A Companion To Eastern European Cinemas

A Companion to the Reformation in Central Europe analyses the history of Christianity from the 15th to the 18th centuries in the lands between the Baltic and Adriatic seas. An important new survey of Eastern European theater after the collapse of the Soviet Union. Explores all aspects of theater, from playwriting, directing and acting, to repertoire creation and theatre management. Uses material never previously published on theatre life during the Communist years. Compares theater before and after the political changes in Albania, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Ukraine. Chapters begin with introductions by well-known theatre professionals or lively interviews with a major directors or playwrights - including Yury Lyubimov, Václav Havel, Andrei Sherban and Ismail Kadare.

A Companion to Europe Since 1945 provides a stimulating guide to numerous important developments which have influenced the political, economic, social, and cultural character of Europe during and since the Cold War. Includes 22 original essays by an international team of expert scholars Examines the social, intellectual, economic, cultural, and political changes that took place throughout Europe in the Cold War and Post Cold War periods Discusses a wide range of topics including the Single Market, European-American relations, family life and employment, globalization, consumption, political parties, European decolonization, European identity, security and defence policies, and Europe's fight against international terrorism Presents Europe in a broad geographical conception, to give equal weighting to developments in the Eastern and Western European states

'The editors have succeeded in putting together an excellent group of authors who present a well informed and balanced analysis of the formation of political systems in the examined countries. . . . The authors of this book are to be congratulated on the structure and clarity of its presentation. This volume makes an interesting contribution to knowledge in this field and should be useful reading for students and experts interested in Central and Eastern European politics.' - Dan Marek, Journal of European Area Studies 'This is a very interesting reference book of the political changes in Eastern Europe since the demise of communism. It will prove to be of great use for everybody involved in research on Eastern Europe, but it can also offer considerable introductory information to those who have not followed the most recent developments in the region.' - Ioannis Armakolas, The Ethnic Conflict Research Digest This major new reference book provides an authoritative and thorough analysis of the political changes which have occurred in Eastern Europe since the demise of communism. It offers an historical, comparative perspective of the region and focuses on the social consequences of the transition, historical legacies, and variations between countries in the sequences of the changes.

A Companion to Eastern European CinemasJohn Wiley & Sons

"Balkanization" is a modern term describing the fragmentation and re-division of countries and nations in the Balkan Peninsula, as well as a dynamic meaning “the Balkan way of doing things.” The Roots of Balkanization describes the historical changes that took place in the Balkan Peninsula after the collapse of the Roman Empire and their impact in Eastern lands. It develops conclusions reached in the
author's previous book, Dacia: Land of Transylvania, Cornerstone of Ancient Eastern Europe, covering 500 B.C.-A.D. 500. Balkan multi-ethnicity was formed after the fifth century, when barbarian invaders settled and violently mixed with the native ancient nations. By the use of sword and terror, warlords became kings and their confederations of tribes became state nations. New societies emerged under the blessing of the Orthodox Church, only to fight against each other over disputed land that eventually came to be occupied by other invaders. The involvement of western powers and the Ottoman expansion triggered more grievances and violence, culminating with the fall of Constantinople in 1453 and the end of the Byzantine Empire. The medieval culture of the Balkans survived and continues to play a major role in how business and political life is conducted today in Eastern Europe.

The Afterlife of the Shoah in Central and Eastern European Cultures is a collection of essays by literary scholars from Germany, the US, and Central Eastern Europe offering insight into the specific ways of representing the Shoah and its aftereffects as well as its entanglement with other catastrophic events in the region. Introducing the conceptual frame of postcatastrophe, the collected essays explore the discursive and artistic space the Shoah occupies in the countries between Moscow and Berlin. Postcatastrophe is informed by the knowledge of other concepts of "post" and shares their insight into forms of transmission and latency; in contrast to them, explores the after-effects of extreme events on a collective, aesthetic, and political rather than a personal level. The articles use the concept of postcatastrophe as a key to understanding the entangled and conflicted cultures of remembrance in postsocialist literatures and the arts dealing with events, phenomena, and developments that refuse to remain in the past and still continue to shape perceptions of today’s societies in Eastern Europe. As a contribution to memory studies as well as to literary criticism with a special focus on Shoah remembrance after socialism, this book is of great interest to students and scholars of European history, and those interested in historical memory more broadly.

