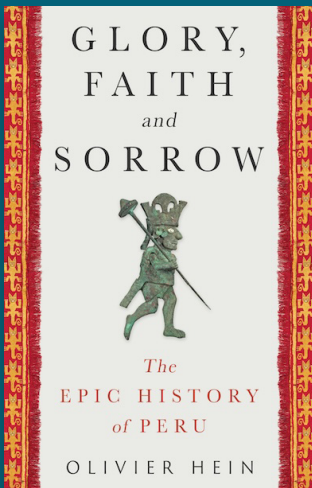




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ROGER BOYES

The Watchers

How the Secret Police Shape the Future

How much freedom must we surrender to feel safe? Is China's all-round AI-enhanced surveillance becoming a model for other countries? Could cascading fears about failing states and welfare systems steer citizens towards accepting repressive measures, even in well-established democracies?

The Watchers is a timely, indispensable account of the modern police state. Establishing its historical antecedents, Roger Boyes shows how it became an instrument of control under the Nazis and in the Eastern Bloc—and is still central to the governance of Iran, North Korea, China and Russia today. Is America now adopting police-state methods to facilitate the mass deportation of migrants? What are the limits to political control over the judiciary? And what is happening to democratic guardrails worldwide?

Boyes speaks with the police state's victims and insiders: to former inmates of Iran's Evin Prison, to Hongkongers fighting for democracy, and to those who chronicled the vicious abuses of Syria's torture factories. He also tracks down the people who informed on him when he was a correspondent in East Germany and in martial-law Poland. Understanding the motives of willing accomplices, he argues, is as important as outlining the secrets of the new caste of securocrats and their seemingly unstoppable rise.



November 2026

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Current Affairs / Politics

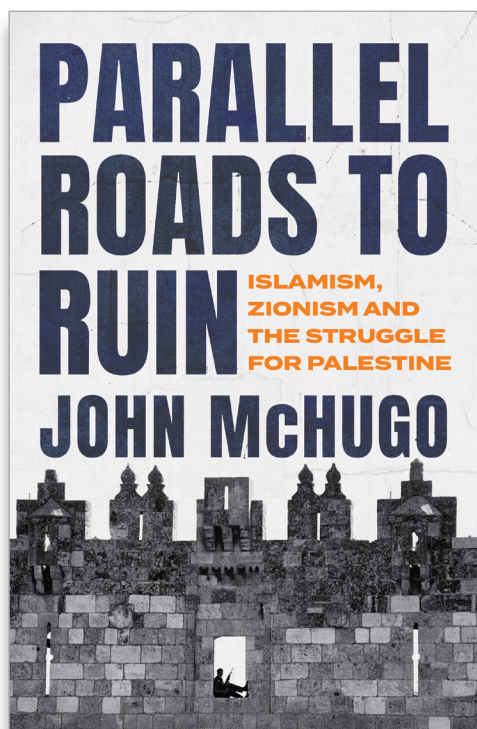
World rights

A chilling global investigation into how modern surveillance states are built and why they endure—from a journalist once spied upon in Cold War Europe.



© The Times

Roger Boyes, a foreign correspondent for almost fifty years, is Diplomatic Editor of *The Times*. He writes a widely read weekly column on geopolitics, as well as analyses and leaders on international affairs. He is also the author of twelve books.



December 2026

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Current Affairs / Middle East Studies

World rights

Examines the entwined destinies of Zionists and Islamists and the political outcome of their deadly embrace.

JOHN MCHUGO

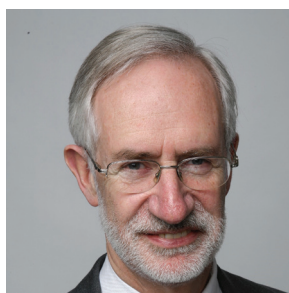
Parallel Roads to Ruin

Islamism, Zionism and the Struggle for Palestine

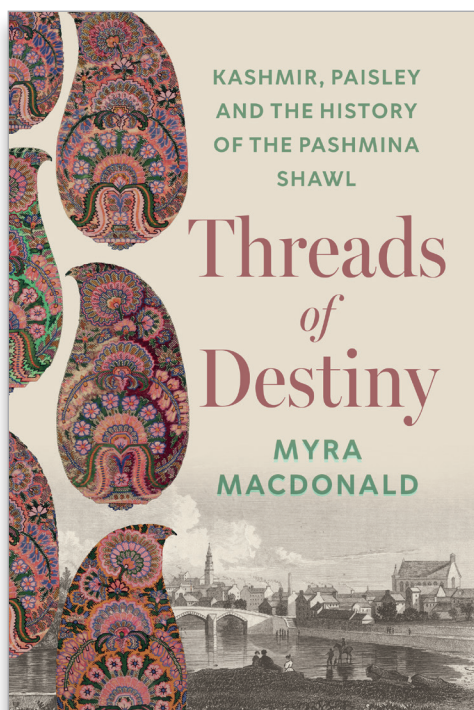
Zionism and Islamism both emerged in response to oppression and injustice, and started with the best intentions to bring dignity, freedom and security to the downtrodden followers of one of the world's great religions. Yet both have created oppression and injustice and used violence to attain their goals, fomenting bitter hatreds. These led directly to the horrifying October 7 attacks and ensuing destruction of Gaza.

John McHugo calls for a radical rethink of these two ideologies. He traces the problematic relationship of Europe and 'the West' with Jews and Muslims, from the Middle Ages to nineteenth-century nationalism and the Israel-Palestine conflict. He focuses on the personalities involved as much as their ideology—from Theodor Herzl, Chaim Weizmann, David Ben-Gurion and Ze'ev Jabotinsky to Jamal al-Din al-Afghani, Rashid Rida, Izz al-Din al-Qassam and Hajj Amin al-Husseini; and from Menachem Begin, Yitzhak Shamir, Ariel Sharon and Benjamin Netanyahu to Hassan al-Banna, Sayyid Qutb, Usama bin Laden and Shaykh Ahmad Yassin.

Wrestling with the unwelcome facts of this intertwined history is a precondition for reaching a settlement respecting the rights of all, and for securing lasting peace. *Parallel Roads to Ruin* makes these essential truths plain.



After studying Arabic and Islamic Studies at the University of Oxford and the American University in Cairo, **John McHugo** practised international law in the Middle East. His books include *A Concise History of Sunnis and Shi'is*; *A Concise History of the Arabs*; and *Syria: A Recent History*.



September 2026

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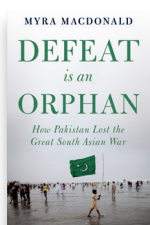
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British India.

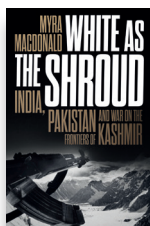
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Myra MacDonald, a journalist specialising in South Asia, grew up near Paisley. A former Reuters correspondent, her books include *Defeat is an Orphan: How Pakistan Lost the Great South Asian War* and *White as the Shroud: India, Pakistan and War on the Frontiers of Kashmir*, both published by Hurst.

MYRA MACDONALD

Threads of Destiny

Kashmir, Paisley and the History of the Pashmina Shawl

In the late seventeenth century, Kashmir was renowned worldwide for the beauty of its pashmina shawls, woven from the fine, warm wool of the Tibetan mountain goat. Paisley was a provincial Scottish town where weavers produced plain cloth in homespun wool and flax. But by the 1800s, these Scottish weavers had become so adept at imitating Kashmiri shawls that their characteristic swirling colours and tear-drop motifs came to be known by a new name: 'the Paisley pattern'. How did it happen?

Threads of Destiny is a fresh history of the celebrated Kashmiri shawl and the copies it inspired. Myra MacDonald tracks the rise of Paisley's handloom weavers during the British Empire and Industrial Revolution, and the concomitant slide in fortunes of their Kashmiri counterparts. The shawl trade was driven by the vagaries of fashion and foreign conquest, and the pursuit of *pashm* wool spurred exploration, political intrigue and wars. Then in the late nineteenth century, handloom weavers in Paisley and Kashmir found their fates unexpectedly united, as the ascent of power looms swept them out of business.

MacDonald tells a riveting human story of empire, fashion and technology—and of the intertwined destinies of two peoples thousands of miles apart.

AMERICAN OVERTHROW



MOSCOW'S ENDGAME IN ITS
LONG WAR WITH WASHINGTON

KEIR GILES

AUTHOR OF *WHO WILL DEFEND EUROPE?*

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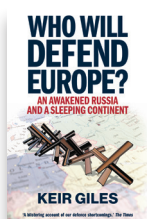
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Keir Giles has advised governments worldwide on the Russian threat. A former senior fellow with Chatham House's Russia and Eurasia Programme, he regularly comments for the BBC and international media. His prescient books include *Who Will Defend Europe?* (also published by Hurst), a *Financial Times* Politics Book of the Year.

KEIR GILES

American Overthrow

Moscow's Endgame in its Long War with Washington

The maelstrom that followed Donald Trump's return as US president in 2025 left many bemused and disoriented. But for Russia-watchers, what unfolded was grimly familiar. So much of what Trump and his inner circle have done is precisely what the Kremlin would have wanted them to do; and in too many respects, Trump's America has started to mimic Russia itself.

For all the chaos of Trump's first months back in the White House, one defining feature was common to all his destructive actions: the removal of the obstacles previously set up to prevent Russia from achieving its ambitions, whether they threatened Europe or America itself. The Trump administration's determination to coerce Ukraine into surrendering to Russia is just the clearest example of how America is embracing Moscow's objectives. And domestically, the war on facts and truth; the deployment of masked federal paramilitaries to the streets of major cities; the threats against neighbouring countries; the consolidation of power; and the favouring of a narrow circle of oligarchs all mirror Vladimir Putin's Russia of twenty years before.

Keir Giles examines the transformation of America through the prism of Kremlinology. What he reveals is disturbing not just for Americans, but for us all.

PAT YALE

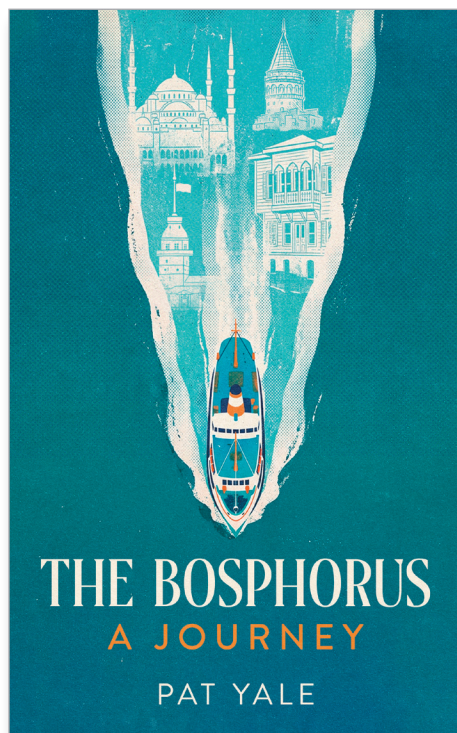
The Bosphorus

A Journey

Right at the heart of Istanbul, separating its European and Asian shores, the Bosphorus is not just one of the world's greatest waterways. It is also one of its most magical—a strait that rose from myth and mystery to become the political hub of the Ottoman Empire, home to the sultan and his entourage and, indeed, to anybody who was anybody.

