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MARTIN PLAUT

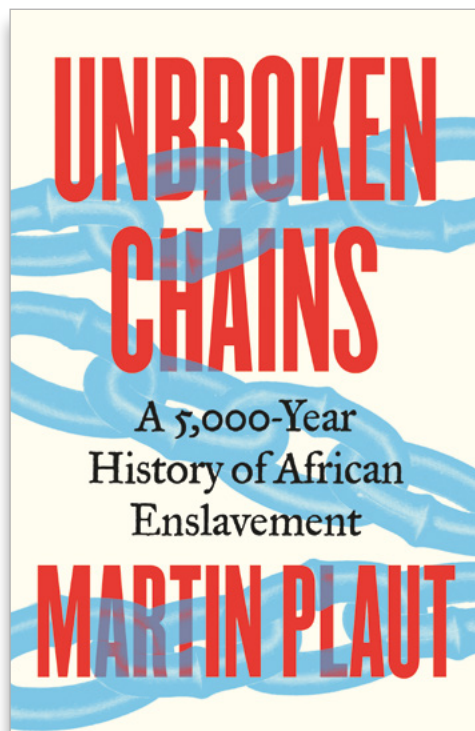
# Unbroken Chains

## A 5,000-Year History of African Enslavement

Slavery has torn apart African societies since at least 2,500 BCE, from Egypt to the Cape; from Mauritania to Somalia. Yet most writing covers just one fraction of this history: the horrors of the trans-Atlantic slave trade. Historians and commentators long neglected the equally sizeable, far more protracted phenomenon of Indian Ocean slavery, and all but passed over Africa's internal practices—from Ethiopian kingdoms enslaving conquered peoples, to the Sokoto Caliphate capturing non-Muslims on a scale matching that of the US plantations.

Yet overlooked stories of enslavement matter. In 1794, Congress authorised construction of the US Navy's first six ships—in response to civilian vessels being seized by North Africa's Barbary corsairs, who raided as far as Britain and the Caribbean, enslaving hundreds of thousands of Europeans. And, since abolition of the trans-Atlantic trade, international concern has moved from traditional to 'modern' forms of slavery, leaving Africans enslaved as chattel today with few champions abroad. The UN and African Union are too embarrassed to confront the African leaders still permitting this practice.

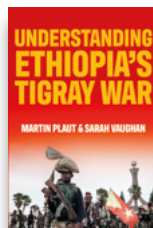
*Unbroken Chains* offers readers a full, accessible history of the myriad bondage systems that have devastated African communities over the millennia. It is a haunting, sensitive, powerful read.



August 2025  
9781805264026  
234mm x 156mm  
320pp, 10 colour illus  
£25.00 Hardback  
History / Africa  
World rights

**A groundbreaking new history that illuminates the full story of slavery in Africa, from Ancient Egypt to the present.**

By the same author:



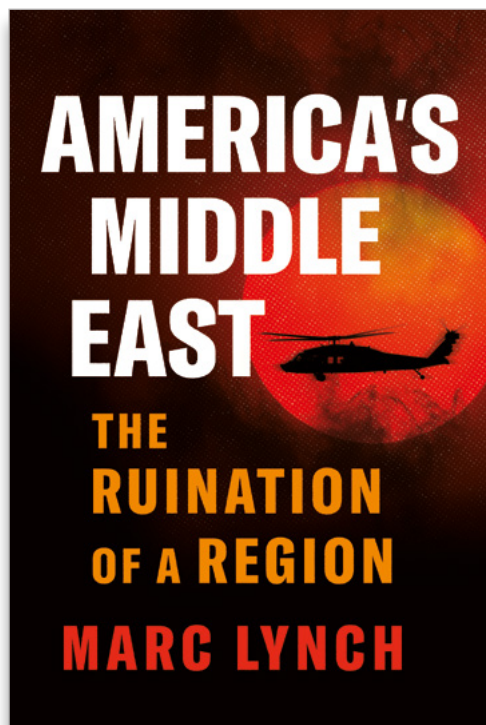
9781787388116  
£25.00 pb  
Available now



9781787382046  
£19.99 pb  
Available now



**Martin Plaut**, the BBC World Service's former Africa editor, has published extensively on African affairs. An adviser to the Foreign Office and the US State Department, he is Senior Researcher at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies.



October 2025  
 9781805264019  
 234mm x 156mm  
 272pp  
 £25.00 Hardback  
 Current Affairs / Geopolitics / Middle East  
 World rights

From the Gulf War to  
 Gaza, a compelling  
 analysis of how and why  
 Washington ensnared  
 itself in the Middle East,  
 benefiting no one.

MARC LYNCH

## America's Middle East

### The Ruination of a Region

After Hamas' shocking attack on 7 October 2023, the United States stood firmly behind Israel's near-genocidal war on Gaza and escalating conflicts with Lebanon and Iran—despite international and domestic moral outrage, and significant damage to its broader global agenda. How and why has Gaza become only the latest such paradox in thirty-five years of Middle East policy? What does its destruction mean for America's place in the world?

*America's Middle East* charts the United States' disastrously failed approach to the Middle East since the end of the Cold War, as aspirations for US leadership in a calm region have instead produced political instability, armed conflict and humanitarian catastrophe. Marc Lynch exposes policymakers' refusal to learn from repeated calamities; the failure of each president's efforts to transform the Middle East in America's image; Washington's inability to pivot away from the region; its unwillingness to take seriously the views of Middle Easterners; and its consistently mistaken belief in the possibility of forging a regional order which ignores the Palestinian issue.

Moving between American politics and Middle Eastern realities, this incisive account explains why US policy has not changed despite its horrifying human costs, from Iraq and Syria to Yemen and Libya.



**Marc Lynch** is Professor of Political Science and Director of Middle East Studies at The George Washington University, founder of the Abu Aardvark blog, and author of *The Arab Uprising: The Unfinished Revolutions of the New Middle East* and

*The New Arab Wars: Anarchy and Uprising in the Middle East*.

PATRICK HAENNI &  
JEROME DREVON

# Transformed by the People

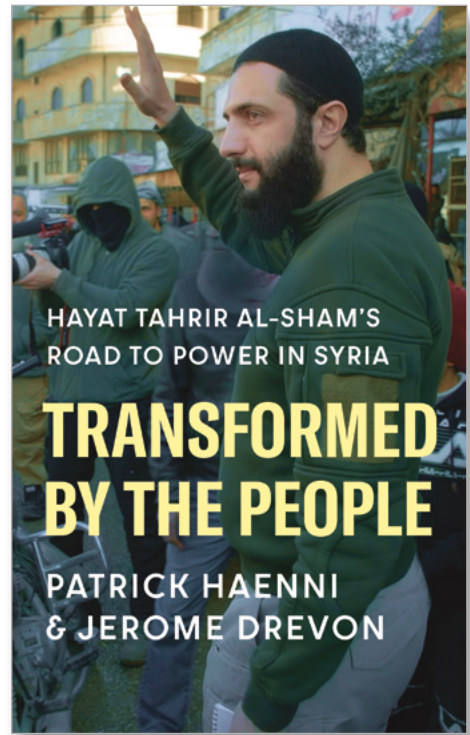
## Hayat Tahrir al-Sham's Road to Power in Syria

Few had predicted that Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS), a former al-Qaeda affiliate collaborating with other rebels, could topple Syria's Assad regime with such swiftness and determination. In this gripping chronicle, Patrick Haenni and Jerome Drevon unravel the dramatic transformation of HTS, from a besieged insurgent enclave in Idlib to architects of a new government in Damascus. Drawing on interviews with HTS leaders—including ministers, civil society figures and Ahmad al-Sharaa himself—the authors reveal the group's pragmatic evolution. Through firsthand observation, they uncover how HTS approached religious minorities, redefined its understanding of Islamic law, navigated relations with Syria's neighbours and confronted both al-Qaeda and Islamic State.

From 2019 onwards, global and local constraints prompted HTS to reshape its identity—allying with Turkey, a NATO member and secular state; coexisting with a non-radical conservative society; and embracing the lower clergy's popular, mosque-based Islam. It also adopted a bold 'Thermidorian' strategy, betting on the silent majority to marginalise die-hard radicals.

This book offers a glimpse into HTS's alternative governance model in northwest Syria, blending frontline narratives with sharp analysis to account for the group's success as it outmanoeuvred the Assadist regime and mapped its own path to power in a war-torn society.

**Patrick Haenni** PhD specialises in social movements and the state in the Middle East. **Jerome Drevon** PhD is Senior Analyst in Jihad and Modern Conflict at the International Crisis Group and a research associate at the Geneva Graduate Institute. Both have spent many years carrying out on-the-ground research in Syria.



July 2025

9781805264101

216mm x 138mm

320pp

£19.99 Hardback

Current Affairs / Geopolitics / Middle East

World rights

**A revelatory account  
of a reformed Islamist  
movement's role in  
toppling the Assad regime.**



January 2026  
 9781805264132  
 216mm x 138mm  
 264pp  
 £20.00 Hardback  
 Current Affairs / Europe / Politics  
 UK & Commonwealth rights  
 excluding Canada

The story behind the  
 unstoppable rise of the  
 French far right—  
 from France’s societal  
 woes to the Trumpian  
 world order.

VICTOR MALLET

## Far-Right France

### Marine Le Pen and the Future of Europe

France’s next presidential election is due by 2027, if not sooner; and Marine Le Pen’s far-right Rassemblement National is on course to win it. Such a victory would trigger shockwaves internationally, with profound implications for allies and neighbours including the UK and the US.

Founded by the antisemitic Jean-Marie Le Pen, the RN—previously the Front National—was confined to the fringes until his daughter Marine took over in 2011. Together with her telegenic protégé Jordan Bardella, she has modernised the party and ‘detoxified’ its image. The RN has focused on voters’ economic grievances while condemning ‘mass immigration’ of Muslims and foreign ‘criminals’—a strategy starkly reminiscent of Donald Trump’s own route, twice, into the White House. Right-wing nationalists were already gaining ground worldwide and across the EU before Trump’s re-election gave them another boost. Now France—at the core of the European project—is the far right’s next great prize.

In both rounds of 2024’s parliamentary elections, the RN won more votes than any other party. In vivid, sharp prose, Victor Mallet explains how the French far right has won over the country and become a government in waiting—one preparing to transform France, Europe and the world.

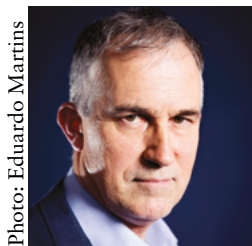


Photo: Eduardo Martins

**Victor Mallet** is an award-winning correspondent who has spent decades reporting from Europe, Africa, the Middle East and Asia for the *Financial Times* and Reuters. The author of *River of Life*, *River of Death* and *The*

*Trouble With Tigers*, he has interviewed politicians including Marine Le Pen and Emmanuel Macron.

SAMIR PATIL

# The Cost of Colonialism

## India's Economic Decline Under British Rule

With colonialism debates raging worldwide, when it comes to India, a whole spectrum of Empire-defenders—apologists, cheerleaders and full-blown racial supremacists—face off against outlandish claims of trillions owed and obsessions with stolen precious artefacts. Yet where is the complete and rigorous economic case against Britain?

This book offers a comprehensive account detailing the real cost of British rule on the subcontinent: the catastrophic, centuries-long stagnation of Indian living standards. In 1947, at independence, about 400 million people in undivided India lived on less than \$1,000 per year—a third of the global average income, and just an eleventh of the UK average. To reach British income levels, India would have needed to add an economy equivalent in size to half the world.