This book, the first collection of its kind, offers perspectives from leading Slavic librarians and archivists on the cultural history of Russian and East European exiles and immigrants to North America in the twentieth century.

The Routledge Companion to World Cinema explores and examines a global range of films and filmmakers, their movements and audiences, comparing their cultural, technological and political dynamics, identifying the impulses that constantly reshape the form and function of the cinemas of the world. Each of the forty chapters provides a survey of a topic, explaining why the issue or area is important, and critically discussing the leading views in the area. Designed as a dynamic forum for forty-three world-leading scholars, this companion contains significant expertise and insight and is dedicated to challenging complacent views of hegemonic film cultures and replacing outmoded ideas about production, distribution and reception. It offers both a survey and an investigation into the condition and activity of contemporary filmmaking worldwide, often challenging long-standing categories and weighted—often politically motivated—value judgements, thereby grounding and aligning the reader in an activity of remapping which is designed to prompt rethinking.

Following the end of the Cold War and European Union enlargement, in what sense does Eastern Europe continue to exist as a meaningful geo-political concept? In addressing this question, contributors to this volume—Alex Cistelecan, Robert Bideleux,
Katalin Miklássy and Dieter Segert—tease out the implications for an ‘Area Studies’ approach to the region. They examine its contradictory situation within discourses of ‘orientalisation’: on one hand, posited as the ‘underdeveloped’ pendant to its western neighbours; on the other, largely Christian by religion and an integral part of a continent that dominated the world. They uncover the roots of area studies in the ‘colonial paradigm’ by which great powers promote the creation of predictive, ‘problem-solving’ knowledge that is immediately apprehendable for decision makers, helping them to take advantage of a region’s resources and strategic position, but which tends to homogenise the region’s geography and history. For critical inquiry, they argue, the challenge is to delineate transparently the reasons underlying Eastern Europe’s construction as an area of study, to identify the epistemological interests of motivated organisations such as funding agencies and political bodies, and to counter the ongoing orientalism of Western perspectives toward the East. This book was originally published as a special issue of the Journal of Contemporary Central and Eastern Europe.

A Companion to Gender History surveys the history of women around the world, studies their interaction with men in gendered societies, and looks at the role of gender in shaping human behavior over thousands of years. An extensive survey of the history of women around the world, their interaction with men, and the role of gender in shaping human behavior over thousands of years. Discusses family history, the history of the body and sexuality, and cultural history alongside women’s history and gender history. Considers the importance of class, region, ethnicity, race and religion to the formation of gendered societies. Contains both thematic essays and chronological-geographic essays. Gives due weight to pre-history and the pre-modern era as well as to the modern era. Written by scholars from across the English-speaking world and scholars for whom English is not their first language.

This book explores how the countries of Eastern Europe, which were formerly part of the Soviet bloc have, since the end of communist rule, developed a new ideology of their place in the world. Drawing on post-colonial theory and on identity discourses in the writings of local intelligentsia figures, the book shows how people in these countries no longer think of themselves as part of the "east", and how they have invented new stereotypes of the countries to the east of them, such as Ukraine and Belarus, to which they see themselves as superior. The book demonstrates how there are a whole range of ideologies of "eastness", how these have changed over time, and how such ideologies impact, in a practical way, relations with countries further east.

Portraits of Medieval Eastern Europe provides imagined biographies of twenty different figures from all walks of life living in Eastern Europe from 900 to 1400. Moving beyond the usual boundaries of speculative history, the book presents innovative and creative interpretations of the people, places, and events of medieval Eastern Europe and provides an insight into medieval life from Scandinavia to Byzantium. Each chapter explores a different figure and together they present snapshots of life across a wide range of different social backgrounds. Among the figures are both imagined and historical characters, including the Byzantine Princess Anna Porphyrogenita, a Jewish traveller, a slave, the Mongol general Sübodei, a woman from Novgorod, and a Rus' pilgrim. A range of different narrative styles are also used throughout the book, from omniscient third-person narrators to diary entries, letters, and travel accounts. By using primary sources to construct the lives of, and give a voice to, the types of people who
existed within medieval European history, Portraits of Medieval Eastern Europe provides a highly accessible introduction to the period. Accompanied by a new and interactive companion website, it is the perfect teaching aid to support and excite students of medieval Eastern Europe.