Its spectacular landscape, draped in green and blue, was extolled by every visiting writer, from Lord Byron to Virginia Woolf. But when the new Republic of Turkey chose Ankara as its capital in 1923, silence fell over the Bosphorus' palaces and mansions, many of their once powerful residents forced into exile. In a twentieth century marked by poverty, uncertainty and social upheaval, its banks were resettled, and industry and mass housing elbowed out the greenery. But as the twenty-first century brings new challenges and possibilities, waterside manors are being rebuilt and the crumbling industrial heritage repurposed.

The story of the Bosphorus is one of rulers and nobles, pilgrims and saints—but also of labourers, fishermen and boatmen. Above all, it is a story about water. What better way to explore it than from the decks of its ferries?



January 2027
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 Travel
 World rights

Crossroads of trade
 and culture, boundary
 between East and West—
 the Bosphorus is a
 waterway like no other.
 This evocative portrait
 brings it to life.



Educated at the University of Cambridge, **Pat Yale** worked in the travel industry before becoming a guidebook writer specialising in Turkey. After moving to Cappadocia to restore a cave house, she now lives in Istanbul. Her books include *Following Miss Bell: Travels Around Turkey in the Footsteps of Gertrude Bell*.



January 2027

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History

World rights

The fascinating story
of Labour's efforts to
feed post-war Britain
by leveraging its
African colonies—and
the enduring political
consequences of the
Scheme's failure.

CHRISTOPHER HALE

The Great Groundnut Fiasco

Colonial East Africa and the Downfall of a Labour Government

Britain in 1946 was a bruised and miserable nation. Despite its victory in World War Two, it had emerged disillusioned, hard up and chronically short of food and edible oils. The new Labour government had won a decisive mandate, but had so far failed to deliver its promised 'New Jerusalem'. Desperate to restore morale, it devised an audacious solution to Britain's post-war scarcity: the East African Groundnut Scheme.

Thousands of volunteers would clear Yorkshire-sized tracts of Tanganyikan bush to grow oil-rich groundnuts. Labour championed this crusade with messianic zeal, convinced that British ingenuity could transform its colonies into agricultural powerhouses. But despite massive investment, the Scheme collapsed spectacularly, having failed to conduct adequate research and having disregarded local knowledge. Conservatives and tabloids buried it beneath ridicule, with 'groundnuts' becoming a byword for left-wing incompetence and economic bungling. The fallout would contribute to Labour's 1951 electoral defeat. But was it truly a government blunder?

Christopher Hale reveals a more complex story. The United Africa Company (a subsidiary of Anglo-Dutch giant Unilever) sold the Scheme to fraught ministers, then catastrophically mismanaged operations. The real scandal wasn't socialism gone wrong—it was the betrayal of a nation's hopes by a corporate behemoth.



Christopher Hale is a documentary producer and the author of five non-fiction books. Educated at the Universities of Sussex and Edinburgh, he has made documentaries for broadcasters including the BBC, Channel 4 and National Geographic. His books have focused on the Holocaust, post-colonialism and the ideologies of the Third Reich.

OLIVIER HEIN

Glory, Faith and Sorrow

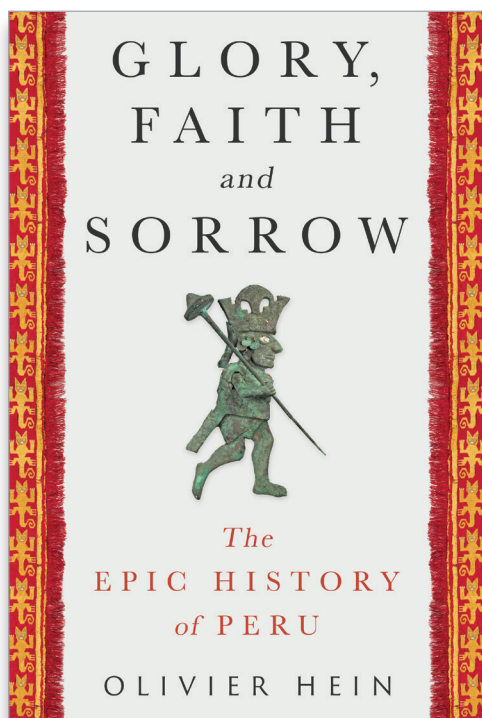
The Epic History of Peru

Peru's story is written in stone and gold, triumph and tragedy. It is the history of a land blessed by the sun and cursed by ambition.

This is a vivid account of one of the world's most significant yet least understood nations, from ancient times to today. Interweaving the stories of Peru's three distinct geographical zones—the parched coast, the soaring Andes and the vast, near-impenetrable jungle—Olivier Hein uncovers the successive civilisations that forged the country's unique identity. More than just a chronicle of emperors and battles, *Glory, Faith and Sorrow* brings to life the visionaries and warriors, the priests and rebels who shaped this extraordinary nation. He captures the dizzying rise of the Inca Empire, an unrivalled South American powerhouse whose architectural wonders rivalled Rome, only to be shattered by a handful of single-minded conquistadors. He explores the upheavals of Spanish colonialism, the protracted struggle for independence and the modern challenges of a country that emerged from a forceful cultural collision.

Glory, Faith and Sorrow is the long-awaited full story of Peru: an epic tale of survival, resilience, and the enduring spirit of a people who have rebuilt their country upon the monumental ruins of the past.

Olivier Hein is a Mauritian-British author, whose books include *Borneo: The History of an Enigma* (also published by 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.



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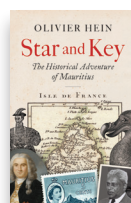
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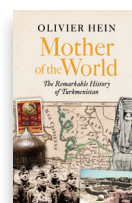
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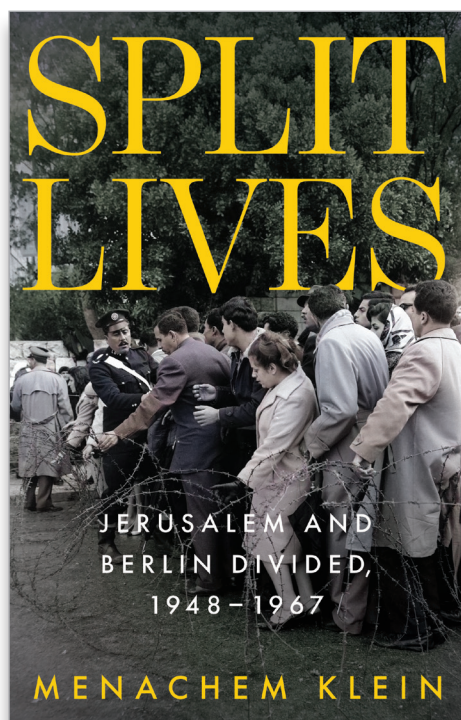
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Drawing parallels with Cold War Berlin, *Split Lives* examines the divided city of Jerusalem to show the global context of the Israeli–Arab conflict.

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MENACHEM KLEIN

Split Lives

Jerusalem and Berlin Divided, 1948–1967

This is the first comprehensive social history of Jerusalem between the 1948 and Six-Day wars—from the establishment of an international border cutting through the city for the first time in history until its reunification by arms in June 1967. Throughout his narrative, Menachem Klein draws parallels with Berlin, which was first partitioned by the Allies and later bisected by the Berlin Wall, highlighting Jerusalem's uniqueness while also reframing the Israeli–Arab conflict within a global context.

World War Two and the 1948 War ended the short life of cosmopolitan Jerusalem. The latter was born in the twilight days of the multicultural Ottoman Empire and replaced by two mono-national cities: Palestinian-Jordanian and Israeli-Jewish, located at the edge of two young, poor and internationally inconsequential states. Mixed neighbourhoods became homogeneous, and refugees and immigrants filled the streets of the divided cities. Contrary to popular belief, this was not an insignificant period—it was a formative era whose effects on Israeli–Palestinian relations resonate to this day.

Klein focuses on daily life in Jerusalem: how its residents shaped the segregated space and made it their own. His compelling narrative brings back to life the two cities as their inhabitants experienced them.

Menachem Klein is Professor Emeritus in Political Science at Bar-Ilan University. Formerly a fellow at St Antony's College, University of Oxford; a visiting professor at MIT; and a visiting research fellow at King's College London, his books with Hurst include *Lives in Common*, a *New Republic* Book of the Year.

DAVID S. TONGE

Imperial Predator

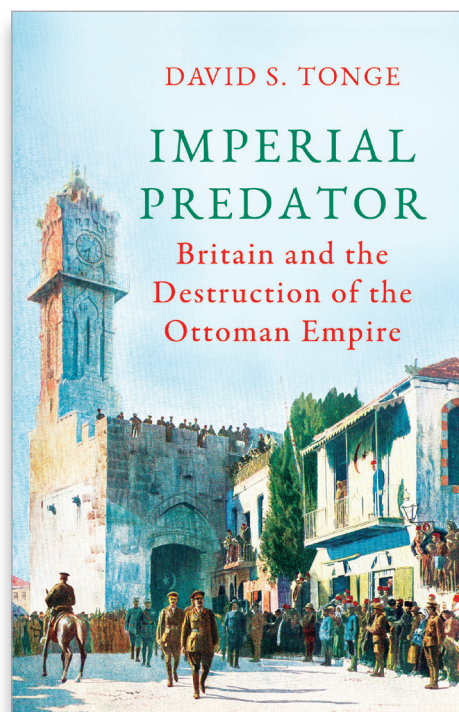
Britain and the Destruction of the Ottoman Empire

Britain's plunder of the Ottoman Empire is one of history's great land grabs. In 1876, the Ottomans controlled territory as large as contemporary China. By 1923, nine-tenths of this grand heritage was gone, half now under British control.

From the 'civilising mission' of Lord Salisbury to the Sykes-Picot Agreement, this is the riveting story of Britain's systematic destruction of the Ottoman Empire. Nineteenth-century diplomacy was brutal, with treaties ignored and promises elided. The Ottomans sought to balance between the European powers, but Britain had a navy second to none and admirals no less impetuous than Nelson. Allying itself with Russia in 1914, Britain spurned the Young Turks, driving them into the German camp—thereby expanding World War One into Asia and increasing British costs by half. Although the Ottomans resisted more fiercely than often recorded, their fateful wartime defeat would taint the future of the whole Middle East.

