidential and state elections at the end of the process. New to this edition: an evaluation of Putin's leadership and the political changes under him; updated election results and demographics; social, ethnic/national statistics to include results of the 2010 census; churches in the party system, to electoral legislation and to the composition of parliament as well as the relationship between the executive and legislature; coverage of the constitutional changes and governmental appointments under the various prime ministers; more analysis of economic performance including the price level and energy policies; changes in Russia foreign policy since EU enlargement, its relationship with post-Soviet states, assessment of the military reforms and security and defence policy; debates over the question of democracy in Russia today, the nature of the system, and its future prospects. Written in an accessible and lively style, this book is packed with detailed information on the central debates and issues in Russia's difficult transformation. An unrivalled textbook on the subject it is essential reading for anyone who cares about Russia, and for the future of international society.

The Strategy of Campaigning
Kimberly D. Krimer 2014-02-05 The Strategy of Campaigning explores the political careers of Ronald Reagan and Boris Yeltsin, two of the most transformative and often controversial political figures of our time. Both men overcame debilitating early in their political careers and rose to the highest elected offices in the history of their respective countries. The authors demonstrate how and why Reagan and Yeltsin succeeded in their political aspirations, despite—or perhaps because of—their apparent "policy extremism": that is, their advocacy of policy positions far from the mainstream. The book analyzes the viability of policy extremism as a political strategy, and its effects on the prospects for "proletarian internationalism" in diverse political contexts.

Power and Purpose
James M. Dorfman 2003-10-29 Russia, once seen as America's greatest adversary, is now viewed by the United States as a potential partner. This book examines the complex forces that have transformed Russian foreign policy and American foreign relations since the end of the cold war. It examines how American policymakers—particularly in the executive branch—coped with the opportunities and challenges presented by the new Russia. Drawing on extensive interviews with senior U.S. and Russian officials, the authors explain George W. Bush's response to the dramatic coup of August 1991 and the Soviet collapse several months later, examine H.R. Clinton's role in Russia's transition and integration, and analyze George W. Bush's policy toward Russia as September 11 and the war in Iraq transformed American foreign relations. Throughout, the book explores the problems and perplexities of America's efforts to promote democracy in Russia and the former Soviet states; assess its experience with the collapse of the Soviet Union; and examine how their theories and strategies were developed with these critical policy questions at issue. Vital reading for understanding not only America's Russia policy, but also the foreign policies that shape the world.
Designs for Democratic Stability: Studies in Viable Constitutionalism-Ahmad I. Rizvi 2014-06-16 Since the 1890s and the collapse of moral, military, and race-based regimes across the world, the euphoria has given way to the question of how to enhance the viability of democratic constitutional government. This text covers this issue.

Stalin-Steven Kotkin 2018-11-20 Politzer Prize- Finalist Steven Kotkin has written the definitive biography of Joseph Stalin, from collectivisation and the Great Terror to the conflict with Hitler's Germany that is the signal event of modern world history in 1929. Joseph, Stalin, having already achieved dictatorial power over the vast territory of the former Russian Empire, would conquer most of Eastern Europe, and, in the event of war,Western Europe.

The Kremlin's Nuclear Sword-Steven J. Zaloga 2014-05-27: The book offers an unbiased look at the weapons development capabilities of the Russian military, and provides a first-hand look at the weapons that have been deployed over the past few decades. The book is a useful reference for military historians and military analysts, and provides a comprehensive account of Russian nuclear weapons development.

Normalizing Corruption-Erik S. Herron 2020-10-27 Accountability is crucial to every successful democratic system. The failure to develop functioning mechanisms of accountability has undermined democratic consolidation worldwide. Reliable tools that hold officials accountable are essential for democratic governance; one of the tasks of the book is to help bring the practice of accountability to the fore - in the day-to-day activities of the institutions. The book focuses on the experiences of contemporary Ukraine to evaluate the successes and failures of institutions, politicians, political parties, bureaucrats, and civil society. Yet, the topic is directly relevant to countries that have experienced democratic backsliding, and especially those countries that are at risk. Normalizing corruption addresses several questions about what motivations have policymakers and others had for failing to implement accountability measures and for executing executive responsive to inquiries from public organizations and other government institutions?

Beyond Soviet States: Danil Ofodov 1995-02 They offer concrete criticisms of the field and set out research questions for an uncertain future.

The Experience of Democratization in Eastern Europe: Richard Sakwa 1999-06-17 Drawing on a selection of papers presented to the Fifth World Congress of political science held in Athens in August 1995, this book presents a broad assessment of the process of political change that has been occurring in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. It provides a rich source for the comparative analysis of democratization.

Consequential Mechanisms: Anthony King 2009-05-04 This book makes a timely argument for a new approach to the study of government - that is, an approach that focuses on the actors and the processes that shape governments. The study of politics is not about policy; it is about the people who make policy and the processes by which policies are made.

Balkans and East Asia: Richard Sakwa 2001-05-23 This book provides an overview of the political, economic, and social developments in the Balkans and East Asia. The authors consider the most influential states of the region and their impact on the world, as well as the complex interactions between these two regions.

Kremlin's Nuclear Sword: Steven J. Zaloga 2014-05-27 This book is a rich source of information on the development of Russian nuclear weapons and their role in Russian foreign policy. It provides a comprehensive account of the evolution of Russian nuclear weapons and their impact on international relations.

Soviet Economic Management Under Khrushchev: Natalya Khita 2013-09-11 The Sovremennik Reform of 1957 was designed by Khrushchev to improve efficiency in the Soviet economic system by decentralizing economic decision making from all-Union branches in Moscow to the governments of the individual republics. This book provides a rich source of information on the impact of the Sovremennik Reform on the Soviet economy.