Francis Tapon yearned for a European adventure, but Western Europe seemed too tame and passé. So he traveled for 3 years visiting every Eastern European country—all 25 of them. The Hidden Europe cleverly mixes insightful facts with hilarious personal anecdotes. It’s profound, yet light. Francis Tapon is a sharp observer who helps you distinguish a Latvian from a Lithuanian, while not confusing Slovenia with Slovakia. You’ll also learn: - Why Baltic people are human squirrels. - When and why Poland disappeared from Europe. - Why Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia broke up. - Why Hungarians are really Martians. - How Slovenians learn languages so quickly. - Why the Balkans is so screwed up. - Why there’s much more to Romania than Dracula. - Which Moldovan tradition saves marriages. - What the future holds for Belarus, Ukraine, Russia. - Why communism was a dream . . . and a nightmare. You’ll understand a side of Europe that is still mysterious and misunderstood even 20 years after the fall of the Soviet Union. Francis Tapon is an ideal guide in a book that will become a classic travel narrative.

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The National Book Award–winning, New York Times–bestselling history of Yiddish-speaking immigrants on the Lower East Side and beyond. In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, two million Jewish immigrants poured into America, leaving places like Warsaw or the Russian shtetls to pass through Ellis Island and start over in the New World. This is a “brilliant” account of their stories (The New York Times). Though some moved on to Philadelphia, Chicago, and other points west, many of these new citizens settled in New York City, especially in Manhattan’s teeming tenements. Like others before and after, they struggled to hold on to the culture and community they brought from their homelands, all the while striving to escape oppression and find opportunity. They faced poverty and crime, but also experienced the excitement of freedom and previously unimaginable possibilities. Over the course of decades, from the 1880s to the 1920s, they were assimilated into the great melting pot as the Yiddish language slowly gave way to English; work was found in sweatshops; children were sent to both religious and secular schools; and, for the lucky ones, the American dream was attained—if not in the first generation, then by the second or third. Nominated for a National Book Critics Circle Award, World of Our Fathers explores the many aspects of this time and place in history, from the political to the cultural. In this compelling American story, Irving Howe addresses everything from the story of socialism, the hardships of the ghetto, and the tragic Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire that killed scores of garment workers to the “Borscht Belt” resorts of the Catskills in colorful and dramatic detail. Both meticulously researched and lively, it is “a stirring evocation of the adventure and trauma of migration” (Newsweek).

First published in 1992. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

The “spatial”, the “bodily”, and the “memory turn” in the humanities and cultural studies are well-canonized developments. These features of our being in the
world are fundamental in the medium of cinema, which is an art of spaces, bodies, and memories, increasingly so today when the analogue platform has been running parallel with the digitalized method of filmmaking. The three nodal concepts define the tripartite structure of this volume, composed of an overview study and twelve case-studies of post-1989 Eastern European film and cinema. The overarching questions of space representation and construction, bodies on screen, issues of national identification in a postcolonial framework, and cinema as a form of cultural memory are explored through the lens of specific national cinemas or contemporary Croatian, Hungarian, Polish, Serbian, Slovakian, Slovenian, and Romanian films. In addition to investigating the cohesive forces that mark the postcommunist Eastern European region as a coherent cultural entity in its cinematic representations, the volume also stands as a witness to the importance of transnational approaches.

The Companion to Central and Eastern European Humanism: The Czech Lands is the first reference work on humanists and their literary activities in this region to appear in English. It provides biographical and bibliographical data about humanist literary life between c. 1480 and 1630, in two volumes, organised alphabetically by authors' names. This first volume includes three introductory chapters together with more than 130 biographical entries covering the letters A-L and a complete overview of the most recent research on humanism in Central Europe. The interdisciplinary research team behind this Companion paid particular attention to local approaches to the classical tradition, to humanistic multilingualism and to Bohemian authors' participation in European scholarly networks. The Companion is a highly relevant resource for all academics who are interested in humanism and the history of early modern literature in Central Europe.

Brings together highly regarded scholars of Jewish and Christian mysticism in Eastern Europe to analyze the overlap of mysticism in the two religions. This book offers an an overview of the current state of research and a basic route map for navigating an abundant historiography available in 10 different languages. The book is also an invitation to comparison between various parts of the region over the same period.

Over 185 recipes offer a cook's tour of a region that stretches from the Baltic Sea in the north to the Black Sea in the south, with a culinary history, guide to ingredients and over 750 inspiring photographs.