Drawing on the latest archival research, David S. Tonge shows that the end of the Ottomans was far more than a collapse: it was imperial asset-stripping by a predator at the top of its game. Written in the memory of every Turk and Arab, this history forged today's world.

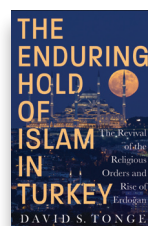
David S. Tonge has lived half of his life in Turkey. Educated at the University of Cambridge, he has reported for the BBC, *Guardian* and *Observer*, and was formerly the *Financial Times*' diplomatic correspondent. He is the author of *The Enduring Hold of Islam in Turkey* (also published by Hurst).



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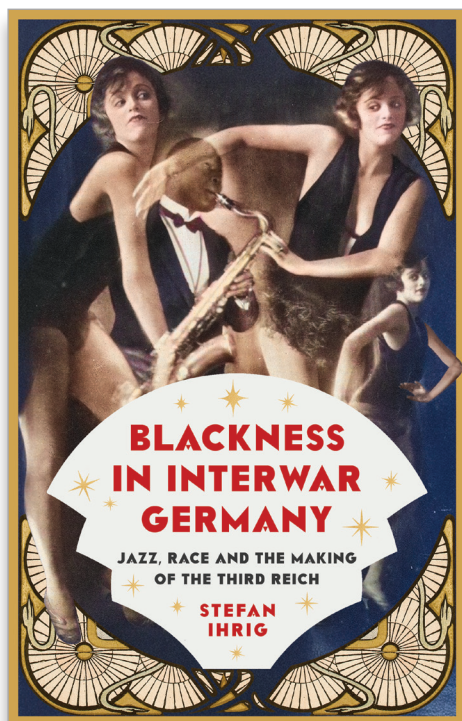
The Ottoman Empire didn't just dissolve—it was destroyed. This revealing new history exposes Britain's central role in tearing it apart.

By the same author:



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Out Jan 2027, see p. 39

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History / Germany

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The first comprehensive account of Blackness in Germany, spanning the late Empire, the Roaring Twenties and the aftermath of World War Two.

STEFAN IHRIG

Blackness in Interwar Germany

Jazz, Race and the Making of the Third Reich

Germany's past in relation to Blackness is often dismissed as peripheral: its colonial enterprise lasted merely three decades, and, until the end of World War Two, the Black population in Germany was small. Yet debates about Blackness, especially in the 1920s, were part of wider discussions in which social and political problems were articulated through race—problems the Nazis later claimed to have answers for.

Through a deep exploration of Germany's imperial experiences in Africa, Stefan Ihrig reveals that ideas about Blackness played a significant role in German history, even when there were few Black people in Germany or, as under Hitler, Africa largely fell outside the regime's predatory gaze. He examines the Weimar period, when Blackness served as a symbol—and to some extent the embodiment—of the Jazz Age. And he analyses how anxieties about racial mixing, the New Woman and the perceived corrupting influence of a Black and American modernity fuelled the cultural backlash in the years up to Hitler's appointment as Chancellor. As Ihrig uncovers, anti-Blackness was a central theme in Nazi discourse.

This illuminating investigation is both a prehistory of the Third Reich and a history of an important, often overlooked dimension of modern Germany.

Stefan Ihrig is a historian of German and Turkish history. His book *Atatürk in the Nazi Imagination* has been translated into five languages, and *Justifying Genocide* won the 2017 Dr. Sona Aronian Book Prize for Excellence in Armenian Studies. He divides his time between the Eastern Mediterranean and northern France.

EDWARD HOWELL

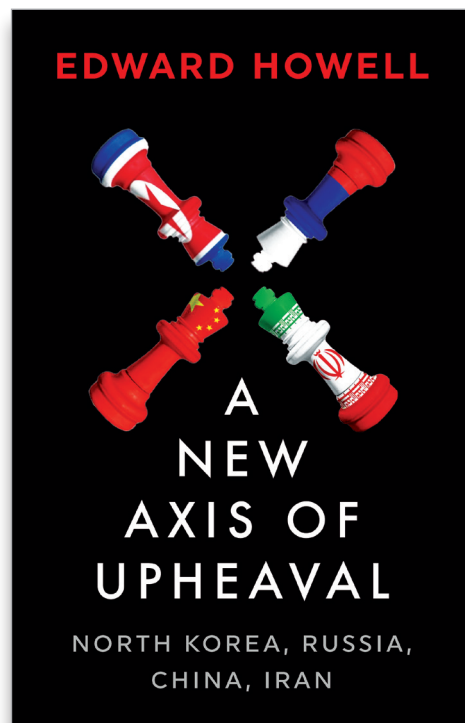
A New Axis of Upheaval

North Korea, Russia, China, Iran

When Russia invaded Ukraine in February 2022, few expected North Korea to rush to Putin's aid. Several years later, however, North Korea and Russia praise their 'invincible alliance'. Pyongyang has supplied Moscow with millions of rounds of artillery and thousands of troops in exchange for financial, food and technological assistance. Moscow has also procured invaluable dual-use technologies from Beijing and drones from Tehran.

Edward Howell asks whether the rapprochement between North Korea, Russia, China and Iran represents a new authoritarian alliance or is merely a marriage of convenience. Taking North Korea's perspective as its starting point and drawing upon new evidence—including interviews with government officials—*A New Axis of Upheaval* argues that while these states have distinct interests, their shared opposition to the post-war international order cannot be ignored. This compelling and timely account also explores the implications of these relations for the military-political hotspot of East Asia, particularly South Korea and its neighbours.

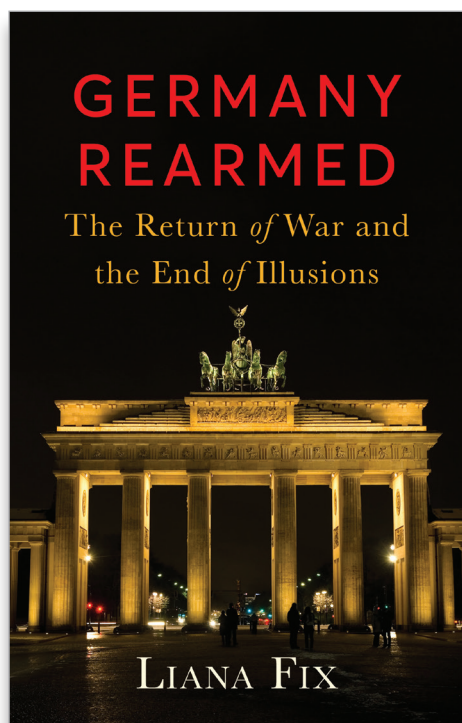
With North Korea likely to maintain its ties with Russia in a post-Ukraine War world, and China continuing to coerce the US and its allies, the West must prepare for the unsettling prospect that the axis of upheaval will persist longer than many hoped.



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Politics / Current Affairs
World rights

What does this burgeoning anti-Western alliance mean for global security in an increasingly erratic world?

Edward Howell DPhil is Lecturer and Research Fellow at the University of Oxford. Specialising in North and South Korean politics, he offers analysis for national and international media, including *The Spectator* and *The Telegraph*. He is the author of *North Korea and the Global Nuclear Order: When Bad Behaviour Pays*.



August 2026

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An urgent, incisive assessment of Germany's return to military power and Europe's security as Russian aggression rises and US reliability falters.

LIANA FIX

Germany Rearmed

The Return of War and the End of Illusions

After eighty years of restraint, Germany is returning to military power. For many years, German political culture rested on the conviction that military force belonged to a darker past—and that security could be outsourced to the United States or replaced by trade and diplomacy. Russia's invasion of Ukraine and Trump's return to the White House have shattered these illusions.

The threat of Russian aggression and the risk of US abandonment have triggered a German rearmament of historic proportions. But this rearmament also poses a dilemma. With right-wing populism rising at home, can Germany assume a greater military role without reviving old fears among its neighbours or undermining European stability? Can it become a credible security provider while remaining firmly anchored in liberal democratic values?

This timely, important book analyses Germany's foreign policy and its relationship with military power from 1945 to the present, and explores the choices and alternatives for European security in the next decade and beyond. Challenging Germany's 'myth of pacifism', Liana Fix argues that, as the post-war order fades, Germany can—and must—become a military power capable of protecting Europe when America will not.

Liana Fix is a historian, political scientist and a leading authority on German and European foreign and security policy. She is a senior fellow for Europe at the Council on Foreign Relations and an adjunct professor at Georgetown University. Her first book was *Germany's Role in European Russia Policy*.

TANJA D. HENDRIKS

The State in Relief

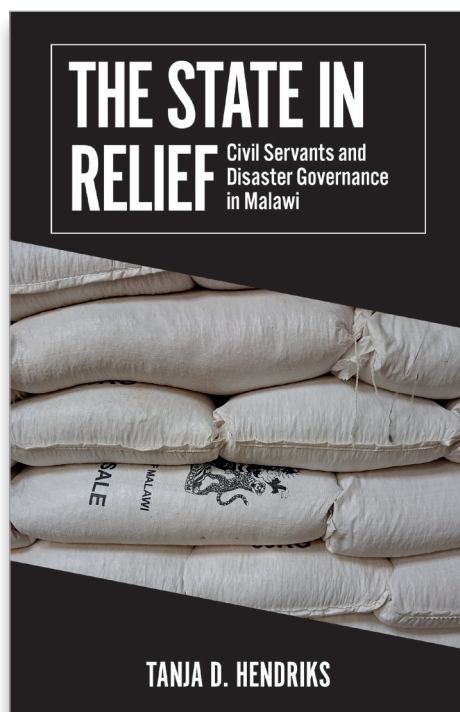
Civil Servants and Disaster Governance in Malawi

In March 2019, one of the deadliest tropical cyclones in the southern hemisphere to date wreaked havoc across several African countries. In Malawi, Cyclone Idai affected more than one million citizens directly.

In this vivid ethnography, Tanja D. Hendriks details the decisions and dilemmas of Malawian civil servants in disaster response efforts after Idai. In a context in which relief has become routine, she explores how district-based public officials managed numerous and competing demands placed on them by colleagues, citizens, chiefs, humanitarians and donors. With the state initially appearing incompetent, ill-equipped or even irrelevant, she shows how aid interventions throw the state itself into relief, and render visible civil servants' sense of duty, while also revealing the challenges facing central government.

Disputing Afropessimist narratives that depict African states as negligent or unable to care for their citizens, Hendriks reveals how the aid-dependent Malawian state remains crucial to disaster governance despite chronic resource scarcity and limited capacity. Contributing to the anthropology of bureaucracy and the state, the book underlines that disasters are neither natural nor isolated events, and offers a novel perspective on disaster relief interventions, state-citizen relations and sovereignty in the Anthropocene.

Tanja D. Hendriks is Assistant Professor at the Institute of Security and Global Affairs and a research affiliate with the African Studies Centre Leiden at Leiden University. With a background in cultural anthropology, development studies and African studies, her ethnographic research focuses on state bureaucracy, development and disasters in Malawi.



