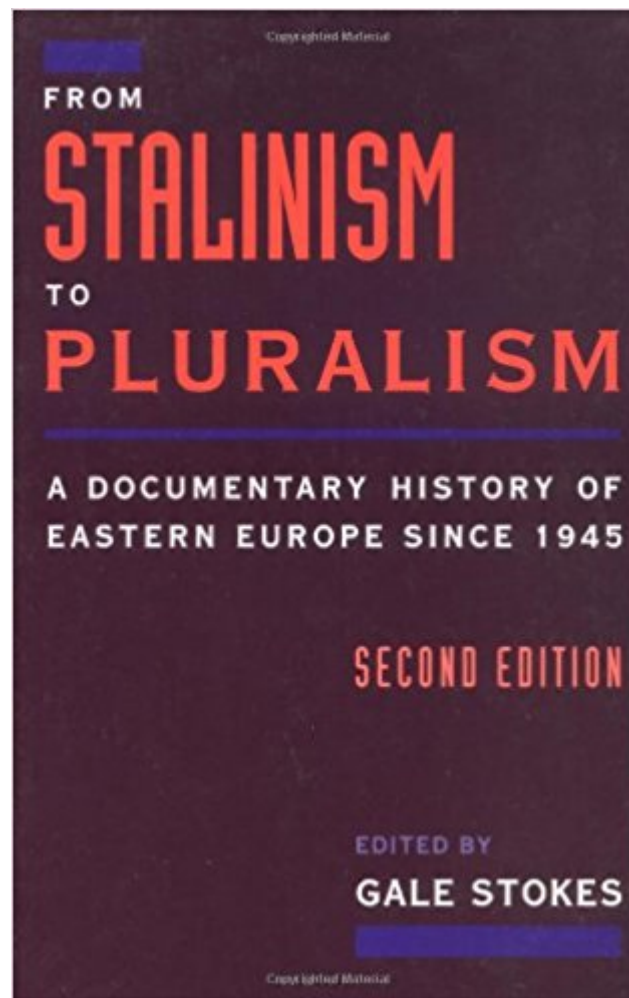




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From Stalinism To Pluralism: A Documentary History Of Eastern Europe Since 1945



Synopsis

Bringing together a wealth of historical documents, memoirs, essays, and literature from Eastern Europe, this highly successful book vividly illustrates how the most original and challenging minds of the region have understood and reacted to Stalinism and its successors since the end of the Second World War, ultimately showing how Eastern Europeans have made the journey from Stalinism to a new pluralism. The book creates a rich mosaic of political and historical development in these countries, presenting extracts from the works of Leszek Kolakowski, Czeslaw Milosz, Milovan Djilas, George Lukacs, Vaclav Havel, Adam Michnik, and George Konrad alongside such seminal primary documents as the Yalta Agreement, the Helsinki Accords, and the Gdansk Agreement. Organized chronologically and thematically, a fifth chapter, entitled After the Fall, has been added to create a completely updated and expanded second edition. The new edition covers the critical events attending the rise of Stalinism and the fall of communism in Eastern Europe. Four new readings on the collapse of Yugoslavia into civil war, as well as close to fifty other documents make this reader the most comprehensive and up-to-date textbook on the history and politics of Eastern Europe since the end of World War II.

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Customer Reviews

"Strong on intellectual history."--Katherine David-Fox, Ohio State University
"Teachers of East European history have been waiting for a book like this. This is a fine sourcebook--from now on it will be required reading in my courses."--Roman Szporluk, Harvard University
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collection, which is really an intellectual history of communism versus nationalism."--Esther Kanipe, Hamilton College"A very useful collection of primary sources that is up to date and accessible to students."--Glenn Shartman, Hiram College"Excellent documentation! I will use this text as required reading in my future courses on Central and Eastern Europe."--Jiri Nedela, Fairfield University"A very thorough, multi-faceted look at East European politics in the post-World War II period. Provides varied critical insights into the Soviet sphere of influence during the Cold War Required reading for all undergraduates!"--Steve Boilard, Western Kentucky University"A very judicious selection of readings, carefully edited to provide the ideal supplement to almost any general text on the region."--Barbara Hicks, University of North Carolina"More valuable than any other single volume on Eastern Europe under Communism!"--Dolores Augustine, St. John's College"An excellent compilation--diverse, but not overwhelming. A good resource book for my undergraduate seminars."--Chas Bukowski, Bradley University"Stokes's commentaries...are incisive and often illuminating; he can turn a phrase better than most academics."--Cal Clark, Perspectives on Political Science

Gale Stokes is at Rice University.

Very helpful for research and writing about European history.

A typical story: this was one of the required books for a history course on the collapse of the USSR and the end of Communism in Eastern Europe. I thought, O gosh, another boring and expensive tome to lug to sections and lectures. Wrong! This is the book that you're glad to have learned about and glad to own and excited to read! (Well, if you are a history undergrad like me!) So, what's so special? It is a collection of primary source documents from virtually every East Bloc country, dealing with everything from the COMINTERN to dissidents, anti-nuclear activists to economists, pro-marxian(non-Lennist) theories to historic speeches and manifestos from virtually every significant historically personality. It's a mix, a grab bag, a delightful kaleidoscope examining every possible aspect you could want to learn about. Of course, it's general, not specific, and panoramic, not complete. But it's complete enough for an undergraduate survey-type course. It offers up quotes, evidence, and stats vital for any sort of paper one could need to write. It is highly readable, though not all entries are equally exciting. There are also help introductions to the sources which contextualize and frame them, reminding one of complex intersecting national timelines of the individual socialist people's republics. Again, fascinating and readable! A book only a college student

studying the cold war could love! But you will love it! If you're choosing between taking this out of a library or buying your own copy, buy your own! It is a great reference!

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