From the early Sumerian clay tablet through to the emergence of the electronic text, this Companion provides a continuous and coherent account of the history of the book. Makes use of illustrative examples and case studies of well-known texts Written by a group of expert contributors Covers topical debates, such as the nature of censorship and the future of the book

The Routledge Handbook of East European Politics is an authoritative overview that will help a wide readership develop an understanding of the region in all its political, economic, and social complexity. Including Central Europe, the Baltic
republics, South Eastern Europe, and the Western Balkans, as well as all the
countries of the former Soviet Union, it is unrivalled in breadth and depth,
affording a comprehensive overview of Eastern European politics provided by
leading experts in the fields of comparative politics, international relations, and
public administration. Through a series of cutting-edge articles, it seeks to explain
and understand patterns of Eastern European politics today. The Routledge
Handbook of East European Politics will be a key reference point both for
advanced-level students developing knowledge about the subject, researchers
producing new material in the area, and those interested and working in the fields
of East European Politics, Russian Politics, EU Politics, and more broadly in
European Politics, Comparative Politics, Democratization Studies, and
International Relations.
A comprehensive survey of the countries and territories of this region,
incorporating the latest economic and political developments. General Survey
Essays by acknowledged experts in the region cover a variety of topical issues.
In addition, appendices discuss the religions of the region and the Russian Baltic
territory of Kaliningrad. Country Surveys Individual chapters for each country,
containing: - information on physical and social geography - a detailed
chronology of political events, both recent and historical - essays on each
country's political history and economy - a statistical survey - an extensive
directory of contact details for political, state and commercial institutions and
organizations in the region (covering national and local government, political
organizations, diplomatic representation, the judicial system, religion, the media,
finance, telecommunications and broadcasting, major companies, transport,
tourism, culture, social welfare, the environment, defence, education and more) -
and a select bibliography. Who's Who in Central and South-Eastern Europe
Biographical details for more than 200 of the region's leading political figures.
Regional Information Contact information and extensive details of the activities of
regional and international organizations active in the region; a list of research
institutes that focus on the region, together with contact details; and select
bibliographies of both books and periodicals.
This work maps the rich, varied cinema of Eastern Europe, Russia and the
former USSR. Over 200 entries cover a variety of topics spanning a century of
endeavour and turbulent history from Czech animation to Soviet montage, from
the silent cinemas dating back to World War I through to the varied responses to
the conflicts in the former Yugoslavia. It includes entries on actors and actresses,
film festivals, studios, genres, directors, film movements, critics, producers and
technicians, taking the coverage up to the late 1990s. In addition to the historical
material of key figures like Eisenstein and Wadja, the editors provide separate
accounts of the trajectory of the cinemas of Eastern Europe and of Russia in the
wake of the collapse of communism.
Forty-three distinguished writers from sixteen Eastern European
countries--including Poland, Russia, Hungary, the Czech Republic, and
Albania--provide illuminating studies of the absurdities, tragedies, and conditions of their homelands and the world at large. Original.

An inventive, wholly original look at the complex psyche of Eastern Europe in the wake of the revolutions of 1989 and the opening of the communist archives. In the tradition of Timothy Garton Ash’s The File, Yale historian and prize-winning author Marci Shore draws upon intimate understanding to illuminate the afterlife of totalitarianism. The Taste of Ashes spans from Berlin to Moscow, moving from Vienna in Europe’s west through Prague, Bratislava, Warsaw and Bucharest to Vilnius and Kiev in the post-communist east. The result is a shimmering literary examination of the ghost of communism – no longer Marx’s “specter to come” but a haunting presence of the past. Marci Shore builds her history around people she came to know over the course of the two decades since communism came to an end in Eastern Europe: her colleagues and friends, once-communists and once-dissidents, the accusers and the accused, the interrogators and the interrogated, Zionists, Bundists, Stalinists and their children and grandchildren.

For them, the post-communist moment has not closed but rather has summoned up the past: revolution in 1968, Stalinism, the Second World War, the Holocaust. The end of communism had a dark side. As Shore pulls the reader into her journey of discovery, reading the archival records of people who are themselves confronting the traumas of former lives, she reveals the intertwining of the personal and the political, of love and cruelty, of intimacy and betrayal. The result is a lyrical, touching, and sometimes heartbreaking, portrayal of how history moves and what history means.