*The Cost of Colonialism* combines historical narratives and characters with hard data from the archives, explaining how and why India fell so staggeringly far behind during the British era, and why the British failed so spectacularly in growing the economy, when a more prosperous India would have been in their interests. Assessing what life had been like previously, under the Mughals, and how living standards improved after independence, Samir Patil delivers a damning indictment of the Empire.



**Samir Patil** is the founder of Scroll.in, one of India's most widely read and respected independent news outlets. A former associate partner at McKinsey & Company in New York, he holds a Masters in Engineering and

Management from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

SAMIR PATIL  
THE  
COST OF  
COLONIALISM



India's Economic  
Decline Under  
British Rule

January 2026

9781805264170

234mm x 156mm

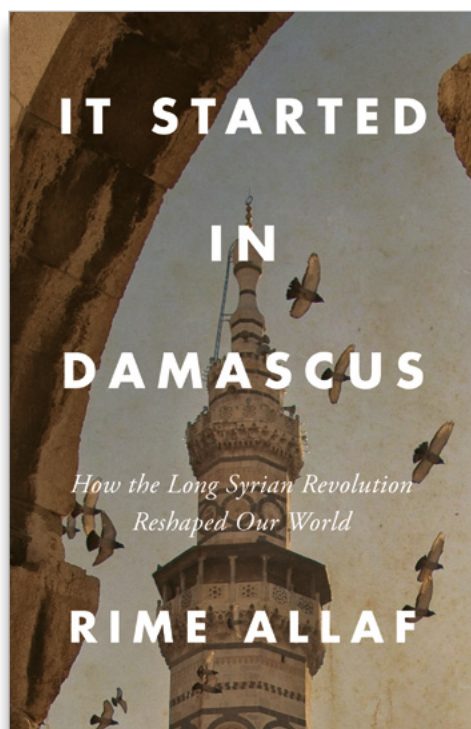
256pp, 75 b&w figs

£25.00 Hardback

History / India

World rights excluding South Asia

A shrewd, unsentimental inspection of the archives, laying bare the charge-sheet against the British and their economic policy in India: the numbers don't lie.



November 2025

9781805264118

216mm x 138mm

352pp

£20.00 Hardback

Current Affairs / Geopolitics

UK & Commonwealth rights

excluding Canada

**A gripping social and political chronicle of the causes and consequences of Syria's 2011 revolution, and its continuing global fallout.**

**RIME ALLAF**

## It Started in Damascus

### How the Long Syrian Revolution Reshaped Our World

Syrians have longed for the ordinary life that eluded them for decades. When President Bashar Assad was unexpectedly overthrown in December 2024, they celebrated the end of a dictatorial dynasty. But as they strive for post-Assad justice, they must grapple with the legacy of a fight for freedom that started many years earlier.

Damascus-born Rime Allaf tells the poignant story of a struggle for dignity that has shaken the world. When Hafez Assad's violent rule ended in 2000, many believed his son would bring change. Instead, Bashar spent his first decade in power meddling regionally and renegeing on promises of domestic reform. When Syrians finally rose up in revolution in 2011, they were mercilessly crushed by the regime—with extensive Iranian and Russian support—and abandoned by the foreign powers claiming to support them. The consequences of these events still reverberate internationally, in the largest refugee crisis since World War Two and in a new global order that has weakened democracy and privileged authoritarians.

Combining expert analysis, evocative storytelling and the author's deep personal connection with the region, *It Started in Damascus* paints an intimate portrait of a devastated society and a resilient people determined to find their peace.



**Rime Allaf** has written and spoken about Syria and the Middle East for over twenty years, including as associate fellow at Chatham House (2004–12). Raised in Europe and America in a diplomatic family, she has contributed to the

BBC, Sky News, CNN, *The Guardian*, *The Daily Telegraph* and others.



ADÉWÁLÉ MÁJÀ-PEARCE

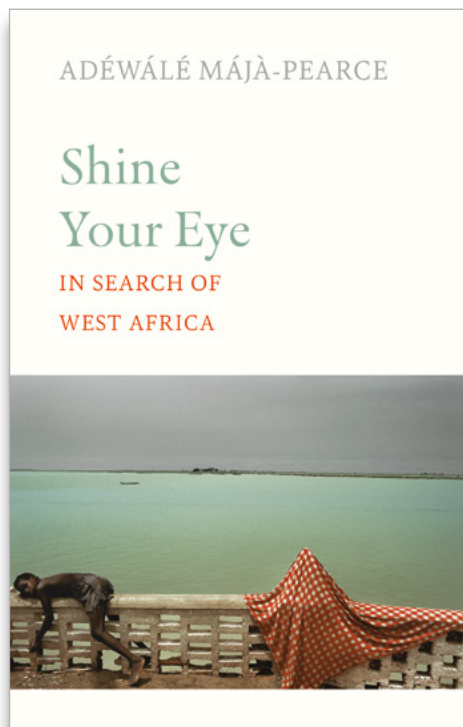
# Shine Your Eye

## In Search of West Africa

West Africa is at a crossroads. Boasting tremendous natural wealth, its inhabitants are among the world's poorest. Despite ostensible multi-party democracy, it has suffered coups, conflict and corruption since independence. Where can it go from here?

Journeying along the coast and across the Sahel, from Ghana to Guinea-Bissau, Sierra Leone to Senegal, British-Nigerian writer Adéwálé Májà-Pearce uncovers a restless region on the verge of great change. Visiting fourteen countries—and seeking out the Nigerian diaspora communities in each—he reflects on the dramatic transformations that have shaken these societies since the late 1980s, when he first travelled their roads. From refusing IMF loans to rejecting Western-imposed currencies, West Africa's diverse, expanding and overwhelmingly young population is conducting a quiet revolution, discarding its European-dominated past and seizing control of its own future. In Nigeria, anti-police brutality demonstrations have challenged an aging elite sustained by colonial enablers who never truly left. And in Côte d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger, popular resentment has forced the withdrawal of long-present French troops.

Speaking with local journalists and dissident academics, street hawkers and immigration officers, Májà-Pearce brings to life the compelling story of a region at breaking point—as told by West Africans themselves.



January 2026

9781805264125

216mm x 138mm

264pp

£14.99 Paperback

Travel / Africa

World rights

A prominent British-Nigerian writer's odyssey through a West Africa now starkly different from that of his youth.



Born in London, **Adéwálé Májà-Pearce** grew up in Lagos. The author of *The House My Father Built* and *This Fiction Called Nigeria*, he holds an MA from SOAS University of London. Previously an Africa researcher for the *Index on Censorship*, he

has written for *The New York Times* and *Granta*.



December 2025

9781805264187

216mm x 138mm

304pp, 4 b&w illus

£20.00 Hardback

Geopolitics / Reportage / History

World rights

**A fresh take on Greece's forgotten Near Eastern past—and its enduring cultural, political and economic ties with its eastern neighbours today.**

**SEAN MATHEWS**

## The New Byzantines

### The Rise of Greece and Return of the Near East

Greece lies in a geopolitical fault-zone. Popularly considered the birthplace of Western civilisation, it is a Christian Orthodox country on the edge of the Islamic world. Politically allied to NATO and the EU, its closest cultural relatives reside to its east.

Sean Mathews reveals how Greece is being reabsorbed into the Near East. As Western Europe stagnates, Greece has emerged as a pivotal player in the Eastern Mediterranean, its economic boom fuelled by tourism and property investment—much of this from the Middle East. New pipelines are being built in its borderlands, where Turkey vies for influence. Old Mediterranean trade routes are being revived to link Europe and Asia again. Meanwhile, global conflicts are driving mass migration into this frontier state.

Travelling across the region, Mathews brings to life the story of a cosmopolitan melting-pot. He meets Istanbul's surviving Greeks, insightful witnesses to Turkey's break with the West; in Jerusalem, he explores the budding alliance between Greece and Israel; and in a faded Ottoman port, he encounters football hooligans loyal to a Russian oligarch.

This bold reappraisal of Greece's position as a Near Eastern state shows how its Byzantine and Ottoman past can help it succeed in today's chaotic world.



**Sean Mathews** is a Greek-American journalist who has covered a wide swath of the Middle East. He is a correspondent with *Middle East Eye*, and has also written for *The Economist* and *Al-*

*Monitor*, among others. He calls Athens home and travels often in the region. This is his first book.

ELIZABETH BUCHANAN

# So You Want to Own Greenland?

## Lessons from the Vikings to Trump

Greenland is no ordinary island. From its discovery by Norsemen to its contemporary strategic significance, it has been a frontier for human exploration and empire, today emerging as a facilitator of geoeconomic competition. This book delves into the rich history and complex politics of Greenland, revealing how this icy expanse has shaped—and been shaped by—the world.

This short history begins with the Vikings, whose mysterious disappearance from Greenland in the 1400s remains one of history's great puzzles. It then explores the island's gradual transformation from a Danish possession to an autonomous territory, charting its role during the World Wars and its strategic importance during the Cold War.

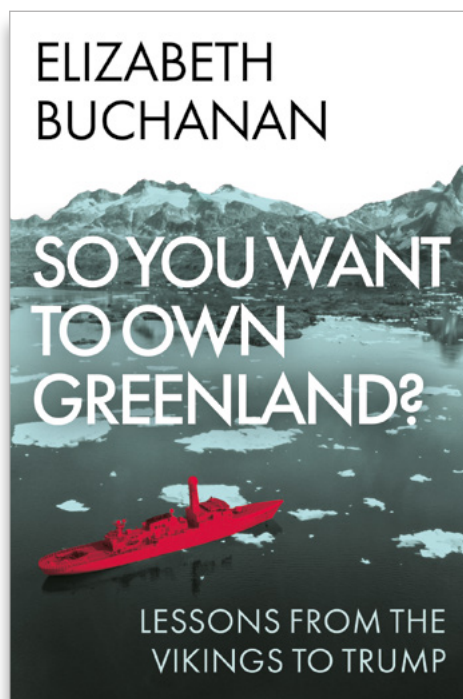
Greenland finds itself at the centre of a renewed 'great game', balancing transatlantic ties, rising Chinese influence, and mounting domestic pressures for independence. And that's before President Trump's agenda is factored in.

Starting from Trump's plan to purchase Greenland, Elizabeth Buchanan dissects the island's contemporary role and poses four provocative scenarios for its future—from full independence to an icy geopolitical standoff with Denmark. *So You Want to Own Greenland?* is an essential read for anyone curious about the future of this frozen frontier and its place on the global stage.



**Elizabeth Buchanan** PhD is a senior fellow with the Australian Strategic Policy Institute. She co-founded the polar warfare programme at West Point and was head of research for the Royal Australian Navy. Her previous books are *Russian Energy Strategy in the Asia-Pacific* and *Red Arctic: Russian Arctic Strategy under Putin*.

*Strategy in the Asia-Pacific* and *Red Arctic: Russian Arctic Strategy under Putin*.



August 2025

9781805264521

190mm x 126mm

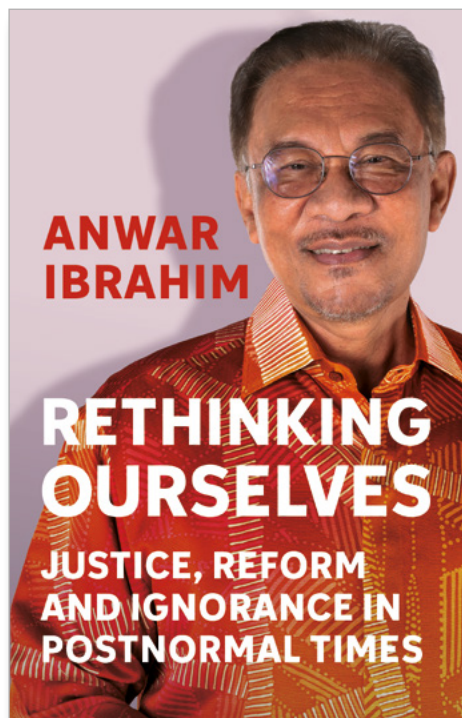
312pp

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Current Affairs / Geopolitics

World rights

An indispensable guide to Greenland—why it matters, who covets it and why this wilderness of 56,000 inhabitants could become the next global flashpoint.



