



## Central and East European Politics: From Communism to Democracy

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**Central and East European Politics: From Communism to Democracy** From Brand: Rowman Littlefield Publishers **Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #4993286 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Rowman Littlefield Publishers
- Published on: 2010-11-16
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 10.44" h x 1.22" w x 7.39" l, 2.35 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 432 pages

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**Editorial Review**

Review

PRAISE FOR THE FIRST EDITION Wolchik and Curry have assembled an all-star cast of experts for an authoritative assessment of the progress the region has made toward liberal democracy and a market economy in the last two decades. The book's particular strength is to cast the process in terms of a return to Europe. It thus pays attention not only to crucial developments in domestic politics but also to the influence of important international actors. Another exceptionally useful feature is the inclusion of essays that address important issues cross-nationally, as well as in-depth studies of each country individually, making the book especially valuable to students and scholars interested in the politics of the region and those interested in the interaction between domestic issues and global political and economic forces.. (Michael Bernhard)

PRAISE FOR THE FIRST EDITION A useful text and reference book. These essays are at their best in serving both area study and political sociology..... (*Slavic Review*)

PRAISE FOR THE FIRST EDITION This is a straightforward and lucid overview of the paths taken away from communism by Central and East European states. The authors effectively address the domestic and international influences on the course of political development in the former communist states. The book is highly recommended to anyone who wants a clear picture of a complex and important region and its constituent parts (Zvi Gitelman)

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PRAISE FOR THE FIRST EDITION A useful text and reference book. These essays are at their best in serving both area study and political sociology. (*Slavic Review*)

Wolchik (George Washington Univ.) and Curry (Santa Clara Univ.) have edited a useful textbook designed for undergraduate classes that includes chapters dedicated to various themes and countries in Central and East Europe. The first section surveys the political transition, the efforts to re-create the free market economy, the problems raised by ethnic diversity and nationalist sentiment, women's participation in post-communist politics, and the accession to NATO and the EU. The second section includes in-depth case studies of Poland, the Czech and Slovak Republics, Hungary, the Baltic states, Bulgaria, Romania, Albania, Ukraine, and the former Yugoslav republics. Comprehensive neither in its choice of topics nor in its

selection of countries, the volume does manage to describe the most important challenges Central and East Europe faced during both the communist and post-communist periods up until 2010. Also see *Burdens of Freedom: Eastern Europe Since 1989*, CH, May'07, 44-5276. Recommended. General readers, undergraduate students, graduate students, and research faculty (*Choice Choice*)

#### About the Author

Sharon L. Wolchik is professor of political science at George Washington University. Jane L. Curry is professor of political science at Santa Clara University.

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