"This Companion's guiding vision of Europe is that of a messy place or idea that emerges from multiple images from multiple perspectives and multiple positions. To adopt Italo Calvino's phrase, European cinema is the product of a 'collection of voices' coming together as a 'multiple discovery' of various Europes and cinemas. Europe is imprecisely circumscribed, in a permanent state of transition, transformation and contestation, deployed in the service of varied interests, in shifting contexts of power, never self-same, nor reducible to something fixed, legible, or knowable. Film scholarship in and/or about Europe published in English has paid far greater attention to some issues than others. French, Italian and German cinema have been centred as Europe's core cinemas. This book is not intended to make up for this historic bias in one swoop. It is offered instead as a way of engaging with European cinema that attends to questions of European colonial, racialized and gendered power, seeks to decentre Europe itself (not merely its putative centres) and interrogate Europe's various conceptualizations from a variety of viewpoints. This Companion embraces messiness by refusing to impose any other prior interpretation on Europe or its cinema. This book asks - rather than prescribes - what European cinema tells us about Europe. This latter is understood with an open mind as the broad, complex and heterogeneous community/ies produced in and by European films. This large and flexible label takes in Kurdish, Hollywood and Singapore cinema as
comfortably as the cinema of Poland, Spanish colonial films or the European gangster genre. Individual films (e.g., Vincent Deutre's Orlando Ferito, 2013), film movements (e.g., Neo-Queer Cinema), filmmakers (e.g., Fred Zinnemann), stars (e.g., Omar Sharif), scholarship (e.g., Hungarian film historiography), representations and identities (e.g., German queer of colour cinema), audiences (e.g., Bulgarian viewers of Stephan Komandarev's films), production practices (e.g., Moroccan film funding), genres (e.g., the Giallo) and much else are analysed in their context(s) so as to construct an image of Europe as it emerges from Europe's film corpus"--

This edited collection reassesses East-Central European art by offering transnational perspectives on its regional or national histories, while also inserting the region into contemporary discussions of global issues. Both in popular imagination and, to some degree, scholarly literature, East-Central Europe is persistently imagined as a hermetically isolated cultural landscape. This book restores the diverse ways in which East-Central European art has always been entangled with actors and institutions in the wider world. The contributors engage with empirically anchored and theoretically argued case studies from historical periods representing notable junctures of globalization: the early modern period, the age of Empires, the time of socialist rule and the global Cold War, and the most recent decades of postsocialism understood as a global condition.

This book investigates the extent to which social class has changed in Eastern Europe since the fall of communism. Based on extensive original research, the book discusses how ideas about class are viewed by both working class and middle class people. The book examines how such people's social identities are shaped by various factors including economic success, culture and friendship networks. The present class situation in Eastern Europe is contrasted to what prevailed in Communist times, when societies were officially classless, but nevertheless had Communist party elites.

A Companion to Eastern European Cinemas showcases twenty-five essays written by established and emerging filmscholars that trace the history of Eastern European cinemas and offer an up-to-date assessment of post-socialist filmcultures. Showcases critical historical work and up-to-date assessmentsof post-socialist film cultures Features consideration of lesser known areas of study, such as Albanian and Baltic cinemas, popular genre films, cros-nationaldistribution and aesthetics, animation and documentary Places the cinemas of the region in a European and globalcontext Resists the Cold War classification of Eastern European cinemas as “other” art cinemas by reconnecting them with the main circulation of film studies Includes discussion of such films as Taxidermia, ElPerro Negro, 12:08 East of Bucharest Big Tőll, and Breakf on the Grass and explores the work of directors including Tamás Almási, Walerian Borowczyk, RomanPolanski, Jerzy Skolimowski, Andrzej ³u³awski, and KarelVachek amongst many others
Challenges of Modernity offers a broad account of the social and economic history of Central and Eastern Europe in the twentieth century and asks critical questions about the structure and experience of modernity in different contexts and periods. This volume focuses on central questions such as: How did the various aspects of modernity manifest themselves in the region, and what were their limits? How was the multifaceted transition from a mainly agrarian to an industrial and post-industrial society experienced and perceived by historical subjects? Did Central and Eastern Europe in fact approximate its dream of modernity in the twentieth century despite all the reversals, detours and third-way visions? Structured chronologically and taking a comparative approach, a range of international contributors combine a focus on the overarching problems of the region with a discussion of individual countries and societies, offering the reader a comprehensive, nuanced survey of the social and economic history of this complex region in the recent past. The first in a four-volume set on Central and Eastern Europe in the twentieth century, it is the go-to resource for those interested in the ‘challenges of modernity’ faced by this dynamic region.