Competition and Cooperation: James Alt 1999-10-29 What can the disciplines of political science and economics learn from one another? Political scientists have recently begun to adapt economic theories of trade, exchange, and the study of legislative, parties, and voting. At the same time, some of the most influential and innovative thinkers in economics have crossed these boundaries of their discipline to explore the classic questions of political science. Competition and Cooperation features six of these path-breaking scholars, all winners of the Nobel Prize for Economics, in a series of conversations with counter-intuitive questions about how the world works. These interviews provide a unique window into the minds of some of today's most influential thinkers in political science and economics.


The Cultural History of the Cold War: Volume 1, Origins-Nohemy P. Leffert 2012-01-25 This volume examines the origins and early years of the Cold War. It offers a rich source of information on the historical context and the political, economic, and social factors that shaped the Cold War.

The U.S. and the Soviet Countries, 1945-1991: Thomas F. Remington 2015-07-22 Highly regarded for its comprehensive coverage, up-to-date scholarship, and comparative framework, Politics in Russia is an authoritative overview of Russia's contemporary political system and its recent history. Area specialist Thomas Remington focuses on four areas of analysis: the state, regime change, economic transformation, and identity to offer a dynamic context for analyzing the post-Soviet era. With a consistent emphasis on the interaction of politics and economics and the tension between authoritarian and democratic trends, no other text guides students through the complexities and ambivalences of Russian politics today as Politics in Russia.

The Russian People and Foreign Policy: William Zimmerman 2009-02-03 Since the fall of communism, public opinion in Russia, including that of a now diverse elite, has become a substantial factor in that country's policymaking process. What this opinion might be and how it responds to American actions is the subject of this study. The book uses a rich selection of surveys and other empirical work to analyze the views of Russia's political and economic leaders, the military leadership, diplomatic and intelligence officials, and insurnerable leaders in culture. While Stalin revived a great power, building a formidable industrialized military, the Soviet Union was effectively alone and surrounded by perceived enemies. The quest for security would bring Soviet Communism to a comfort with the world, to a peace that would not ould not function.

Globalization and Social Stress-Gregor W. Kohli 2005: Globalisation, like no other term, has gained in recent years a prominent position in nearly all branches of social science. Consequently, its definitions, also in economics – a discipline to which it has a special relevance. In economics, Globalisation is the key term, which describes the process of international integration and the creation of a single global market. The concurrent regional integration processes, should by no means be seen as a trend opposed to Globalisation, which they may even facilitate in some circumstances by moving integration to a higher level: from that of national economies up to that of international organisations, for instance, the EU.
with NAFTA, ASEAN with CIS or Mercosur with Caricom. Thus defined Globalisation depends on a variety of circumstances and has numerous implications. It is an extremely dynamic and complex process which, therefore, allows of no unambiguous assessment. Globalisation is an irreversible process, although — as the experience of the last two or three years has shown — its progress can be significantly impeded in the short run by various kinds of political and economic shocks. So the idea is to follow an enlightened and wise development strategy and a well-co-ordinated policy — in this case, on the international and global scale — that would minimise the attendant problems and eliminate, as far as possible, the concomitant social stress. How to achieve this goal is the question the authors address in this volume.

The Oxford Handbook of Transformations of the State - Stephan Leibfried 2015 This Handbook offers a comprehensive treatment of transformations of the state, from its origins in different parts of the world and different time periods to its transformations since World War II in the advanced industrial countries, the post-Communist world, and the Global South. Leading experts in their fields, from Europe and North America, discuss conceptualizations and theories of the state and the transformations of the state in its engagement with a changing international environment as well as with changing domestic economic, social, and political challenges. The Handbook covers different types of states in the Global South (from failed to predatory, rentier and developmental), in different kinds of advanced industrial political economies (corporatist, statist, liberal, import substitution industrialization), and in various post-Communist countries (Russia, China, successor states to the USSR, and Eastern Europe). It also addresses crucial challenges in different areas of state intervention, from security to financial regulation, migration, welfare states, democratization and quality of democracy, ethno-nationalism, and human development. The volume makes a compelling case that far from losing its relevance in the face of globalization, the state remains a key actor in all areas of social and economic life, changing its areas of intervention, its modes of operation, and its structures in adaption to new international and domestic challenges.

Unexpected Outcomes - Robert G. Moser 2001-01-01 Can democratization be promoted by “getting the institutions right?” In Unexpected Outcomes, Robert G. Moser offers a compelling analysis of the extent to which institutions can be engineered to promote desired political outcomes. The introduction of democracy in Eastern Europe and the former USSR has enabled scholars to bring new perspectives to the debate about electoral systems. Russia is arguably the most important of the postcommunist states and its mixed electoral system provides an interesting controlled experiment for testing the impact of different electoral systems. Moser examines the effects of electoral systems on political parties and representation in Russia during the 1990s. Moser’s study is not only a highly original contribution to our understanding of contemporary Russian politics, but also a significant step forward in the comparative study of electoral systems. Through his comprehensive empirical analysis of Russian elections, Moser provides the most detailed examination of a mixed electoral system to date. This system was introduced in Russia to encourage party formation and benefit reformist parties allied with President Yeltsin. However, the effects were contrary to what the creators of the system expected and also defied the most well-established hypotheses in electoral studies. Parties proliferated under both the PR and plurality halves of the election and patterns of women and minority representation ran counter to prevailing theory and international experience. With an epilogue that updates the study through the December 1999 elections, Unexpected Outcomes makes an important and timely contribution to the ongoing debate over the ability and inability of elites to fashion preferred political outcomes through institutional design.