September 2025  
 9781805264194  
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 248pp  
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 Politics  
 World rights  
 excluding South East Asia

A groundbreaking  
 exploration of  
 justice, democracy  
 and Islamophobia,  
 inviting us to rethink  
 what we know to  
 create a more equitable  
 future for all.

**ANWAR IBRAHIM**

## Rethinking Ourselves

### Justice, Reform and Ignorance in Postnormal Times

Change has run amok! Technological advancement measures its frequency in minutes. Much of what we think we know about the world is fading in front of our eyes. How we are, how we know, and how we live our daily lives—all changing quicker than we can cope with. We find ourselves in a confusing, uncertain and volatile age.

Anwar Ibrahim, Malaysia's tenth Prime Minister, asks how we might rethink ourselves to adjust to accelerating change, and to shape more just and sustainable futures. His passion for truth and justice is rooted in his own experience: he spent, in total, over a decade behind bars through three separate miscarriages of justice, from his days as a student activist to his time as Leader of the Opposition.

Woven through the reflections on his time in prison are critical investigations into justice, post-colonialism, Islamophobia, democracy and world order. Anwar brings together the ideas of scholars and other thinkers from the East and West, North and South, to explore how we can create a new inclusive synthesis—one that genuinely promotes good society and a just and sustainable world order. Vividly told, expertly dissected, this is a timely book for our turbulent age.



**Anwar Ibrahim**, Malaysia's Prime Minister, is a public intellectual and founder of the People's Justice Party. He endured a decade of imprisonment for his staunch anti-corruption and reformist politics. Formerly based at the University of Oxford, and

Georgetown and Johns Hopkins Universities, he is the author of *The Asian Renaissance*.

GRAEME RIGBY

# Rigby's Encyclopaedia of the Herring

## Adventures with the King of Fishes

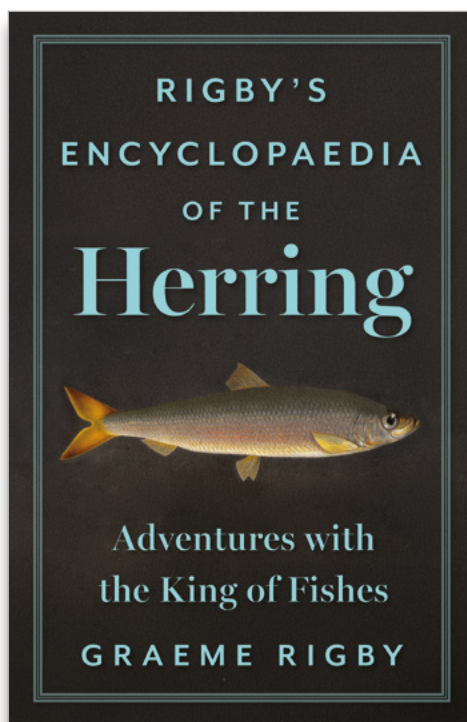
Almost everything you didn't know you needed to know about Atlantic herrings can be found in this book. (Pacific and Baltic herrings are in there too.) Yes, they changed the world—everything changes everything—but herrings make the world bigger. With spawnings seen from space, a trillion individuals make this one of the tastiest and most abundant vertebrates on Earth.

Between 'A Beginning' and 'Zuiderzee', count the wars fought over herrings; don't forget Scotland vs the Holy Roman Empire. The herring's high-pitched farts were logged as Soviet submarines and received an Ig Nobel Prize. One herring joke featured in four Shakespeare plays; a Jonson; the glorious, suppressed fantasia *Nashes Lenten Stuffe*; and one suppressed and lost play. And what of Van Gogh's ear? Herrings also laugh at taxonomists; physically change with sea temperature and salinity; stuff predators full to bursting, then swim away. (Well, it worked for 100,000,000 years.)

The Great Sardine Litigation? The true history of kippers? Bloaters? Reds? Chopped herring? Shuba? All this and more. Between the Herring Industry Board's 'Eat more herrings!', sixteenth-century Bavaria's 'Herrings, herrings, stinking herrings' and sustainable fishery genetics, every entry is a story, a comic journey, an adventure. Some even come with recipes.

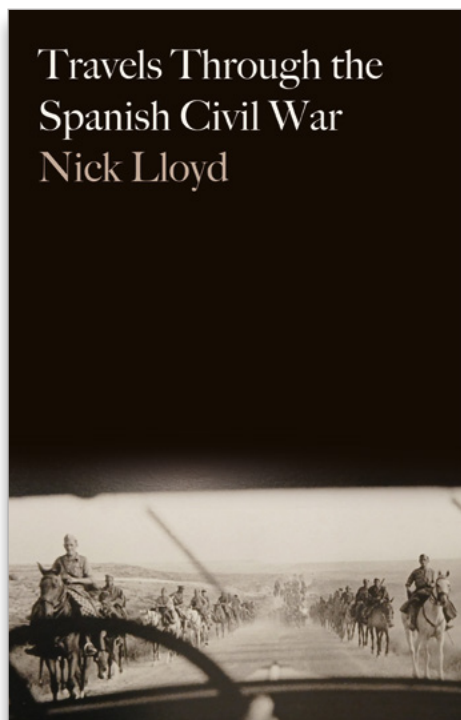


**Graeme Rigby's** encyclopaedia grew out of a BBC Radio 4 series on preserved fish, *Rigby's Red Herrings*, and the blogs and podcasts website [herripedia.com](http://herripedia.com). Part of Amber Film & Photography Collective for nearly twenty years, his allotment documentary book *Peaceable Kingdoms* was a collaboration with photographer Peter Fryer.



September 2025  
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Cultural History / Food & Drink  
World rights

**An all-in-one deep dive into the fascinating story of the Atlantic herring and its far-reaching dominions.**



November 2025  
 9781805264149  
 216mm x 138mm  
 352pp, 30 colour illus  
 £17.99 Paperback  
 History / Travel / Europe  
 World rights

A revelatory journey into the physical and visual legacies of the Spanish Civil War, investigating how a brutal conflict is memorialised, and obscured, today.

NICK LLOYD

## Travels Through the Spanish Civil War

The Spanish Civil War was one of the twentieth century's most momentous conflicts.

Nick Lloyd explores its causes and consequences through various road trips across Spain and into the rest of Europe. Setting off from Barcelona, he journeys around Catalonia and Aragón, among the last regions to fall to Franco. Visiting battle sites, museums, memorials and more, he reveals how the scars of violence still criss-cross Spain's rural and urban landscapes. Along the way, he encounters historians, writers and descendants of Republican fighters, who bring to life the experiences of combatants and civilians alike. He tells the story of Francesc Boix, a photographer born metres from the author's home, whose short but eventful life took him from the Catalan front to the Nuremberg witness box. In Huesca, he meets a dogged journalist working to unearth local history, while amid the rubble of Belchite, he describes the brutal street combat that destroyed the town. And on the Franco-Spanish border, he traces the journey of the refugees who fled fascism, only to be incarcerated in French concentration camps.

As debates over 'historical memory' reopen deep rifts in Spanish society, Lloyd powerfully chronicles how war is remembered—or not—in Spain and beyond.



**Nick Lloyd** runs an acclaimed Spanish Civil War tour in Barcelona. His previous book, *Forgotten Places*, is an in-depth look at the conflict in that city. In addition to modern Spanish history, he has a strong interest in Iberian wildlife. He lives with his partner and children in Poble-sec, Barcelona.

NICHOLAS WALTON

# Orange Sky, Rising Water

## The Remarkable Past and Uncertain Future of the Netherlands

From deeply unpromising marshy beginnings, the Netherlands grew into a naval, imperial, artistic, cultural, economic, scientific, agricultural and footballing superpower. How did it get there?

Journalist Nicholas Walton paints a vivid portrait of one of the world's most remarkable places. Drawing on interviews and his own years living in the Netherlands, as well as Dutch history and popular culture, he tells a story of floods and riots, engineering brilliance and wartime treachery. Through ten walks around their towns and cities, fields and beaches, he reveals how the Dutch built a system that organised politics and tamed the water. But now, the country faces an unpredictable future: sea levels are rising, and extreme weather is swelling the rivers that cut across this flat land. At the same time, farmers are protesting with their tractors on the streets and voters are voicing their discontent over everything from immigration and inequality to a dysfunctional housing market.

Amid the existential challenges of the twenty-first century, *Orange Sky, Rising Water* asks whether the extraordinary Dutch success story can continue—or will the country, its people and its way of life be swept away?



**Nicholas Walton** is a journalist and hiker based in Genoa. He has worked as a BBC correspondent in Sarajevo, Warsaw and Moscow, and for think tanks including the European Council on Foreign Relations and the World Resources

Institute. His previous books with Hurst are *Singapore, Singapora* and *Genoa, 'La Superba'*.



September 2025

9781805264156

216mm x 138mm

256pp, 12 b&amp;w illus

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Current Affairs / Europe / Travel

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From climate change to far-right politics, a captivating look at the Netherlands' modern challenges—and a homage to the timeless ingenuity of the Dutch.

By the same author:



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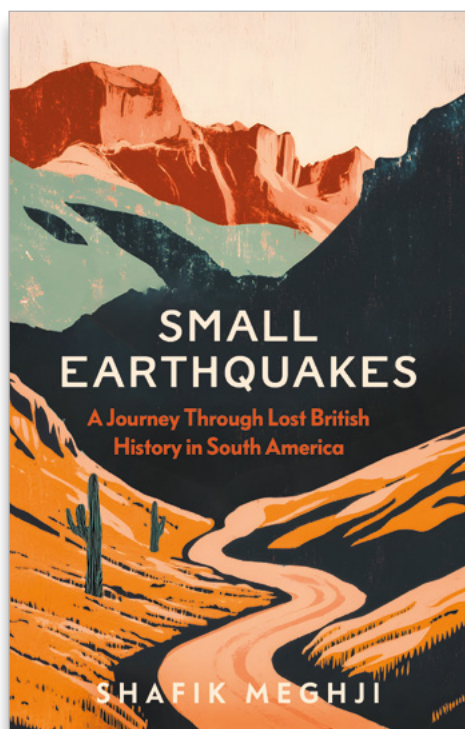
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Available now



July 2025

9781805264033

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304pp, 16 colour illus

£25.00 Hardback

Travel / History / South America

World rights

An award-winning travel writer and journalist uncovers the rich and unexpected history of Britain's deep-rooted ties with South America.

SHAFIK MEGHJI

## Small Earthquakes

### A Journey Through Lost British History in South America

*Small Earthquakes* uncovers the fascinating story of Britain's forgotten connections with South America, from the Atacama Desert to Tierra del Fuego, Easter Island to South Georgia.