An introduction to the social, political and cultural experience of living under Communism in Eastern Europe.

During the last thirty years Eastern Europe has been a place of radical political, economic, and social transformation, and these changes have affected the cultural industries of its countries. This volume consists of twelve chapters by leading international researchers. Stories are documented of various organisations that once dominated the ‘communist music industries’—such as state-owned record companies, music festivals, and collecting societies. The strategies employed by artists and industries to join international music markets after the fall of communism are explained and evaluated. Political and economic transformations that coincided with the advent of digitalisation and the Internet intensified the changes. All these issues posed challenges both to record labels and artists who, after adjusting to the rules of the free-market economy, were faced with the falling record sales of records caused by the advent of new communication technologies. This book examines how these processes have all affected the music scene, industries, and markets in various Eastern European countries.

This book presents a concise and comprehensive overview of the mainstream flows of ideas, politics and itineraries towards modernity in Central and Eastern Europe and the Balkans over two centuries from the beginning of the nineteenth century to the end of the Gorbachev administration. Unlike other books on the subject which view modernity based on the idea of Western European supremacy, this book outlines the various different pathways of development, and of growing industrialisation, urbanisation and secularisation which took place across the region. It provides rich insights on the complex networks whereby very varied ideas, aspirations and policies interacted to bring about a varied pattern of progress, and of integration and isolation, with different areas moving in different ways and at different paces. Overall the book presents something very different from the traditional picture of the “two Europes”. Particular examples covered include agrarian reform movements, in various phases, different models of socialism, and different models of socialist reform.

Eastern Europe was once clearly defined by the centralized political and economic organization of the societies in the region. They shared the same official ideology and were members of the same alliances. After 1989, the region collapsed in an economic, political and cultural implosion. What were the moving forces of this profound change? What are its consequences? Could we try to reasonably foresee any future developments? In this thought-provoking book, Nikolai Genov presents a systematic description and explanation of Eastern European societal transformations after 1989. They are interpreted as adaptations to four global trends; upgrading the rationality of organizations; individualization; spreading of instrumental activism; and universalization of value-normative systems. Adaptations to these trends have generally been successful. However, Genov notes that the process is marked by
many failures as well. They are mostly caused by path dependency in the societal development and by the varying quality of relevant decisions, other destructive developments are due to contradictions in the global trends themselves. Guided by the assumption that the societal and supranational integration mechanisms in Eastern Europe before 1989 could not resist the overwhelming power of global trends, Genov’s controversial findings question visions about the end of history and simultaneously strengthen the confidence that most complex macro-social processes can be rationally managed. A timely book allowing for a much needed engagement in contemporary debates on the controversial processes in Eastern European transitions.

This Companion provides an overview of European history during the 'long' nineteenth century, from 1789 to 1914. Consists of 32 chapters written by leading international scholars Balances coverage of political, diplomatic and international history with discussion of economic, social and cultural concerns Covers both Eastern and Western European states, including Britain Pays considerable attention to smaller countries as well as to the great powers Compares particular phenomena and developments across Europe

The Tragedy of a Generation is the story of a failed ideal: an autonomous Jewish nation in Europe. It traces the origins of two influential strains of Jewish thought—Yiddishism and Diaspora Nationalism—and documents the waning hopes and painful reassessments of their leading representatives against the rising tide of Nazism and the Holocaust.

The states from Central and Eastern Europe that joined the EU in 2004 and 2007 provide a fascinating series of case studies for scholars interested in politics, IR and development studies. The interest comes from the fact that never before had so many recipients of EU aid joined the Union and taken on the commitment to become aid donors. The journey from recipients of aid to aid donors is interesting because, not only does it tell us about development policy in CEE states, this policy area gives us an insight into governmental structures in CEE states, foreign policy priorities, public opinion, the role of NGOs/civil society and how well CEE states have taken on board the EU acquis (the EU’s rule book). The book also explores whether the development cooperation programmes of the majority of CEESs reflect the so-called “transition experience” of moving from authoritarianism and socialism to democracy and modern liberalism. It also explores the extent to which these donors are aligned with the approaches of the DAC donors. Finally, by extending the scrutiny to the bottom-up development activities of non-state actors and public opinion, the book will analyse the dynamics of the solidarity of the former ‘East’ with the global ‘South’. This book was published as a special issue of Perspectives on European Politics and Society

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