August 2026
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African Studies
World rights

Shows how civil servants navigate duties and dependencies as the aid-reliant Malawian state struggles to recover from disasters.

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African Studies / Colonialism

World rights

A fresh exploration of the post-colonial relationship between France and Africa, challenging long-held assumptions about French influence in the continent's political life.

JOE GAZELEY

La Françafrique

The Global History of an Idea

The term '*Françafrique*' describes a system of domination which has secured French interests in its former African colonies. Despite criticism and controversy, this idea remains one of the leading frameworks for understanding the post-colonial relationship between France and the continent. But what if it never quite existed as mythologised?

Joe Gazeley traces the evolution of *Françafrique* both as a historical narrative and as a conceptual lens through which this narrative has been constructed. Drawing on now declassified material from fourteen archives from across the world, he re-examines archetypal cases from the 'golden era' of French post-colonial influence in Africa between 1958 and 1970, situating this relationship in its global context. He provides new insights into the assassination of Cameroonian rebel leader Félix-Roland Moumié; the collapse of the Federation of Mali; the assassination of President Sylvanus Olympio of Togo; the coup d'état which toppled Mali's President Modibo Keita; and France's support for Biafra.

Identifying the flaws, simplifications and distortions inherent to the *Françafrique* idea, this book challenges the narrative of French predominance in African political life after independence. But is not a rejection of *Françafrique* in its entirety. Instead, Gazeley offers a reconceptualisation of the idea as an explicit analytical lens.

Joe Gazeley is an F.R.S.-FNRS postdoctoral researcher at the Université libre de Bruxelles. His work explores the relationship between Africa and France through the lens of foreign policy. He previously taught French and African history at the University of St Andrews and holds a PhD from the University of Edinburgh.

FRANÇOISE MENGIN

Unrecognised Statehood

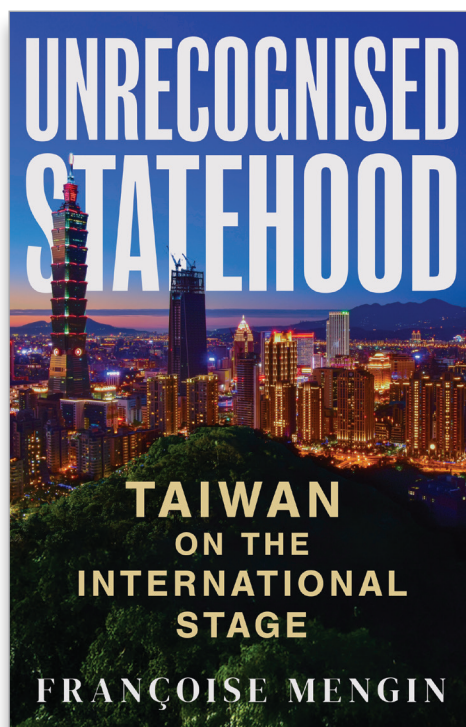
Taiwan on the International Stage

Taiwan is a fully independent state that controls its borders, maintains its own defence, is integrated into the international trading system, and holds free and regular elections within a multi-party framework. Notwithstanding these achievements, almost all national governments and international organisations worldwide do not recognise the Taiwanese state.

Since its founding in 1949, the People's Republic of China has consistently asserted its sovereignty over Taiwan, and there has been a notable escalation in Chinese military and diplomatic pressure on the island since the early 2020s. As a result, it is more important than ever to understand the origins of Taiwan's unrecognised statehood, the methods by which it is denied, and its practical implications. How does the global system accommodate the exclusion of a sovereign state? And what means does the latter deploy to compensate for this exclusion?

Unrecognised Statehood combines vital historical background with up-to-date analysis, drawing on multi-site fieldwork as well as on primary sources from the United Nations and the International Monetary Fund. It is essential reading for anyone interested in China and Taiwan, and in international relations, law and diplomacy more broadly.

Françoise Mengin is FNSP Research Professor at CERI-Sciences Po, researching state formation in the Chinese world and Taiwanese politics. She is the author of *Fragments of an Unfinished War: Taiwanese Entrepreneurs and the Partition of China* (also published by Hurst); editor of *Cyber China*; and co-editor of *Politics in China*.



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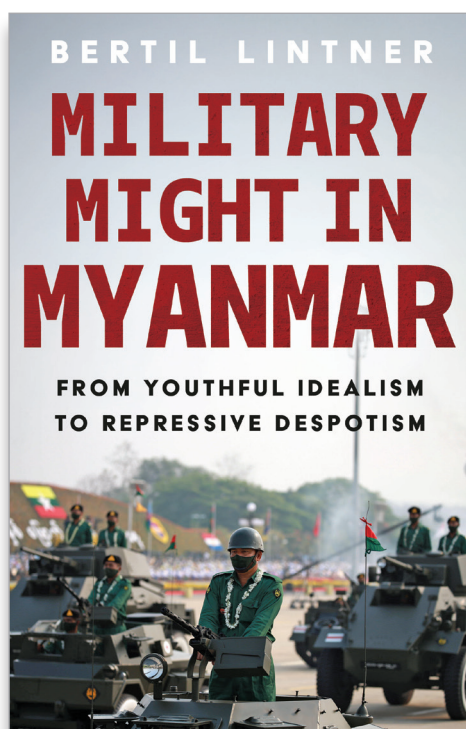
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BERTIL LINTNER

Military Might in Myanmar

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The longevity of military rule in Myanmar is one of the great enigmas of Asian politics. From 1962 through to the mid-1970s, there were over sixty military takeovers worldwide, the majority involving the overthrow of democratically elected governments. Only one of those military regimes remains in power today: in Myanmar.

Since ousting the elected government in 1962, the Burmese armed forces have encountered several challenges to their solid grip on power, from periodic popular uprisings and ethnic minorities fighting for self-determination to armed resistance movements on the left and right—but this has only entrenched their position. During a decade of relative political openness, from 2011 to 2021, limited space for civilian politicians was created, but direct military rule was reintroduced after a coup in 2021. What is remarkable is that the origins of the current armed forces date back to a meeting of a few young, idealistic nationalists in 1939, who then decided to take up arms against British colonial rule.

Bertil Lintner explores how and why the military developed into a state within a state—and became a repressive institution representing only its narrow self-interests.

Bertil Lintner is an acclaimed journalist and expert on contemporary Southeast Asia, especially Myanmar. Formerly the *Far Eastern Economic Review's* Burma correspondent, and Asia correspondent for the Swedish daily *Svenska Dagbladet*, he is the author of, among others, *The Costliest Pearl* and *The Golden Land Ablaze* (both published by Hurst).

FARZANA SHAIKH

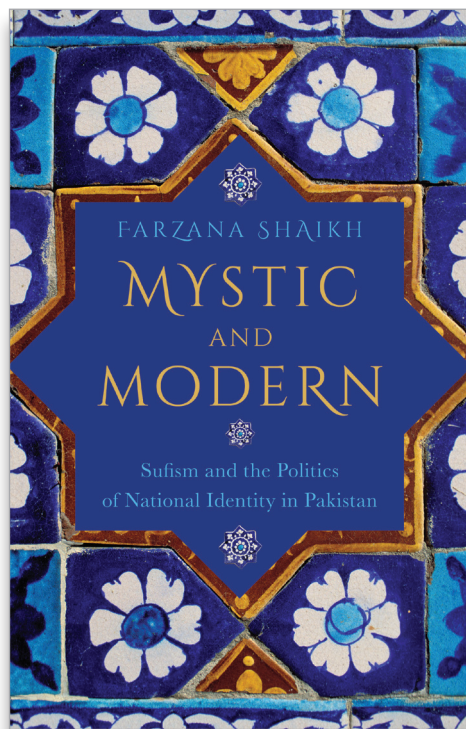
Mystic and Modern

Sufism and the Politics of National Identity in Pakistan

Pakistan, historically known for its veneration of Sufi saints and shrines, has long struggled to reconcile this heritage with a governing discourse of 'Muslim modernism', which sees local expressions of Sufism as deviations from Islam.

Farzana Shaikh explores the disputed role of Sufism in how Pakistan has come to define its Muslim identity since 1947, charting this contestation through the prism of state-led 'modernist' critiques of Sufi practices. She reveals how attempts by successive governments to mould the language of Sufism to support contrasting visions of Pakistan have in fact fuelled tensions and accentuated doubts about its place in Pakistani nationhood. She also suggests that state efforts to appropriate Sufism were constrained by the fragile legitimacy of Pakistan's ruling 'modernist' elites, who relied on Sufi religious authority to authenticate their claim to be 'acting in the name of Islam', as well as to fend off a politically ambitious clerical establishment committed to the creation of an Islamic state.

In the aftermath of 9/11, Pakistan cultivated an image of itself as a 'moderate' Muslim state resting on Sufi foundations. But as Shaikh shows, this may only deepen anxieties over the meaning of the country's Islamic identity, rather than dissolve them.

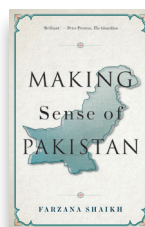


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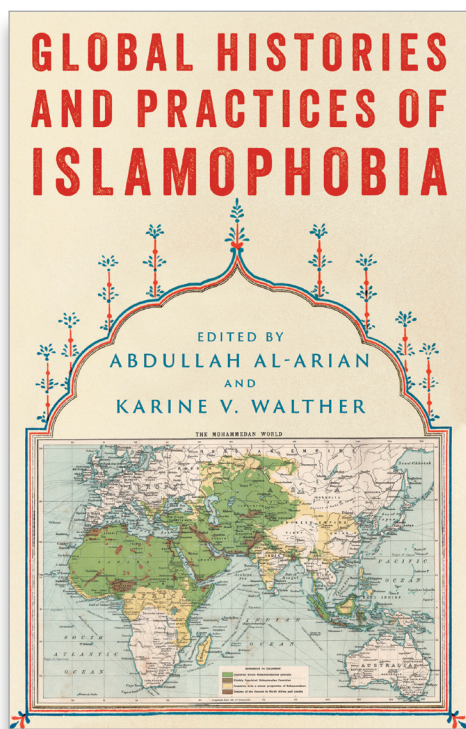
Farzana Shaikh is an associate fellow in the Asia-Pacific Programme at Chatham House, and the author of *Making Sense of Pakistan* (also published by Hurst). She has lectured and written widely on the country during an academic career that has included positions in the UK, the US and Europe.

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**A comprehensive overview
of manifestations of
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**ABDULLAH AL-ARIAN &
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Global Histories and Practices of Islamophobia

With Islamophobia becoming a household term during the past decade, it has become more urgent to investigate the history and development of this modern concept.