Blending travel writing, history and reportage, award-winning journalist and author Shafik Meghji tells a tale of footballers and pirates, wool barons and nitrate kings, polar explorers and cowboys, missionaries and radical MPs. From a ghost town in one of the world's driest deserts to a far-flung ranch in the sub-polar tundra; rusting whaling stations in the South Atlantic to an isolated railway built by convicts; the southernmost city on the planet to a crumbling port known as the 'Jewel of the Pacific', he brings to life the past, present and future of this remarkable continent. He sheds light on Britain's impact on Argentina, Chile and Uruguay, from sparking wars, forging national identities and redrawing borders to its tangled role in their colonisation and decolonisation. But he also reveals how these countries, in turn, have shaped Britain in profound and unexpected ways, from Fray Bentos to the Falklands.

Drawing on more than fifteen years of living, working and travelling in South America, Meghji offers a sweeping account of an overlooked—but enduringly relevant—shared history.

**Shafik Meghji** is an award-winning journalist and travel writer. The co-author of more than forty-five guidebooks, his bylines include *National Geographic Traveller*, BBC Travel, Lonely Planet, *Geographical* magazine and *The Guardian*. His first book, *Crossed Off the Map*, was shortlisted for the Edward Stanford Travel Book of the Year 2023.



HAMISH MCDONALD

# Melanesia

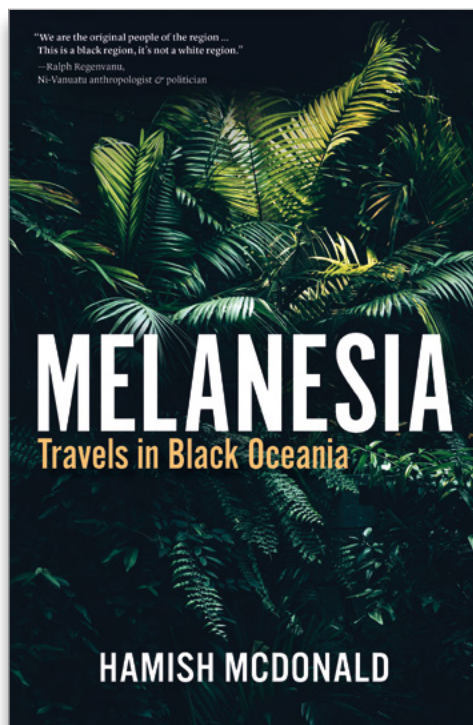
## Travels in Black Oceania

Stretching from Fiji in the east to New Guinea in the west, Melanesia is astonishingly diverse. Its islands are home to some 1,200 language groups, many of them still isolated from the outside world. This complex region tends to make the news only in times of crisis: military coups in Fiji, Kanak unrest in New Caledonia, rioting in the Solomon Islands. *Melanesia* offers readers a deeper insight into the people and places behind these headlines, combining travelogue, history and astute political analysis.

By land and sea, Hamish McDonald travels from one end of Melanesia to the other, uncovering the histories, values, aspirations and tensions that have shaped the region. He examines the impact of outsiders on local communities: the Indians recruited to work in Fiji; the white 'blackbirders' who kidnapped Melanesians to labour in Australian cane fields; the Americans during the Second World War; the Indonesians in New Guinea. And he considers the big changes unfolding today, as shifting demographics and the growing influence of China produce a new balance of power across the region.

Vividly written, *Melanesia* is essential reading for anyone looking to understand this fascinating part of the world and its growing international significance.

**Hamish McDonald** is an award-winning Australian journalist. He has been correspondent and foreign editor for *The Sydney Morning Herald* and the *Far Eastern Economic Review*, reporting from the Pacific Islands, Indonesia, Japan, Hong Kong, India and China. His books include *The Polyester Prince* and *Demokrasi: Indonesia in the 21st Century*.



May 2025

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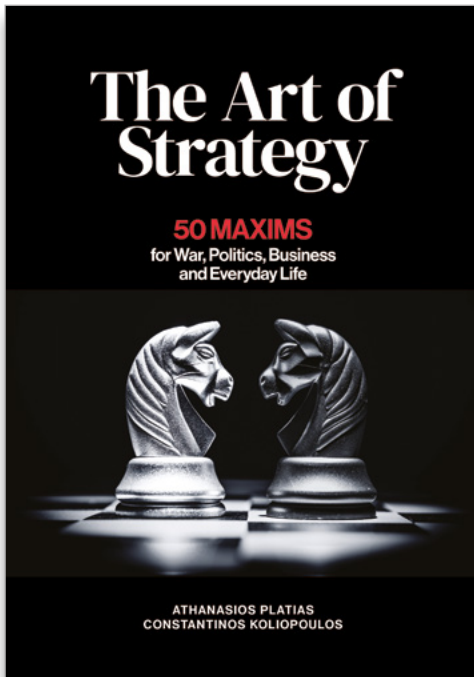
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Drawing on examples from sport, diplomacy, business and more, the authors explore how strategic thinking can guide clear-sighted decision-making.

**ATHANASIOS PLATIAS &  
 CONSTANTINOS KOLIOPOULOS**

## The Art of Strategy

### 50 Maxims for War, Politics, Business and Everyday Life

From politicians seeking re-election, to statespeople craving spheres of influence, to business executives, military generals and sports coaches, we all employ strategy in our day-to-day activities. Strategic treatises on the art of war, politics or leadership have a long history, including those by Thucydides, Xenophon, Kautilya, Machiavelli and Clausewitz; yet, while recent decades have seen the proliferation of books on business strategy, there has still been no single volume, ancient or modern, combining all strands of the human strategic experience—until now.

*The Art of Strategy* encapsulates and conveys the logic of strategy in easily accessible prose, and applies it to virtually every form of human endeavour. It builds upon the existing strategic wisdom produced by the great masters to present a holistic theory of strategy that is relevant to practice: a sprightly yet sober analysis of fifty maxims, drawing on examples from chess to psychology.

Platias and Koliopoulos offer the reader a guide to strategic behaviour in all areas of life, while at the same time building a comprehensive theory of victory. They provide a framework that helps the reader to understand the nature of strategy, to think strategically, and to act strategically—and successfully.

**Athanasios Platias** is Professor of Strategy at the University of Piraeus, the President of the Council for International Relations, Greece, and a coordinator at the Mackinder Forum.

**Constantinos Koliopoulos** is Professor of International Relations and Strategic Studies at the University of Piraeus, and a former Fulbright scholar.

DAN KASZETA

# The Baltic States in the Second World War

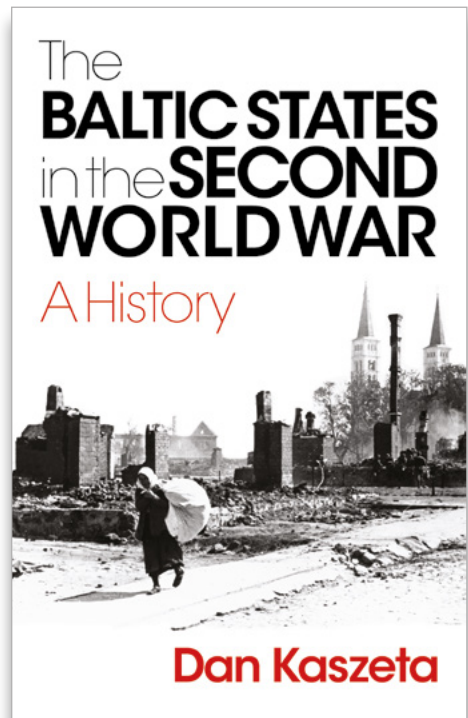
A History

Comparing a map of Europe from 1936 with one from 1946, all the countries are there, albeit with some shifts in borders, except for three: Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. These states disappeared during the Second World War, despite never declaring war or having war declared on them.

This book describes the theft of the Baltic states. Despite hoping to ride out the war in neutrality, like Sweden, the three countries suffered a triple occupation. A nasty and brutish, but short, Soviet occupation was displaced by a three-year Nazi occupation that was nasty and brutish in different ways. A barbarous genocide of Jews and Roma ensued. The Soviets returned in 1944 and did not leave for decades, calling into question exactly when the war really ended for the Baltic states.

All three occupations used local collaborators and achieved some degree of cooperation, but there was also a wide variety of resistance. Thousands of Baltic people fought for the Soviet Union; thousands more fought for the Nazi occupiers. The majority were conscripts or had joined under duress, but there were some willing Quislings. Kaszeta offers the reader a sober and nuanced exploration of the under-reported 1939–45 period in the Baltic states.

**Dan Kaszeta** is a specialist defence and security consultant of Lithuanian ancestry, who has long studied Baltic history. A Royal Historical Society fellow, and author of *The Forest Brotherhood* and *Toxic* (both published by Hurst), he has held positions in the US Secret Service and the White House Military Office.



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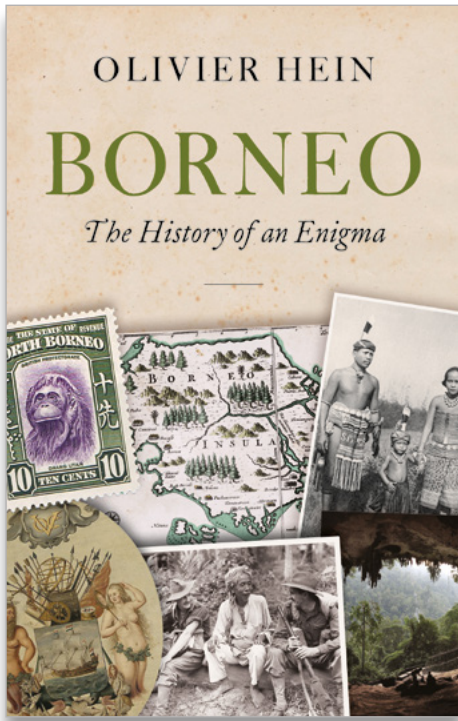
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This new history reveals that the Baltic States were as fiercely contested between the Germans and Russians as any flashpoint of the Second World War.



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A fun and fascinating  
 history of an island  
 best known for tropical  
 rainforests and captivating  
 wildlife—but with a much  
 bigger story to tell.

OLIVIER HEIN

## Borneo

### The History of an Enigma

The world's third-largest island, and the only one administered by three different sovereign nations, Borneo is something of a mystery. Home to an incredibly diverse indigenous population, once infamous for headhunting; a hotbed of military activity during World War II; a poster child for the ecological movement even as its rainforest is destroyed; and the host of Indonesia's planned new capital city, Nusantara—Borneo's past, present and future are nothing if not eclectic.

But hidden under its enigmatic façade is an extraordinary island at the centre of world affairs in ancient times, yet often aloof from them. From early visitors bringing new religions to the island, to a fluctuating relationship with China, to a time when piracy ruled, Olivier Hein's sweeping tale uncovers the little-known events that shaped not only Borneo but the whole Malay Archipelago.

Linking Indonesian, Malaysian and Bruneian history, Hein brings together, for the first time, all the elements that make this island so unique. With Borneo sitting uncomfortably in the firing line of today's great global power shift from Trans-Atlantic to Trans-Pacific, and now attracting millions of visitors a year, the story of this rich and complex island has never been more relevant.

**Olivier Hein** is a Mauritian-British author, whose books include *Star and Key: The Historical Adventure of Mauritius* (also from Hurst). Formerly a UN, UK and OSCE diplomat, posted to New York, Paris, Kosovo and Turkmenistan, he also contributes to *The Chap* magazine. He lives with his family in the Cotswolds.

