

The Revolutions of 1989 were a surprise to Kremlinologists because their models of change overestimated the staying power of ruling communist elites; at the same time civil society was able to form alternative political cultures which undermined the legitimacy of the socialist order. The Revolutions were the result of a prolonged systemic crisis of communism, combined with the unwillingness of Gorbachev to use force to maintain the Eastern European rulers in power. Civil society lost its fear of the repressive apparatus of the communist system as the ruling elites became increasingly disunited as to how to best respond to the crisis. After the Revolutions, other surprises were in store as the transition unfolded and the process of democratic consolidation encountered unanticipated obstacles. Weiner details these issues in one of the most up-to-date examinations of change in East Europe. After reviewing the history of the region and the imposition of communism, he analyzes the collapse of communism and the efforts to create stable alternatives country-by-country. In addition, he examines models of change and the foreign policies of the region. An indispensable guide to the area that will be of value to political scientists and others concerned with contemporary Eastern Europe.

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Change in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union presents a whole new set of sociological problems, requiring a revision of old theories of large-scale institution. The elections in Russia and Ukraine will change Eastern Europe's political landscape. That could mean new chances for an end to (or.

Abstract Change in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union presents a wh of sociological problems, requiring a revision of old theories of large-sc tional change.

The fall of the Berlin wall in and the dissolution of the Soviet Union in enabled the IMF to become a (nearly) universal institution. In three years.

The Revolutions of formed part of a revolutionary wave in the late s and early s that resulted in the end of communist rule in Central and Eastern Europe and The European political landscape changed drastically, with several former Eastern Bloc countries joining NATO and the European Union, resulting in. The collapse of communism in eastern Europe in shattered the bipolar security order that characterized East-West politics for the previous 40 years, and .

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