Although the term 'Islamophobia' has a relatively recent origin, historians recognise that fear and hatred of Islam and its followers have a long and unfortunate lineage. Expressions of Islamophobia have had world-altering consequences—from the premodern Christian theological hostility to the Islamic faith and the papal discourses that helped prompt the First Crusade, to Orientalist scholars and contemporary politicians who have used it to justify imperial domination. Adopting a multidisciplinary approach, this volume brings together experts from around the world to analyse the global, historical, theological and political dimensions of Islamophobia. The contributors cover topics including historical practices of Orientalism; the impact of theological disputes with Islam within faith traditions; state policies on immigration; the role of gender, empire and post-colonialism; government-led discrimination against Muslims; ethnic cleansing; and the relationship between Islamophobia and the rise of the national security state.

Featuring chapters from leading and emerging voices in recent scholarship on Islamophobia, this volume provides the vital historical context to understand the growing intolerance of today's world.

Abdullah Al-Arian is Associate Professor of History, Georgetown University, Qatar, and the author of *Answering the Call: Popular Islamic Activism in Sadat's Egypt*. **Karine V. Walther** is Associate Professor of History, Georgetown University, Qatar, and the author of *Sacred Interests: The United States and the Islamic World, 1821–1921*.

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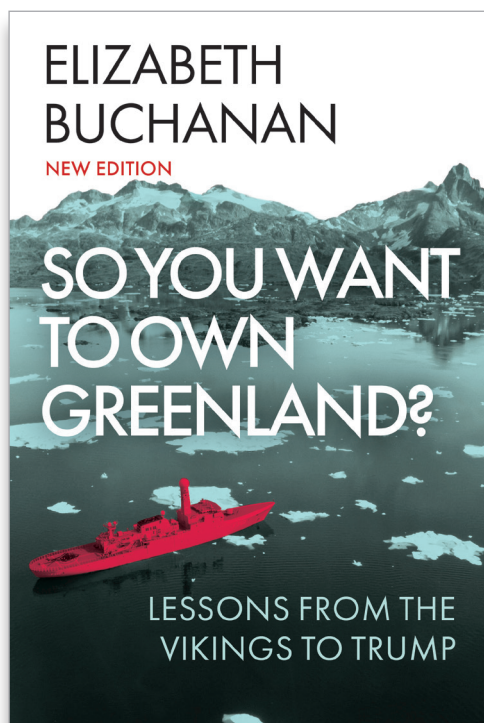
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Elizabeth Buchanan is a senior fellow at the Australian Strategic Policy Institute and at the Center for the National Interest, Washington, DC. She co-founded the polar warfare programme at West Point and was head of research for the Royal Australian Navy. Her books include *Red Arctic: Russian Strategy Under Putin*.

CHRISTOPHER BECKMAN

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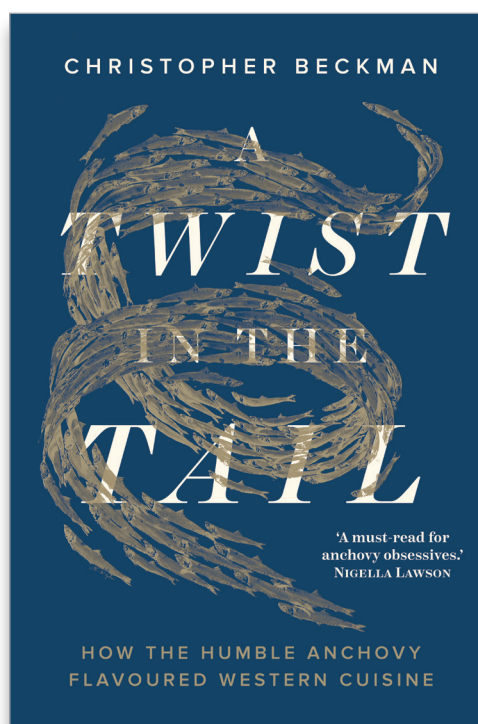
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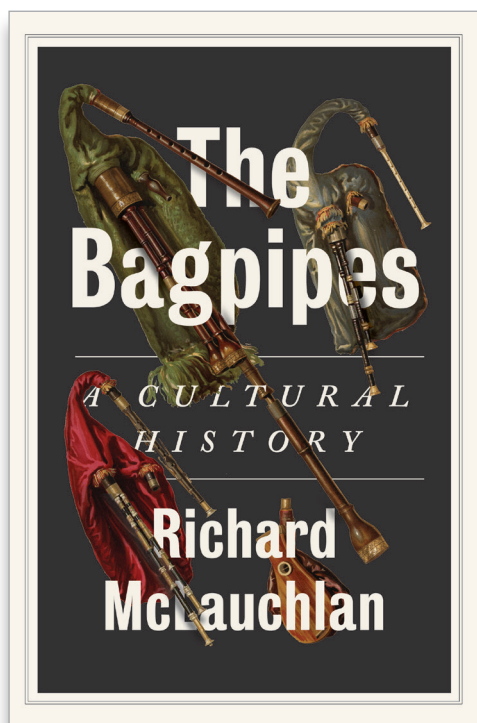
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Christopher Beckman was born in San Francisco and has a doctorate in Archaeology. Based in Geneva, his research focuses on the links between material culture and subsistence patterns. He has lived in the Middle East and Africa, with a stint in Hollywood producing horror films. This is his first book.



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Richard McLauchlan is a Scottish writer, educated at the Universities of St Andrews and Cambridge. The author of *Serious Minds*, and John Campbell’s collaborator on *Haldane* (both published by Hurst), he is also a former pipe major, taught by the renowned piper Colin MacLellan.

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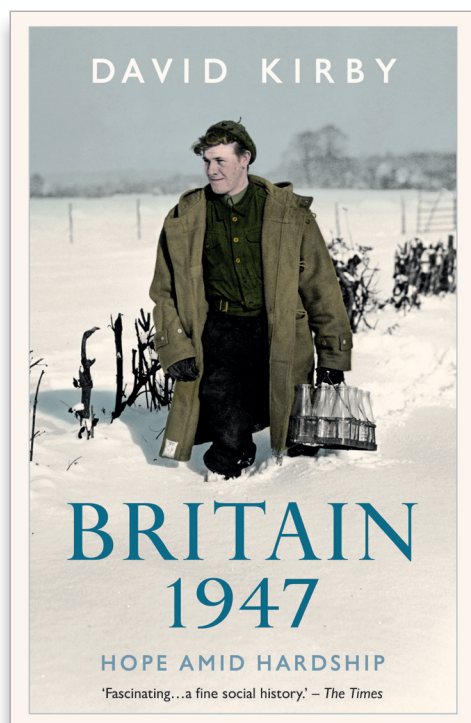
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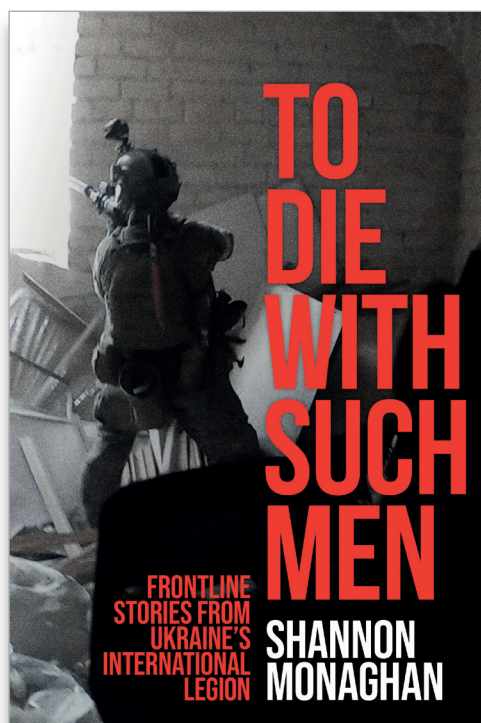
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SHANNON MONAGHAN

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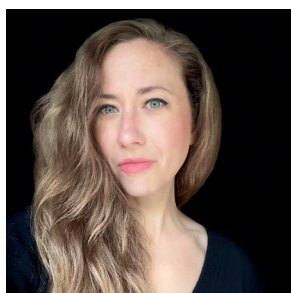
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Shannon Monaghan PhD is a historian of modern war educated at Yale University and Boston College, and author of *A Quiet Company of Dangerous Men*. She has interned in international arms transfers at the US State Department, worked in strategy consulting and data analytics, and taught writing at Harvard University.

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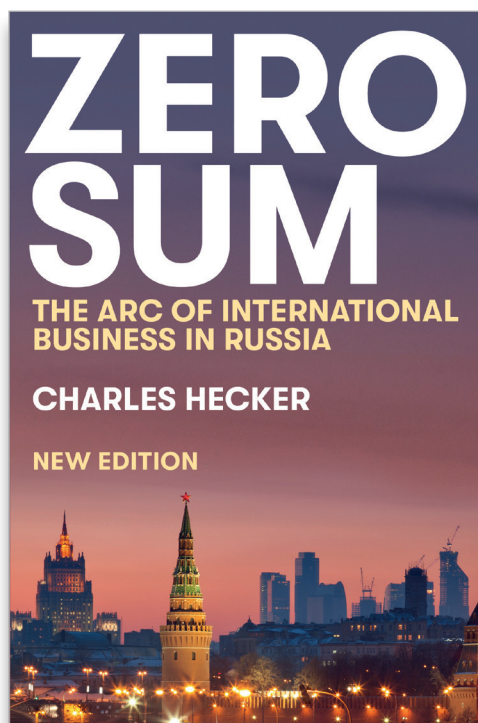
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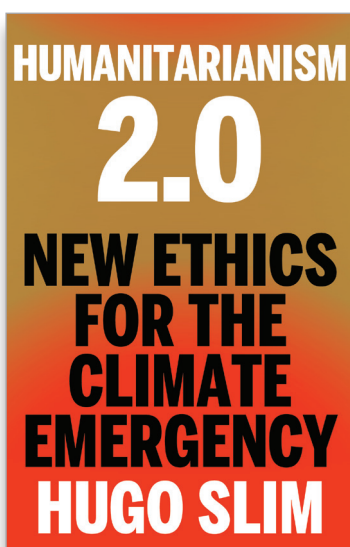


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Charles Hecker has spent forty years travelling and working in the Soviet Union and Russia. He has worked as a journalist and a geopolitical risk consultant, and has lived in Miami, Moscow and London. A fluent Russian speaker, he holds degrees from the University of Pennsylvania and Harvard University.



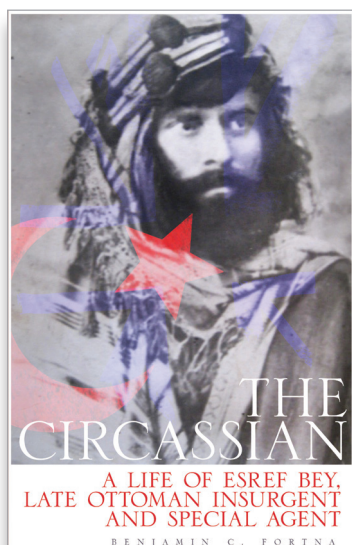
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Benjamin C. Fortna is Professor in the School of Middle Eastern and North African Studies and in the School of Global Studies, University of Arizona. His research focus is the late Ottoman Empire and the early Turkish Republic.