IMRAN MULLA

# The Indian Caliphate

## Exiled Ottomans and the Billionaire Prince

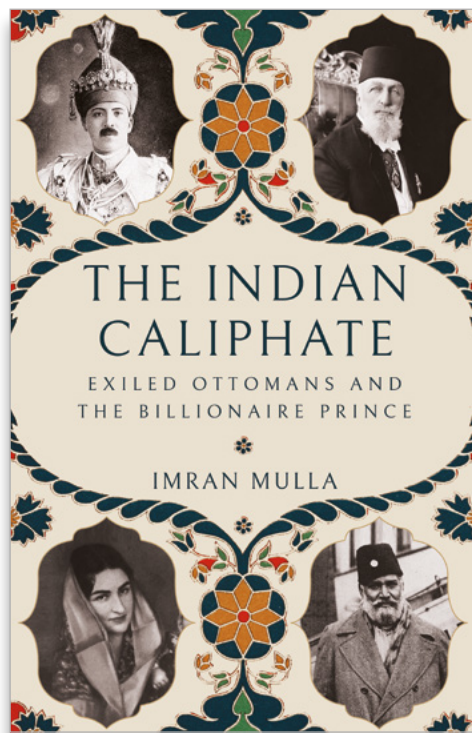
Abdulmecid II was a talented painter, music enthusiast and Francophile. He was also the last Ottoman Caliph, expelled from Istanbul in March 1924 when Turkey abolished the 1,300-year-old Caliphate.

From his villa on the French Riviera, Abdulmecid launched a plan to resurrect the institution and transform world history. Indian politician Shaukat Ali brokered a marital alliance between the Ottomans and the Nizam of Hyderabad, the world's richest prince, who governed a state the size of Italy in the Indian subcontinent.

This saw the union of Islam's two greatest houses, and of the Islamic west and east. It cemented Hyderabad's status as a global Muslim capital, and left Abdulmecid's grandson, the Ottoman prince and the designated Nizam-in-waiting, perfectly placed to claim the Caliphate. But Partition in 1947 and the annexation of Hyderabad the following year spelled the end of this prospect.

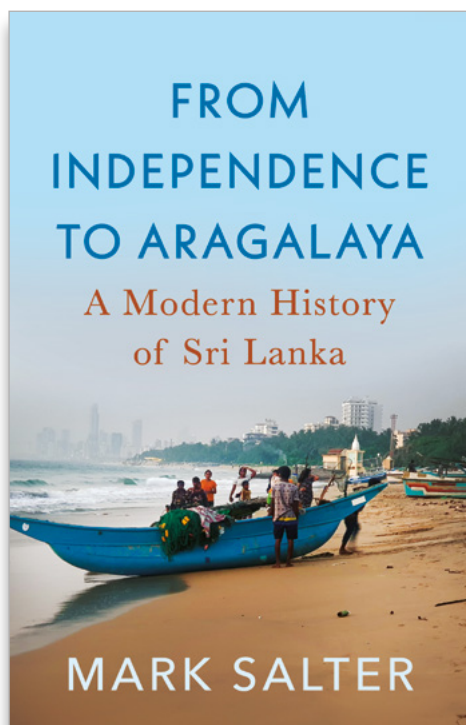
Exploring the lives, cultures and sensibilities of an amazing cast of players, *The Indian Caliphate* details this extraordinary history, which for decades has been consigned to near oblivion. This story of the downfall of two Muslim dynasties reveals a forgotten fact: that India was, in many ways, the very epicentre of the Islamic world in the early twentieth century.

**Imran Mulla** is a journalist at *Middle East Eye* in London, before which he studied history at the University of Cambridge. This is his first book.



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The remarkable story of the last Ottoman Caliph, exiled by Atatürk, who tried to recreate the Caliphate in the Indian princely state of Hyderabad.



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An indispensable political history of independent Sri Lanka, from the post-war years to the 2022 uprising.

MARK SALTER

## From Independence to Aragalaya

### A Modern History of Sri Lanka

In February 1948, following centuries of colonial rule—by the Portuguese, Dutch and British successively—Sri Lanka (then Ceylon) gained its independence. Unlike neighbouring India, it did so peacefully; indeed, at the time, many considered it a model for emerging post-independence states, with every prospect of a prosperous and successful future. Yet, within ten years, the island nation was already experiencing its first serious open ethnic tensions, revolving around the relationship between the majority Sinhalese and minority Tamil populations.

Events like the anti-Tamil riots of 1958 both shook the nation and prefigured the wider civil war that erupted in 1983 between government forces and the insurgent Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), led by Velupillai Prabhakaran—a hugely destructive conflict that raged for twenty-six years until the Tigers' final demise in May 2009.

Starting from independence and continuing up to the spring 2022 Aragalaya (Uprising)—which eventually toppled wartime Defence Secretary-turned-President Gotabhaya Rajapaksa, following hapless economic misgovernment—this book examines major events, recurring themes and underlying trends in Sri Lanka's often fraught, contested history. While the ethnic conflict may be over, Mark Salter suggests, many of the issues that gave rise to it are yet to be fully addressed.

**Mark Salter** is a journalist, analyst and writer, and the author of *To End a Civil War: Norway's Peace Engagement in Sri Lanka* (also published by Hurst). A former BBC radio journalist, he first visited Sri Lanka in 2002, and has lived on the island since 2019.

EAMONN GEARON

# The Arab Bureau

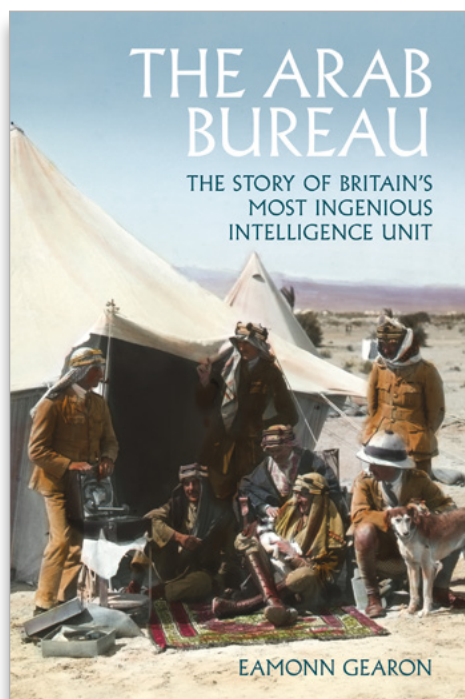
## The Story of Britain's Most Ingenious Intelligence Unit

In the midst of the First World War, an extraordinary intelligence unit operated from Cairo's Savoy Hotel, combining the skills of archaeologists, academics and soldiers to revolutionise how Britain gathered information and shaped events in the Middle East. Overshadowed by Lawrence of Arabia, the Arab Bureau's true significance has remained hidden in plain sight ever since.

This fascinating study uncovers the Bureau's remarkable story through newly discovered Arabic documents and previously overlooked archives. At its heart lies an astonishing find: *Thawrat al-Arab*, an ambitious Arabic-language book and the longest piece of British propaganda produced during the war. From the *Arab Bulletin's* secret intelligence reports to sophisticated propaganda campaigns, the Bureau was decades ahead of its time. The team—including archaeologists fresh from desert digs and scholars fluent in local dialects—developed new methods of cultural intelligence that would influence future generations.

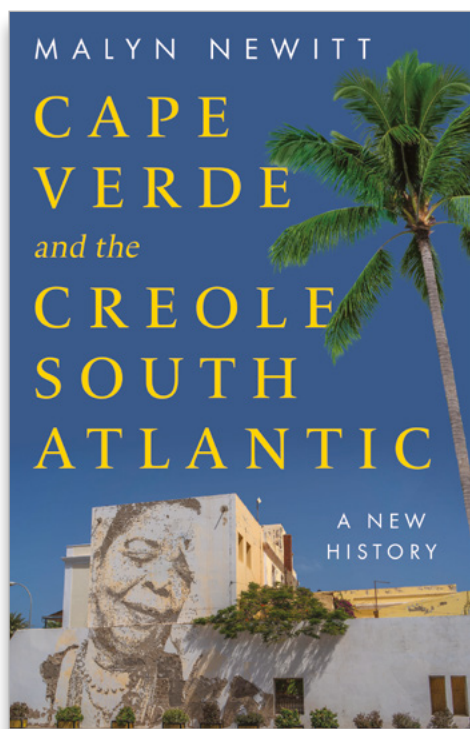
Eamonn Gearon's compelling narrative reveals how this unique organisation navigated the complexities of Arab politics, tribal rivalries and Ottoman intelligence, while developing techniques that resonate with today's challenges in intelligence-gathering. Essential reading for anyone interested in intelligence history, the Middle East or how innovation occurs in wartime, this book transforms our understanding of a crucial moment in world history.

**Eamonn Gearon** is an historian whose bestselling series for *The Great Courses* chronicle 1,400 years of Middle Eastern history; and author of *The Sahara: A Cultural History*, among others. He created and runs MENA area studies training for the U.S. State Department and the UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office.



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**A fascinating study of the British Empire's Middle Eastern intelligence section during the First World War, drawing on government files and secret publications.**



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The first general history of the archipelago available in English, set within a broader regional, oceanic and global tapestry.

**MALYN NEWITT**

## Cape Verde and the Creole South Atlantic

### A New History

The Cape Verde Islands are now a popular tourist destination but, guide books apart, there is little in print in English that covers their history and culture. This book offers a readable account not only of the islands' past, but also of their place in the wider story of the South Atlantic's Portuguese-speaking communities.

First settled in the fifteenth century, the inhabitants of Cape Verde were of diverse origins. Some came from Portugal, others arrived as slaves from mainland Africa, and a third element comprised Jewish exiles from the Iberian Peninsula. From the earliest days, the islanders developed a mixed Creole culture with its own Creole Portuguese language. They had close relations with people of the upper Guinea coast, where many of them settled, and with the Guinea islands. Meanwhile the archipelago became a hub of the Atlantic slave trade.

Cape Verde has also had a strategic importance—its history has to be seen in a global context, broader than simply that of the Portuguese imperial story. Malyn Newitt also fills a major gap in the bibliography of Atlantic history, slavery and the history of the African diaspora in the Atlantic.

**Malyn Newitt**, the first Charles Boxer Chair in the History Department of King's College London, has authored more than twenty books on African and Portuguese colonial history, including *A Short History of Mozambique* and *The Zambezi: A History*, both published by Hurst.



KIRILL SHAMIEV

# Imperfect Equilibrium

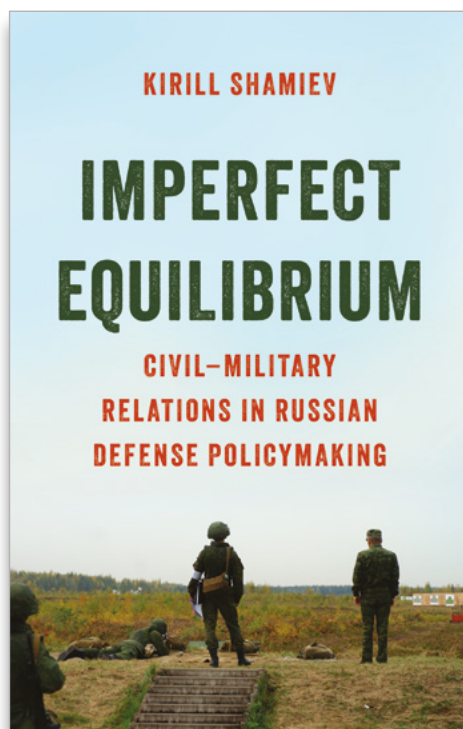
## Civil–Military Relations in Russian Defense Policymaking

Despite years of attempts to improve its military capabilities, Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022 revealed a crippling lack of skill, discipline and equipment. Non-material factors, in particular the power struggle between military and civilian leaderships, have hindered reform of its armed forces: with officers dominating defence policy, the Kremlin has struggled to implement the necessary changes.