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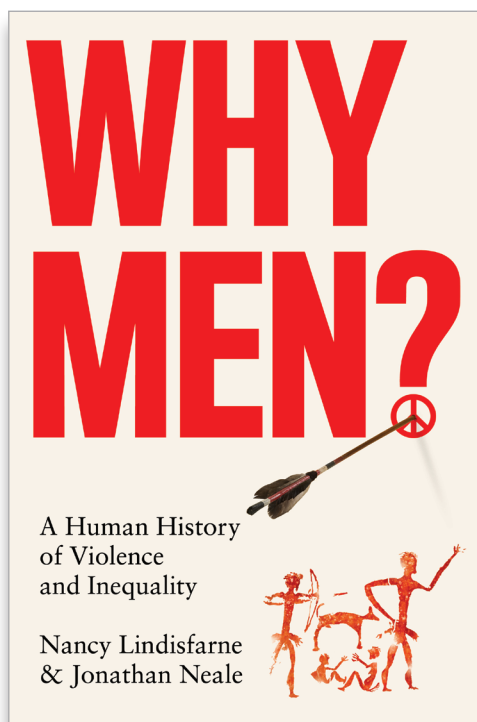
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Nancy Lindisfarne was an anthropologist who studied and taught at SOAS University of London. Her books include *Afghan Village Voices*.



Jonathan Neale is an historian and professional writer. His most recent book is *Fight the Fire: Green New Deals and Global Climate Jobs*.

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Greg Power OBE, previously a special adviser to UK Ministers Robin Cook and Peter Hain, has been involved in constitutional and democratic change since the mid-1990s. Since 2005, his organisation, Global Partners Governance Practice, has helped to strengthen political systems across Asia, the Middle East, Africa and Europe.

DAVID S. TONGE

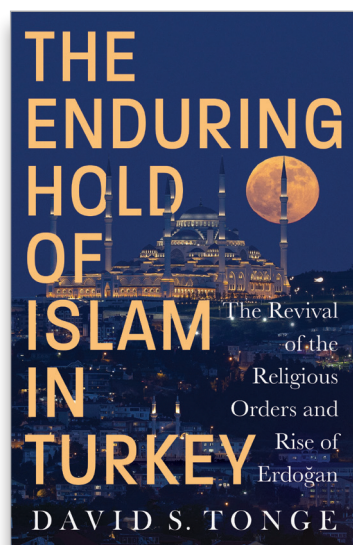
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David S. Tonge has lived half of his life in Turkey. Educated at the University of Cambridge, he has reported for the BBC, *Guardian* and *Observer*, and was the *Financial Times*’ diplomatic correspondent. His books include *Imperial Predator: Britain and the Destruction of the Ottoman Empire* (also published by Hurst).



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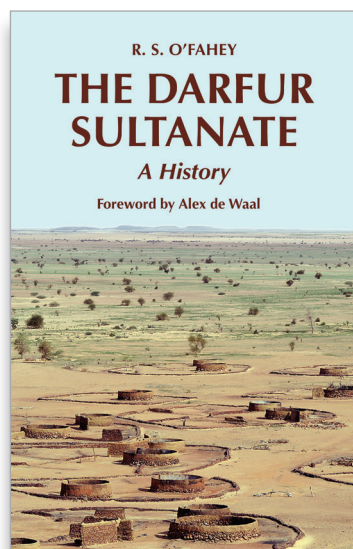
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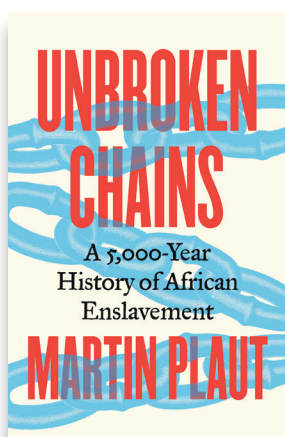
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February 2027 • 9781805267027
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African Studies
World rights excluding the Simplified Chinese language

An Irish historian known for his work on Islamic Africa, **R. S. O'Fahey** was Professor of History at the Department of Middle Eastern and African History, University of Bergen, Norway.



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History

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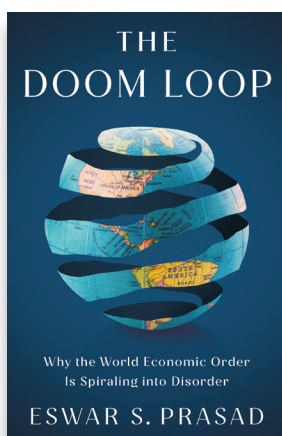
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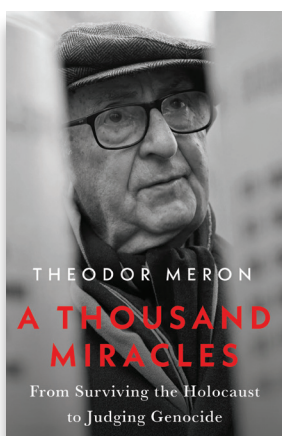
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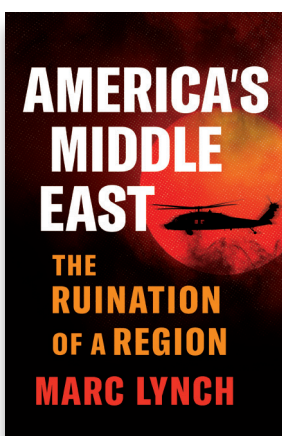
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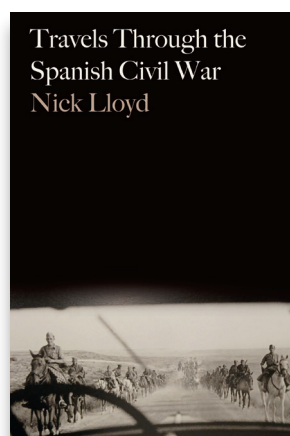
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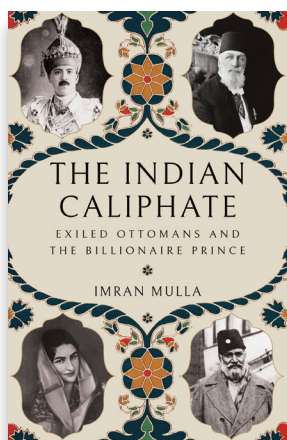
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History

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— *Literary Review*



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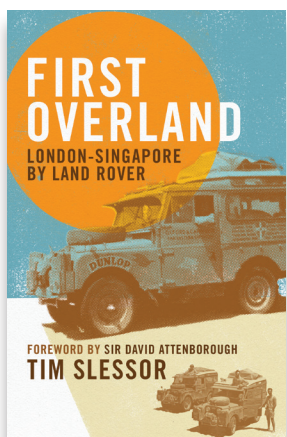
Politics

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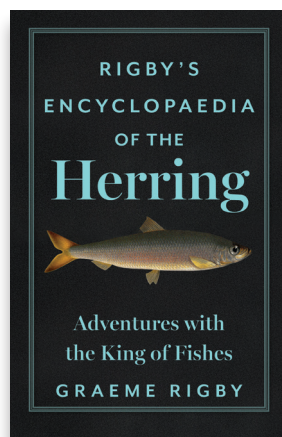
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JOHN KEANE

Demagogues and Despots

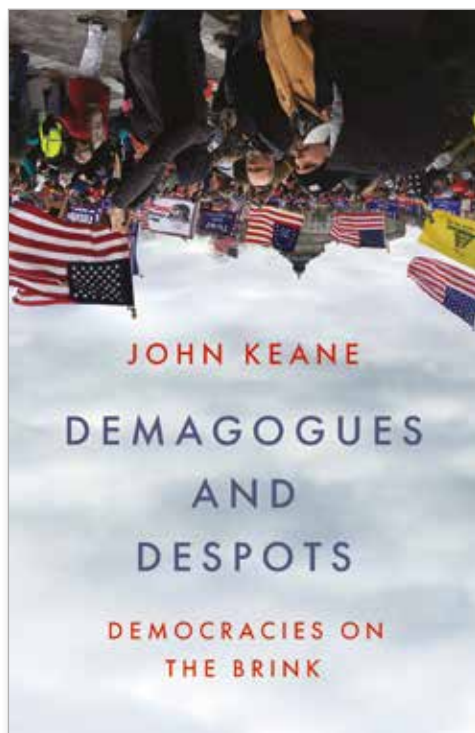
Democracies on the Brink

We live in troubled times, marked by a sinister trend gaining the upper hand everywhere: a new despotism for the twenty-first century.

John Keane's latest book rings out boldly with a powerful warning: the keyword for understanding the new threats to democracy is despotism. This peril arises not only from regimes as different as Russia, Iran, Saudi Arabia and Turkey, but also from popularly elected demagogues opposed to power-sharing, from Orbán's Hungary and Sheinbaum's Mexico to Netanyahu's Israel and Trump's America.

Keane shows why this new despotism defies the laws of political gravity. More than fear or raw force, it pursues a strange, pseudo-democratic type of government, led by rulers skilled in winning public loyalty through election-rigging, legal trickery, weaponised lying and talk of enemies. What's more, alarmingly, these leaders hunt in packs.

But what's so good about democracy? In prose humming with energy, Keane shows that it's much more than popular self-government based on free and fair elections. Democracy is a collective insistence that unaccountable power is always dangerous—and it's the best way to stop demagogues and despots from ruining life on our planet.



May 2026

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312pp

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Politics / Current Affairs

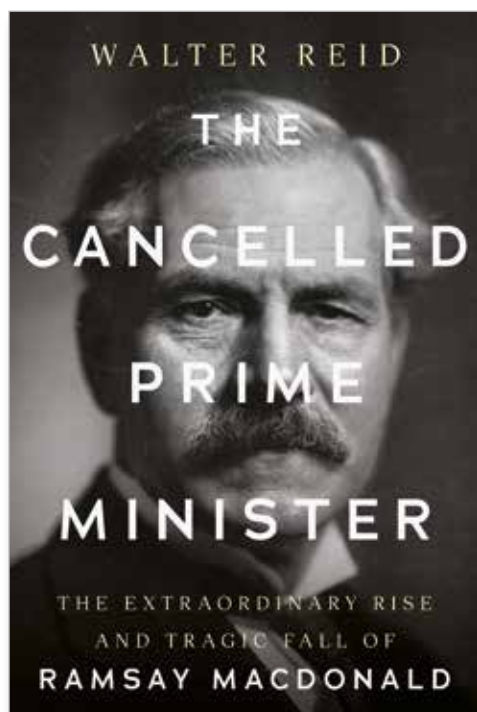
World rights

Democracy and despotism live closer together than you'd expect—in this briskly astute book, a leading political thinker reveals why that should alarm us all.



John Keane, Professor of Politics at the University of Sydney, is renowned globally for his creative thinking about politics, history, media and democracy. His books include *The Shortest History of Democracy*; *The Life and Death of Democracy*; the

bestselling *Tom Paine: A Political Life*; and the acclaimed biography *Václav Havel*.

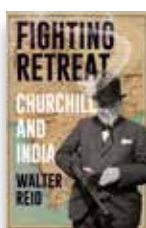


February 2026
9781805265306
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Biography / Politics / History
World rights

How the first working-class politician to reach Britain's highest office was brought down, and his legacy disparaged.

By the same author:

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WALTER REID

The Cancelled Prime Minister

The Extraordinary Rise and Tragic Fall of Ramsay MacDonald

Ramsay MacDonald was born and raised an illegitimate child in Moray county, north-east Scotland. When he left school at fourteen, he seemed bound to follow in his ploughman father's footsteps. Instead he would be UK Prime Minister—the first Labour Prime Minister, a friend of George V, and a star on the world stage. How did he get there from his Highland bothy? Why has he been erased from political memory? And how did this man of the left end up leading a Conservative-dominated National Government?

MacDonald's was an elusive, Celtic personality; it has been easier to criticise him than to understand him. *The Cancelled Prime Minister* demystifies this fascinating politician, dismissing the common charge of treacherous ambition and tracing MacDonald's personal odyssey—including half a life spent in undying grief for his wife Margaret, a remarkable feminist and social reformer lost young to blood poisoning.

History has been unkind to MacDonald, and most often written with politically hostile pens. Drawing extensively on his private diaries, this biography restores a towering figure to the record of his century, and reveals the full essence of a complex man—one not without faults, but able and honourable, with deep and widespread interests.



Walter Reid is an historian educated at the Universities of Oxford and Edinburgh, a fellow of the Royal Historical Society, and the author of acclaimed books on British politics and history, including *Fighting Retreat* (also published by Hurst). He raises sheep and cattle in Scotland and grows olives in France.

PAUL BRUMMELL

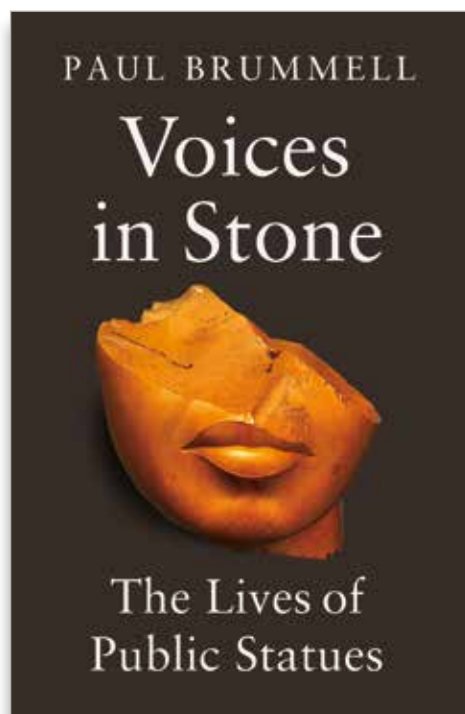
Voices in Stone

The Lives of Public Statues

Iconoclasm is in the air. Bitter debates rage on social media, in the press and on the streets over the proper fate of statues commemorating controversial figures, whether slave traders, imperialists or Confederate generals. It is an important question—but it cannot truly be answered if we look exclusively at this final, shameful chapter in a monument's life.

Paul Brummell argues that statues can only be understood by exploring their changing roles throughout an entire, often complex, lifetime. Why do sponsors and sculptors choose to create figurative representations of human subjects? Does the way individuals interact with icons change their significance? What is the impact of the passing of time, as durable images outlive the worldviews of their originators, becoming relics of past regimes? Why do some people believe that rubbing intimate bronze body parts can bring luck? Can statues move, talk—or even kill? And what should we really do with those statues we no longer want?

From a colossal golden Buddha in China to a centrally heated Swedish actress, Brummell tells the vibrant story of the world's most intriguing public monuments, from ancient times to the present.



March 2026

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History

World rights

From sculptors to worshippers, patrons to vandals, an era-spanning, globe-trotting exploration of our complex relationship with statues.



Paul Brummell is the UK High Commissioner to Mauritius. Previously Ambassador to Latvia, Romania, Turkmenistan, and Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, he was also UK High Commissioner to Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean. His books

include *Diplomatic Gifts: A History in Fifty Presents* (also published by Hurst) and four travel guides.

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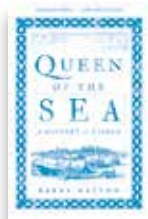
History

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& Portuguese language

**An intimate portrait
of this fascinating
country, capturing its
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BARRY HATTON

The Portuguese

A Modern History

NEW EDITION

'Hatton clearly loves Portugal ... engaging, often delightful.' — *Publishers Weekly*

'A must-read for first-timers ... [and] a constant delight for those already well-versed in a fascinating nation.' — *Iberosphere*

Though a founding member of NATO and the euro, Portugal is often overlooked, a small country on Europe's southwestern edge. In *The Portuguese*, veteran journalist Barry Hatton blends historical insight with personal anecdotes to explore this enigmatic nation.

During the 1400s and 1500s, Portuguese explorers led Europe into the Atlantic and helped connect Asia with Europe, creating a vast four-continent empire. This legacy still resonates today, particularly through the Portuguese language, spoken by over 220 million people worldwide. Hatton examines Portugal's vibrant yet turbulent past—from the 1755 Lisbon earthquake, which shook European thinking and began a long decline, through António Salazar's dictatorship, to its end in the 1974 Carnation Revolution, briefly thrusting Portugal into Cold War geopolitics. Hatton also explores the country's complex ties with neighbouring Spain, and its oldest ally, England.

With diverse landscapes, rich cultural heritage, a love of food, an easy-going lifestyle and a rebellious streak, the Portuguese are uniquely compelling. Hatton's portrait is intimate and revealing, capturing the charms and contradictions of a fascinating country.

Barry Hatton is a British foreign correspondent in Lisbon, where he has lived for over three decades. He is the author of *Queen of the Sea: A History of Lisbon* (also published by Hurst).

TIM SLESSOR

First Overland

London–Singapore by Land Rover

Foreword by SIR DAVID ATTENBOROUGH

‘Delightful ... written with humour and beguiling gusto.’ — *The Times Literary Supplement*

‘The best travel book I have ever read.’
— *The Motor*

Why not? No-one had ever done it: one of the longest of all overland journeys, from the English Channel to Singapore. Several expeditions had tried. Some had reached the Persian deserts; a few, the Indian plains. But none had gone further: over the jungle-clad Assamese mountains, across northern Burma, to Thailand and Malaya. It was 1955. For the final 3,000 miles, it seemed, there were ‘too many rivers and too few roads’. But no-one really knew...

They were undergraduates with no money, no cars—no nothing, except cool audacity. They wheedled and cajoled, coaxing the BBC into supplying film for a possible series; ‘persuading’ Rover to lend them two factory-fresh off-road vehicles; sweet-talking a book publisher into offering an advance. By the time they set off, their eighty-plus sponsors ranged from whiskey distillers to collapsible bucket-makers. Seven months and 12,000 miles later, two weary, police-escorted Land Rovers rolled into Singapore to flash-bulbs and champagne. Now, fifty years on, their bestseller is republished, with a foreword by Sir David Attenborough. He had given them that film, after all.

Tim Slessor is a British filmmaker, presenter, traveller and author. He made documentaries for the BBC for nearly fifty years and won a prestigious Peabody Award for his journalism. He is also the author of *More Than Cowboys: Travels Through the History of the American West*.



March 2026

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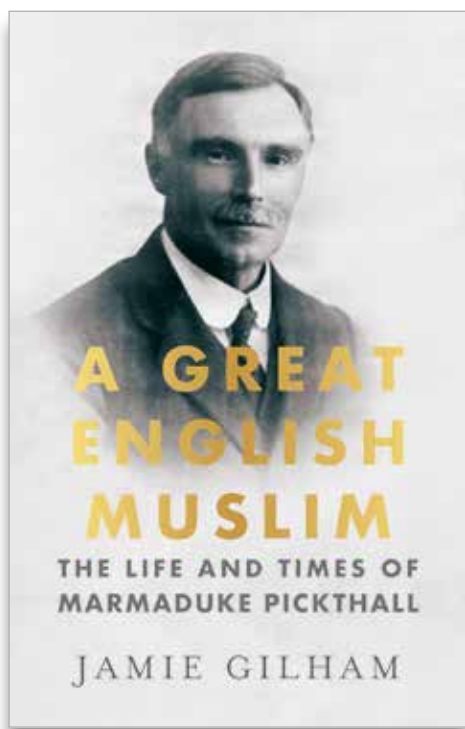
304pp, 28 b&w illus

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Travel

World rights

Decades before *Race Across the World*, six friends made the epic journey from London to Singapore and back in two Land Rovers.



July 2026

9781805265665

216mm x 138mm

528pp, 10 b&w illus

£30.00 Hardback

Biography / Islamic Studies / History

World rights

The definitive biography
of British Muslim
Marmaduke Pickthall: the
first person to translate
the Qur'an into English,
and an ardent campaigner
for the Ottoman cause.

JAMIE GILHAM

A Great English Muslim

The Life and Times of Marmaduke Pickthall

Since his death in 1936, Marmaduke Pickthall's reputation has rested on his popular English translation of the Qur'an. Drawing on a wide range of original sources, including unpublished letters and newly discovered archives, Jamie Gilham unpacks Pickthall's eventful life and significant contributions as a British Muslim writer, scholar and campaigner.

A Great English Muslim traces Pickthall's extraordinary journey to Islam and considers its profound impact on his life and work. Pickthall negotiated his British and Muslim identities to defend and explain Islam in the West and, later, globally. Gilham explores how Pickthall's Anglo-Muslim worldview, and his complex attitudes about imperialism, race and ethnicity, fuelled his writing and campaigning—not least in his defence of the Ottoman Empire during the First World War; his denunciation of Western interference in the Middle East, including Palestine, after the Armistice; his alliance with Gandhi and support for Non-Cooperation and the Khilafat Movement in 1920s India; and his efforts to establish the Indian State of Hyderabad as the centre of Sunni Islam and seat of the Caliphate in the 1930s.

This is a fresh and comprehensive biography of an important Western convert to Islam, whose concerns, struggles and sacrifices resonate for Muslims and non-Muslims today.