Kirill Shamiev explores the political reasons behind Russia's poor military preparedness for the war in Ukraine. He demonstrates how a seemingly obedient military has frequently blocked civilian reforms, taking advantage of weak oversight mechanisms. The Kremlin's efforts to centralise control and make the armed forces personally accountable to President Vladimir Putin harmed institutional learning, cementing a conservative civil–military status quo. While this protected the military from civil society interference and ensured Putin's autocratic rule, it ultimately limited the pace and scope of change.

Analysing three cases of reform between 2000 and 2021, *Imperfect Equilibrium* offers critical insights into the relationship between civilian control and military effectiveness in Russia. Drawing on extensive qualitative and quantitative evidence—including interviews, parliamentary speeches, media reports and surveys—it shows how unchecked autonomy can undermine military development, even in authoritarian contexts.

**Kirill Shamiev** is a Russian political scientist with a PhD from Central European University. A policy fellow at the European Council on Foreign Relations in Berlin, he specialises in civil–military relations, Russian domestic politics and defence affairs. He has contributed to the BBC, *The Guardian*, *Foreign Affairs* and others.



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military struggled to  
adapt to the challenges of  
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*Maidan* explores wider regional perspectives on, and responses to, Ukraine's 2014 revolution and its aftermath—consequential developments that continue to reshape Europe today.

DONATAS KUPČIŪNAS &  
TREVELYAN S. WING (eds)

## Maidan

### The 2014 Revolution in Ukraine and the Baltic

2024 marked the tenth anniversary of Ukraine's Maidan Revolution—a landmark event in the evolution of the post-Cold War global order. What had started in late 2013 as a diplomatic showdown between Kyiv, Brussels and Moscow over Ukraine's Association Agreement with the European Union would culminate in Europe's deadliest conflict since the Second World War.

Kyiv's bold shift westward in 2014 was closely intertwined with developments in the wider Baltic, which influenced—and were in turn shaped by—events in Ukraine. Russia's annexation of Crimea and invasion of Donbas triggered a rethink of security policy across this geostrategically significant part of the world, including defence planning, military spending, troop deployment and the region's positioning within the Euro-Atlantic security architecture.

Maidan also reopened questions of Ukraine's membership in, and Russia's relationship with, NATO. Kyiv's geopolitical reorientation further rekindled historical memories of Ukraine's association with the greater Baltic, and inspired new thinking around a future geopolitical bloc comprising the so-called 'lands in between'.

This volume brings together leading experts of the history, theory and practice of international relations alongside distinguished foreign and security policy practitioners to examine wider regional perspectives on, and responses to, Maidan and its aftermath—consequential developments that continue to reshape Europe today.

**Donatas Kupčiūnas** is Research Associate at the Centre for Geopolitics, University of Cambridge, researching NATO expansion in the Baltic during the 2000s. **Trevelyan S. Wing** is Baltic Fellow at the Centre for Geopolitics, University of Cambridge, researching security and defence in Northern Europe, the Baltic Sea and the High North.

PAUL LENDVAI

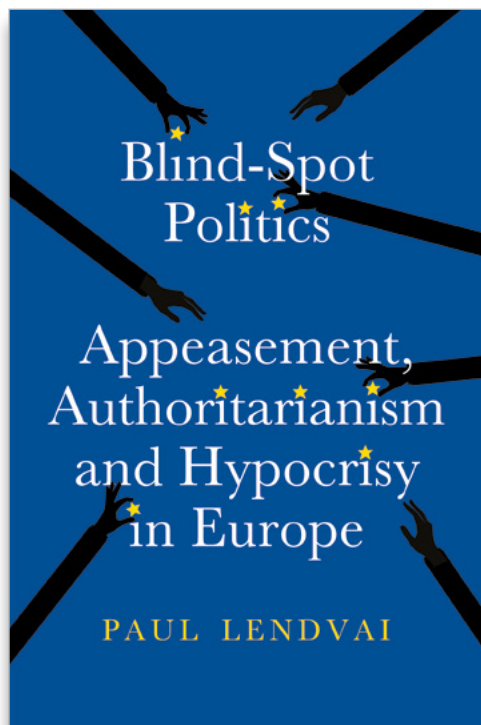
# Blind-Spot Politics

## Appeasement, Authoritarianism and Hypocrisy in Europe

‘Putin has obviously deceived everyone.’ These were the words of Manuela Schwesig, First Minister of the German state Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, after the 2022 full-scale invasion of Ukraine. She was trying to explain why her federal government had been so closely implicated in Russia’s controversial completion of the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline. Why have other German, Austrian and European politicians and commentators so often got it so very wrong in their assessments of Moscow policy? Why has the EU been so slow to recognise the danger posed to its liberal values by nationalist autocrats such as Viktor Orbán of Hungary? And why have lessons from past blunders in Western policy—particularly in the Balkans—and the example of German *Ostpolitik* gone ignored, until it was too late?

Paul Lendvai, a veteran reporter on the continent’s centre and east, exposes the role of double standards embraced, blind eyes turned and human and political weakness overlooked in policies of appeasement towards Europe’s authoritarian regimes, past and present. Combining analysis of new developments with decades of personal experience as a correspondent, he provides fascinating political profiles in deceit, sketching both the victims and the perpetrators of political fraud in Central and Eastern Europe.

**Paul Lendvai**, a Hungarian-born Austrian journalist and author, was the Vienna correspondent for the *Financial Times* for over twenty years. His most recent books, all published by Hurst, are *Austria Behind the Mask*; *The Hungarians* (second edition); and *Orbán: Europe’s New Strongman*, which won the Prix du Livre Européen.



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Argues for a reconceptualisation of global—particularly East Asian—security, to recognise its new forms and dimensions as global power is itself being redefined.

BRAD GLOSSERMAN & DAVID S. LEE

# Tech-Gemony

## Understanding the New National Security Economy

The world is at an inflection point. In an era marked by intense geopolitical competition and rapid technological advancements, understanding and navigating the complex interplay of business, politics, security and technology has never been more essential.

Global in scope and evidence-based, *Tech-Gemony* illuminates how national security has been redefined in the digital age. Unique in approach, the authors combine deep policy expertise with extensive business experience to introduce a transformative concept: the ‘new national security economy’. Within this framework, the economic battlefield is the central arena of competition, in which mastery of emerging technologies will shape the future of world diplomacy and power dynamics—and, ultimately, our collective future.

Companies are unprepared for this new world, despite being increasingly vital participants in geopolitics. There is a need to recognise and adapt to new risks; to develop expertise, and rethink traditional approaches to risk management. This book provides practical, actionable strategies for leaders and organisations struggling with this emerging reality.

The new national security economy is a defining feature of our evolving world. *Tech-Gemony* provides essential guidance for individuals, businesses and governments to help them navigate this perilous moment.

**Brad Glosserman** is Professor at the Center for Rule-Making Strategies, Tama University, and author of *Peak Japan: The End of Grand Ambitions*. **David S. Lee** is a professor at the University of Hong Kong. He writes for the *Harvard Business Review* and *Nikkei Asia*, and previously worked at Goldman Sachs.

LEILA BEN MCHAREK

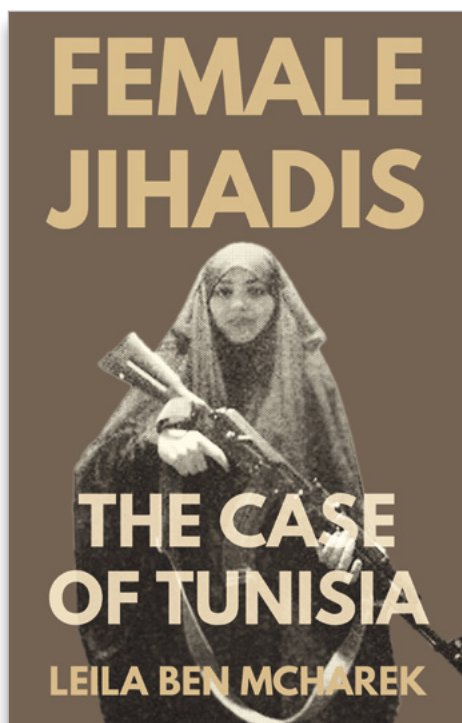
## Female Jihadis The Case of Tunisia

This book probes the phenomenon of Tunisian women recruited for jihad, post-Arab Spring. In the aftermath of the Jasmine Revolution, Tunisia—which is often deemed to have been the most successful country in its democratic transition, and which has a long history of relative gender equality—has nevertheless played host to the mass enlistment of hundreds of women as jihadists. What explains this paradox?

While much has been written about the notable presence of Tunisian female fighters in conflict zones such as Syria, we know very little about these women's backgrounds or what drove them to join up. Through the biographies of thirty jihadist militants, Leila Ben Mcharek shines a light on the back-stories of such Tunisian women, and analyses their motivations, recruitment patterns and roles within jihadist organisations, both within and outside Tunisia.

Given the country's transition after the Arab Spring, and the various challenges this has posed, Ben Mcharek also provides an overview of the broader political and social context of these mobilisations. Her study is an indispensable contribution to our understanding of the processes by which women, and especially Tunisian women, may become members of violent and radical Islamist groups.

**Leila Ben Mcharek** is a social scientist and consultant with a PhD from Université Sorbonne-Nouvelle; a former researcher at the Woodrow Wilson Center, and the University of Western Australia's Centre for Muslim States and Societies; and a former analyst for the UK's Tunis embassy and the UN human rights office.



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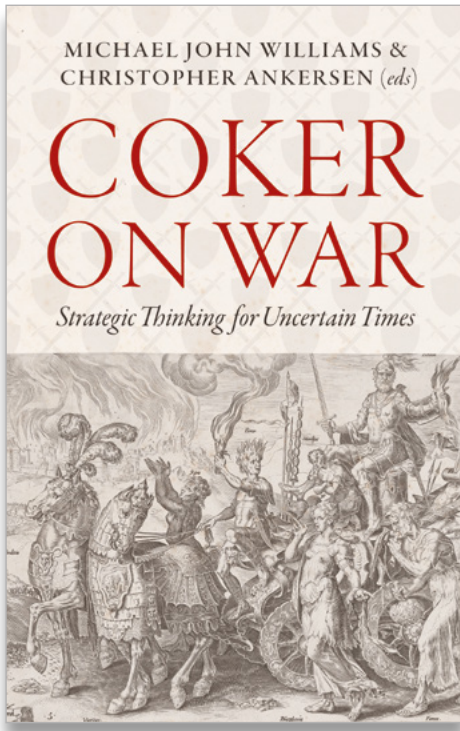
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War &amp; Conflict / Gender Studies

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Why has Tunisia, widely considered an Arab Spring 'success story', seen such an explosion in violent Islamism among its women?



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A homage to the late, great scholar of war, exploring his considerable legacy and engaging with questions of conflict and strategy in the same spirit.

**MICHAEL JOHN WILLIAMS &  
 CHRISTOPHER ANKERSEN (eds)**

## **Coker on War** **Strategic Thinking** **for Uncertain Times**

From the collapse of the Soviet Union and the ‘end of history’ to the rise of Islamist terrorism and the onset of the ‘war on terror’, and now finally a return to great power politics—the last thirty years have been some of the most unsettled in a generation or two. Through it all, Professor Christopher Coker’s thinking on war and strategy was among the most original and insightful. His impact on the contemporary understanding of conflict cannot be overstated.

Through his twenty-seven books, Coker’s ideas—and his captivating writing—have influenced politicians, generals and generations of scholars. This volume is an extended examination of the man and his oeuvre, written by those who worked with him, learned from him, and were intellectually inspired by him.

Leading scholars will examine the implications of emerging technology in warfare; the challenges of war in an era of terrorism; the humanitarian dimension of war; and notions of war as risk management. In a homage to Coker’s engagement with literature and philosophy, additional chapters will explore how we write about war, the role or meaning of human nature in war, and the tragic in war.

**Michael John Williams** PhD is Associate Professor of International Affairs at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University. **Christopher Ankersen** PhD is a Clinical Professor of Global Affairs at New York University. They wrote their doctorates at the London School of Economics under Christopher Coker’s supervision.

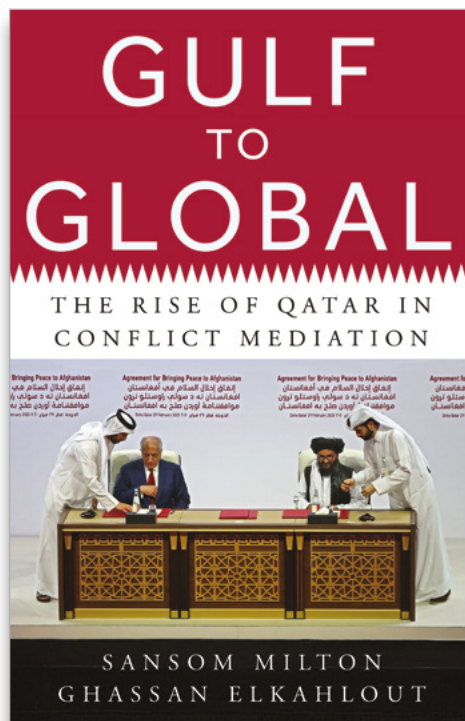
SANSOM MILTON &  
GHASSAN ELKAHLOUT

## Gulf to Global The Rise of Qatar in Conflict Mediation

This timely monograph chronicles how Qatar transformed itself into a broker of peace in some of the world's most intractable conflicts. In the early 2000s, Qatar made its mark by mediating an array of disputes in the Middle East. By the 2020s, it was again on the global radar for its role in high-profile ceasefires and landmark peace agreements, notably the US–Taliban deal and negotiations during the 2023–5 Gaza war.

Milton and Elkahout offer a wide-ranging conceptual and on-the-ground analysis of Qatar's emergence, retreat and reemergence in the international arena, tracing its evolving mediation strategies in conflicts across Lebanon, Darfur, Afghanistan and the Gaza Strip. Drawing on a unique qualitative dataset assembled through a major documentation project, the study illuminates how Qatar leveraged its diplomatic, political and economic resources to position itself as an influential third-party mediator. In doing so, it reveals both the motivations behind Qatar's peacemaking initiatives and the broader implications of its rising profile for the changing global landscape of conflict mediation.

**Sansom Milton** is Senior Research Fellow at the Center for Conflict and Humanitarian Studies (CHS), Qatar. His research focusses on conflict mediation, post-conflict recovery and peacebuilding. **Ghassan Elkahout** is Director of CHS, Qatar, and Associate Professor at the Doha Institute for Graduate Studies. He researches humanitarian policy, recovery and reconstruction.



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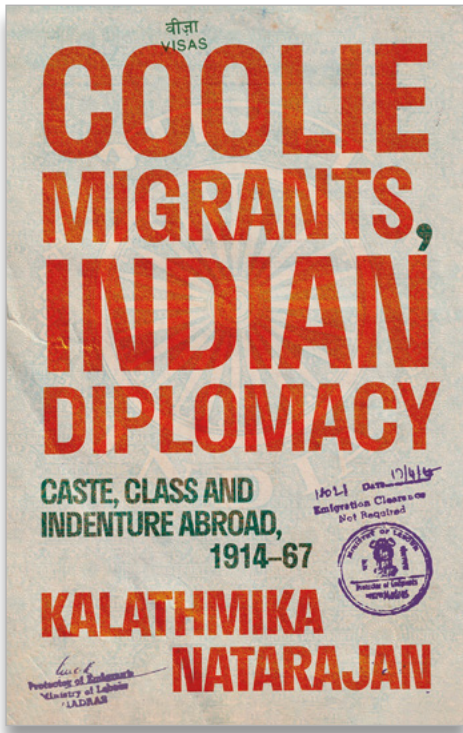
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Charts Qatar's key role in  
shaping and determining  
diplomatic initiatives in  
Afghanistan, Gaza and  
elsewhere.



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History / International Studies / India

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Uncovers the remarkable role of emigration, particularly of indentured labourers, in forging independent India's foreign relations.

KALATHMIKA NATARAJAN

## Coolie Migrants, Indian Diplomacy

### Caste, Class and Indenture Abroad, 1914–67

Over the centuries, millions of migrant labourers sailed from the Indian subcontinent, across the Bay of Bengal and Indian Ocean, to shape what is now the world's largest diaspora. This book recovers the histories and legacies of those 'coolie' migrants, and presents a new paradigm for the diplomatic history of independent India, going beyond high politics to explore how indenture, emigration and international relations became entangled.

After independence, Indian notions of the international realm as a sanctified space were shaped by migrant journeys; this was a space of anxiety in which to negotiate the 'coolie stain' on the country's reputation. Discourse was defined by intersections of caste, class, race and gender—and framed the migrant worker as the quintessential 'other' of Indian diplomacy.

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**Kalathmika Natarajan** is Lecturer in Modern South Asian History at the University of Exeter. Her interdisciplinary research combines critical approaches to diplomatic history and South Asian migration. She has worked at the University of Edinburgh, and received her doctoral degree from the University of Copenhagen.



JAVED GAYA

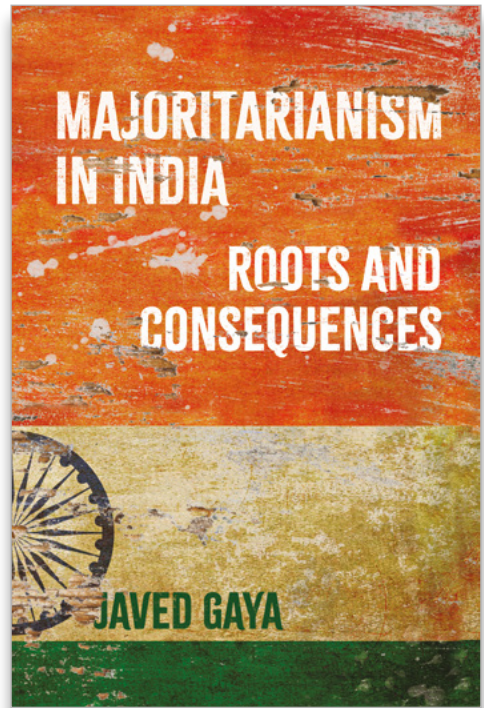
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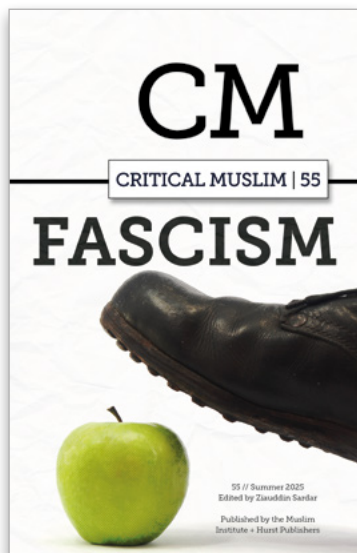
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**Javed Gaya** is a lawyer from Mumbai, specialising in commercial arbitration law. He studied jurisprudence at the University of Oxford and has taught law at colleges affiliated to the University of Mumbai. He contributes to various publications on topics including constitutional law, history and foreign affairs, and writes book reviews.



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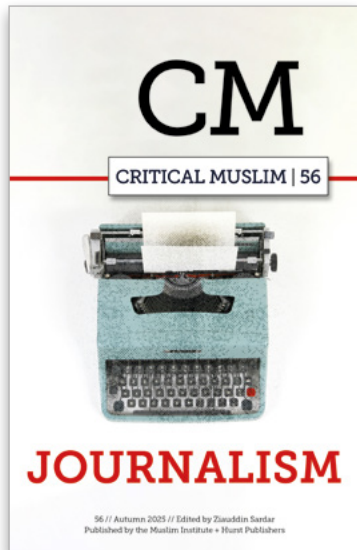


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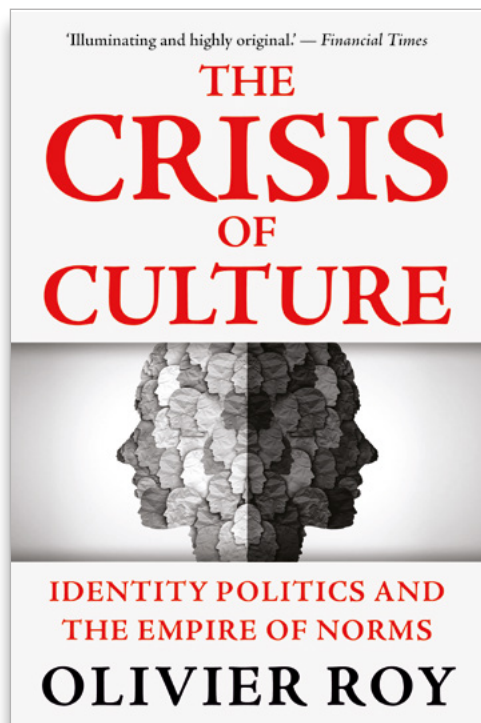
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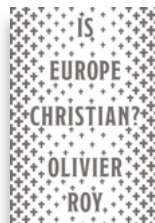
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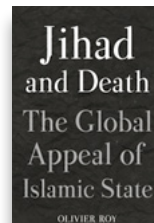
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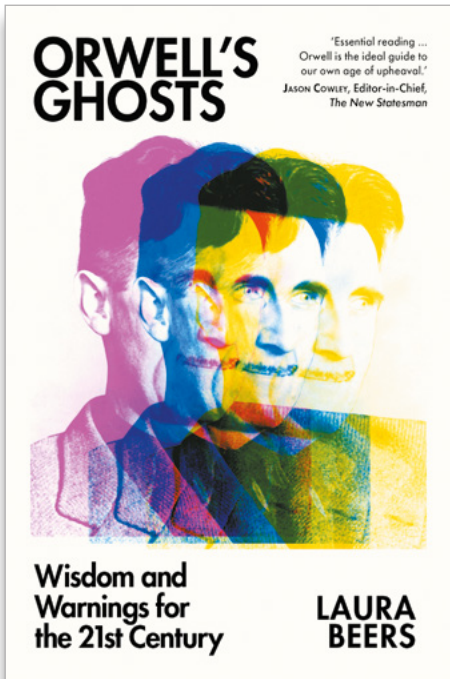
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**Geoff Mulgan** is Professor within University College London’s Science, Technology, Engineering and Public Policy team. Formerly Nesta’s chief executive, and co-founder of a dozen organisations, his past

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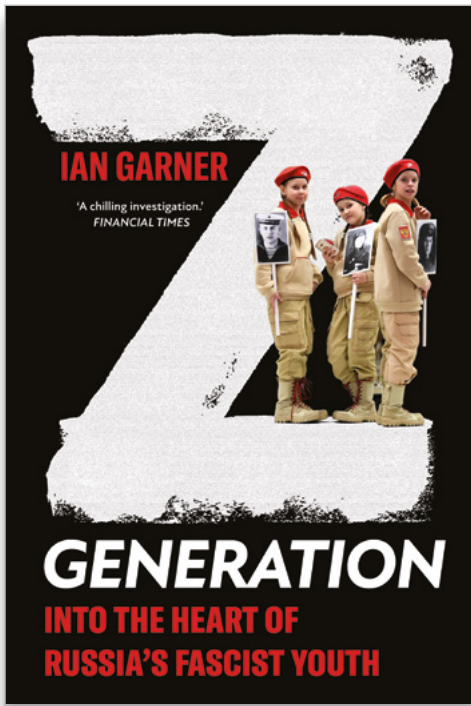
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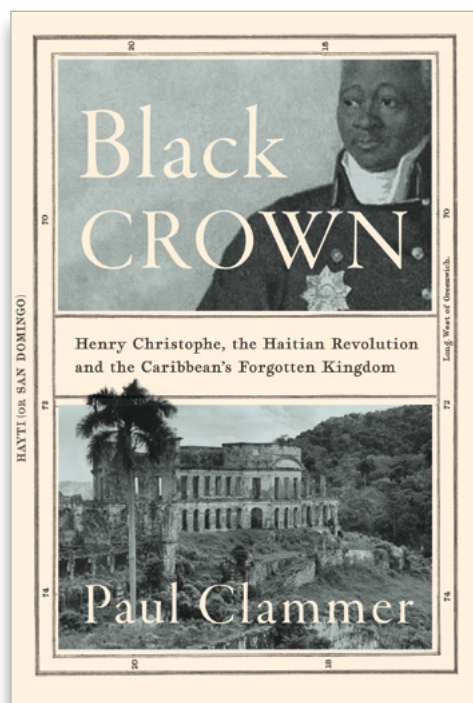
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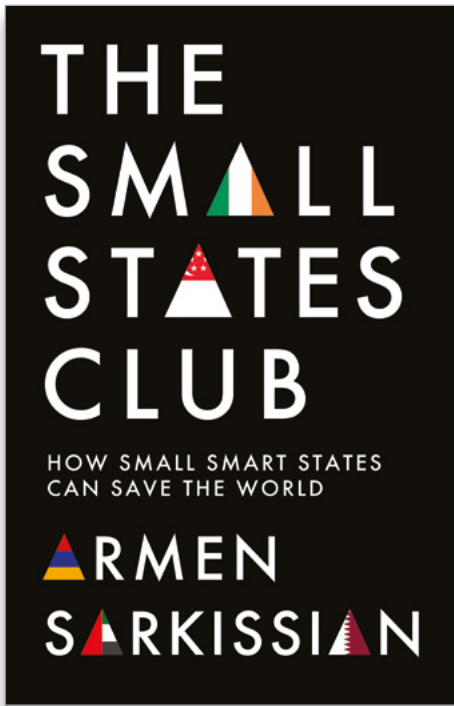
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**Paul Clammer** is a Bristol-based writer and editor. He has lived and worked in Haiti, a country he has been visiting regularly since 2007. He is the author of Bradt Travel Guides' *Haiti*, the only English-language

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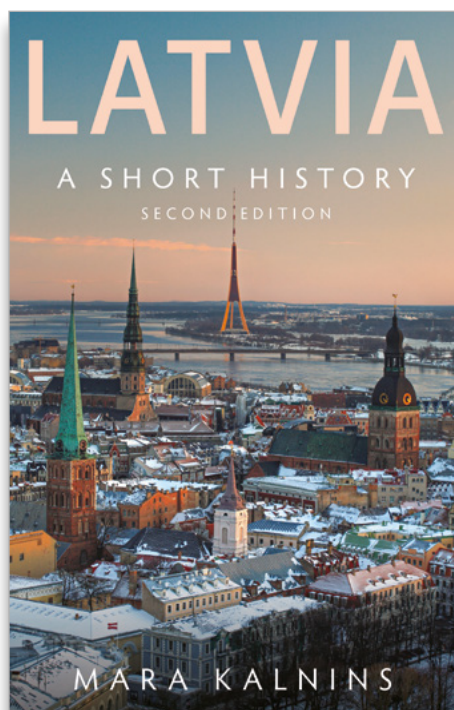
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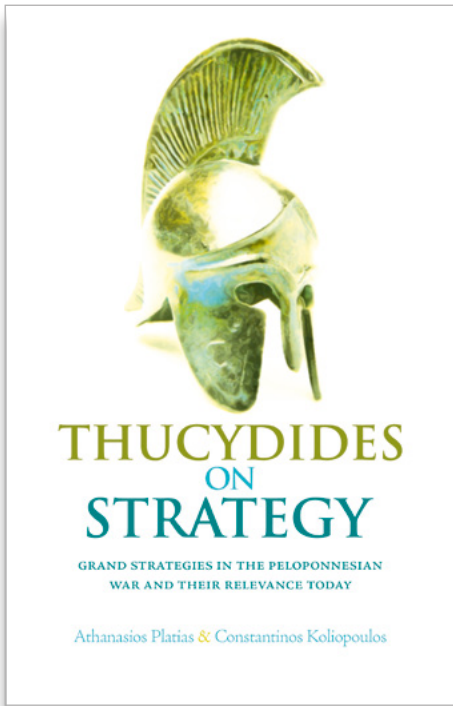
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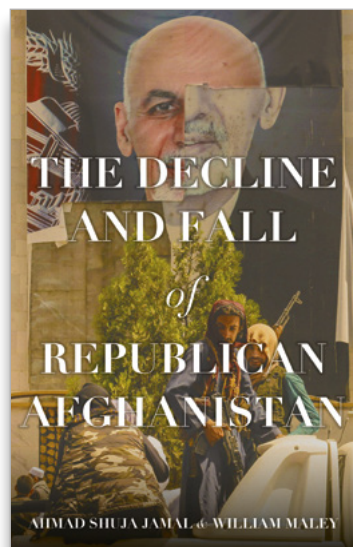
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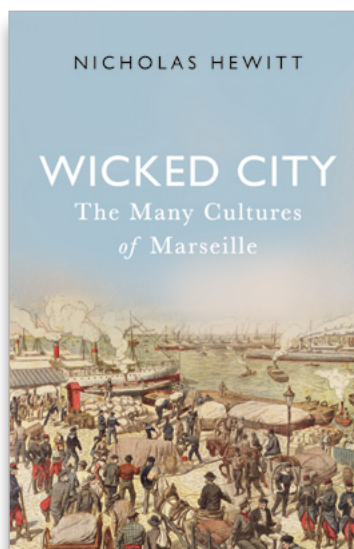
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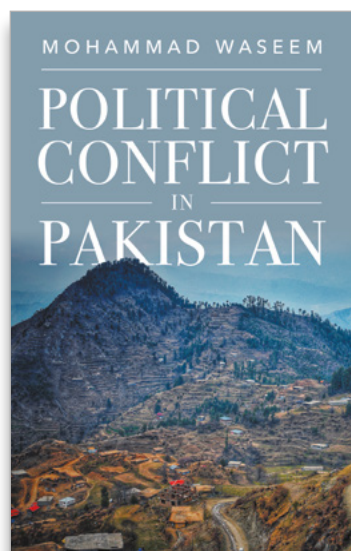
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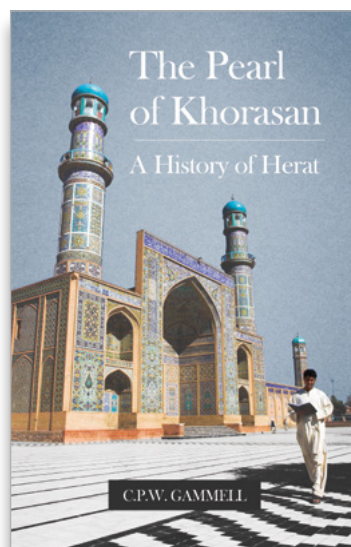
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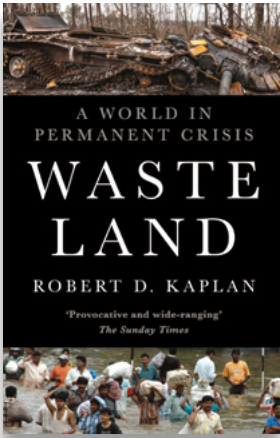
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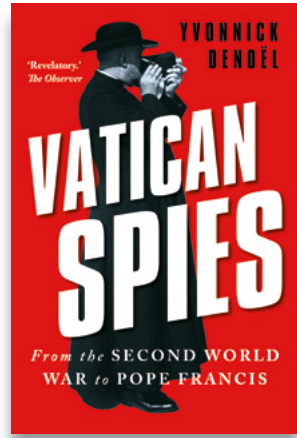
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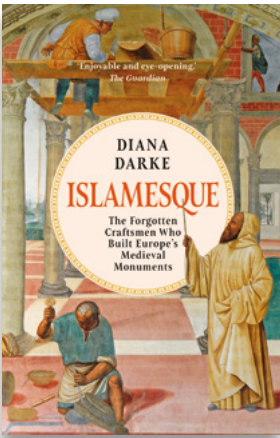
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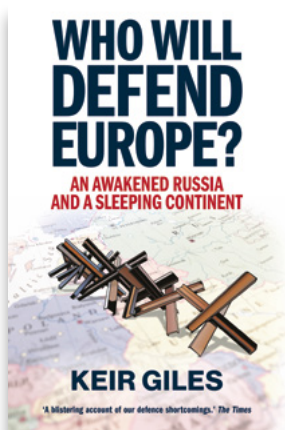
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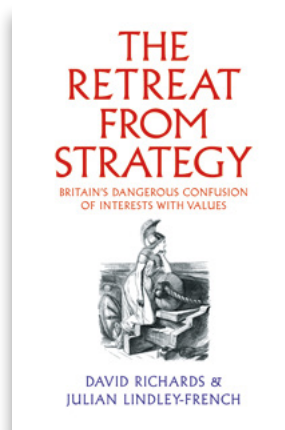
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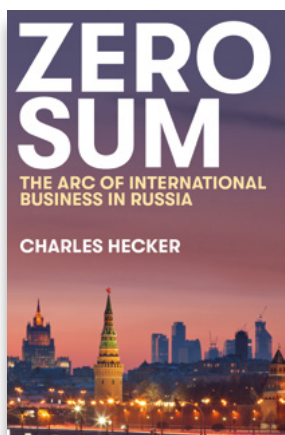
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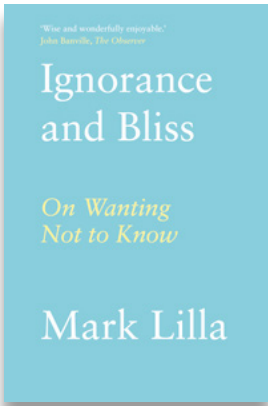
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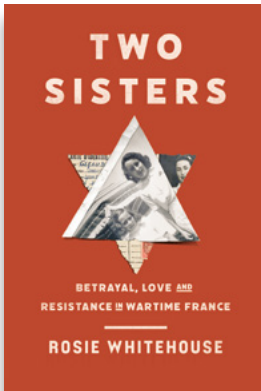
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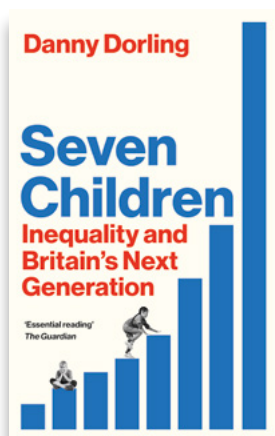


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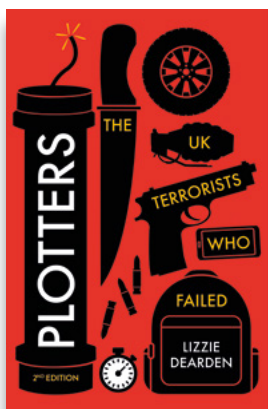
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