Jamie Gilham is a historian of Western Islam, based in Taiwan and the UK. His books include *Muslim Women in Britain, 1850–1950* (co-edited with Sariya Cheruvallil-Contractor) and *Loyal Enemies: British Converts to Islam, 1850–1950*, both published by Hurst; and *The British Muslim Convert Lord Headley, 1855–1935*.

THEODOR MERON

A Thousand Miracles

From Surviving the Holocaust to Judging Genocide

'A captivating blend of personal memoir and political history across time and place, by a jurist of the greatest integrity, courage and humanity. Read this to weep and to hope.' — Philippe Sands

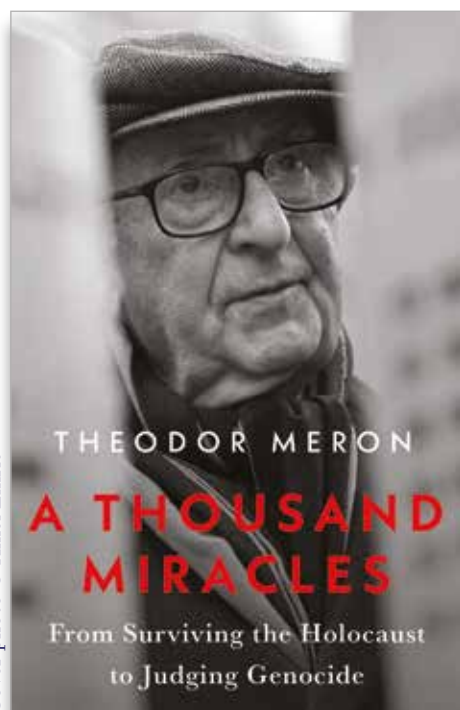
When the Second World War began, Theodor Meron was a Jewish-born boy of just nine. He survived ghettos, camps and unimaginable atrocities, but lost most of his family, finding sanctuary in British Palestine after the Holocaust. Now, more than eight decades later, Judge Meron is a recognised world leader in both the scholarship and practice of international criminal justice—having served as the president of three UN tribunals, delivering landmark decisions on genocide and war crimes.

This extraordinary memoir revisits Meron's time as a legal adviser to governments, often swimming against the tide; as a restless diplomat, a boundary-pushing scholar and ultimately a ground-breaking international judge. Meron has given his life to the service of justice. He is famous for his 1967 opinion finding Jewish settlements in the occupied West Bank to be illegal under international law, an opinion he issued as a legal adviser to Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. More recently, he has advised the International Criminal Court on potential crimes in the Russia–Ukraine war, and in Israel and Gaza since 2023.

The founding institutions of international justice today face unprecedented threats. Meron's life story could not be a better timed reminder of the importance of accountability.

Judge **Theodor Meron** CMG was born in Poland. As a child, he survived the Holocaust, but lost his home, most of his family, and years of freedom. In 1945 he emigrated to Mandatory Palestine. He holds law degrees from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Harvard University and the University of Cambridge.

Cover photo © Amel Enric



January 2026

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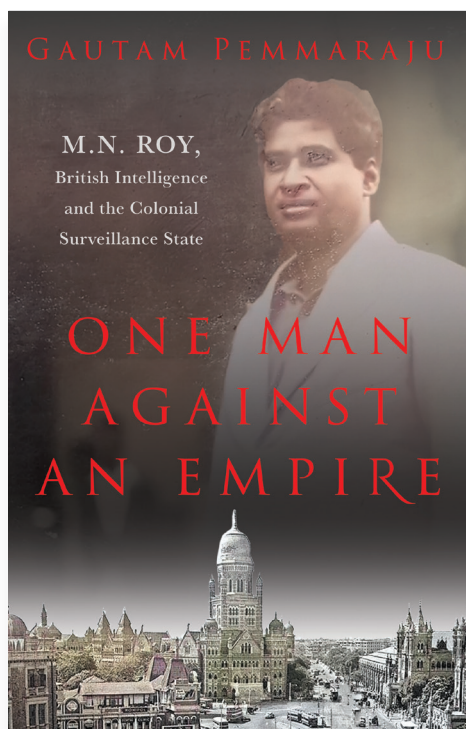
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Politics

World rights

An astonishing memoir from the Holocaust survivor who oversaw the world's first genocide trials and has advised the ICC on crimes in Israel and Gaza.



November 2026

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£24.99 Paperback

Biography / History

World rights excluding South Asia

The compelling story of
the hunt for one enigmatic
foe of the British,
birthing an entire colonial
surveillance network
and an Empire-wide
intelligence strategy.

GAUTAM PEMMARAJU

One Man Against an Empire

M.N. Roy, British Intelligence and the Colonial Surveillance State

Manabendra Nath Roy was the prime focus of British paranoia in the 1920s and '30s. For the colonial establishment and its intelligence services, there was no greater covert threat than this charismatic revolutionary and Communist activist. From the moment he left India in 1915, seeking arms to launch a full-scale revolution against the subcontinent's colonial overlords, he was doggedly tracked; his every move surveilled and reported. Everyone he met came under the scanner. His collaborators were harassed, coerced and bribed. His lovers were followed and harangued. There were even suggestions of early attempts to eliminate him.

Roy played a significant role in the Communist Party of Great Britain during its early years, and his influence in the imperial capital was seen as greatly inimical. Lenin and the Comintern, who bankrolled Roy handsomely in the 1920s, hoped he would galvanise the Indian proletariat and strike a mortal blow against the British Empire.

This compelling book narrates the untold story of M.N. Roy's persistent clandestine attempts to undermine British authority through a network of agents, and the massive security establishment that thwarted his efforts in response.

Gautam Pemmaraju is a Mumbai-based writer, researcher and filmmaker, and creative consultant. He is the co-author of an authorised biography of His Holiness the Dalai Lama (with Tenzin Geyche Tethong); and editor of *A Life In Shadow: The Secret Story of ACN Nambiar, A Forgotten Anti-Colonial Warrior* by Vappala Balachandran.

ROBERT TEMPLER

The Shah's Party

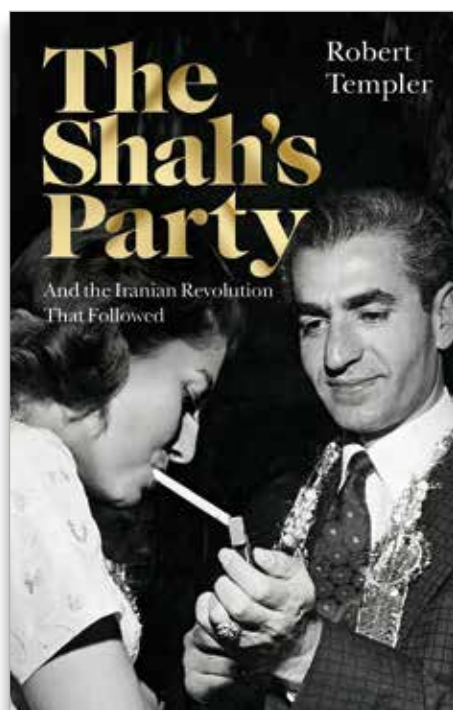
And the Iranian Revolution That Followed

The Shah's Party captures Iran's oil-rich boom years, before the Islamic Revolution. In 1971, eight years before the imperial dynasty fell, Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi and his glamorous wife, Farah Diba, hosted one of the largest ever gatherings of world leaders, celebrating the 2,500th anniversary of the Persian monarchy. But this stranger-than-fiction event, staged in a tented city by the ancient ruins of Persepolis, triggered a rise in leftist agitation and a turn towards Islam.

Ruhollah Khomeini, then an obscure mullah living in Parisian exile, began a relentless campaign against the imperial family. A skilled populist, Khomeini tapped into growing inequalities and resentments to push his theocratic vision, particularly among those who had left the countryside in search of work. The Shah's autocratic style played poorly in a world increasingly concerned with human rights. The Persepolis party became a symbol of Iran's regime—not only brutally repressive, but out of touch with ordinary people's struggles.

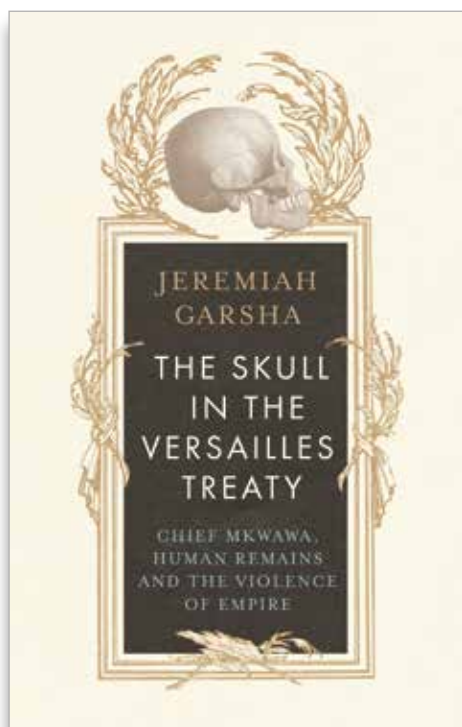
This is a tale of extravagance, hubris and tragedy; of a king desperate to drag his country into the modern world, yet trapped in nostalgic dreams of personal glory; and of how Iranian society's trickle of dissent built, within a decade, into a revolutionary torrent.

Robert Templer is a journalist, writer, lecturer, and former professor and director of policy research at Central European University. As director of the International Crisis Group's Asia programme (2001–12), he visited Iran on many occasions. His books include the acclaimed *Shadows and Wind: A View of Modern Vietnam*.



March 2026
9781805265696
216mm x 138mm
392pp
£19.99 Paperback
History / Middle East Studies
World rights

Colourfully narrates a bizarre three-day extravaganza thrown by Iran's phoney dynasty, which cost \$700 million and helped to precipitate the Shah's downfall.



May 2026

9781805265689

216mm x 138mm

352pp, 16 b&w illus

£24.99 Paperback

History

World rights

**How the looted skull of
Tanzanian Chief Mkwawa
became a tool to justify
colonial power and silence
anticolonial resistance.**

JEREMIAH GARSHA

The Skull in the Versailles Treaty

Chief Mkwawa, Human Remains and the Violence of Empire

In 1891, Tanzanian Chief Mkwawa began an epic war of resistance against German colonialism. After defeating in battle the largest European force in Africa, he became the single greatest threat to Imperial Germany. When his rebellion eventually collapsed in 1898, his severed head was taken as a bounty. But his story was far from over.

In this fascinating book, Jeremiah Garsha traces Mkwawa's life, death and afterlife through the strange history of his skull. Collected as a colonial administrator's personal trophy, it became a German museum specimen, disappearing into the vast collections of body parts taken from across the empire. After Germany lost World War One, Mkwawa's skull was claimed by the British, becoming the only named human remains in the 1919 Versailles Treaty. But it was never found.

During the decolonisation struggles of the 1950s, Britain resurrected Mkwawa's story, bringing an anonymous skull from Germany to Tanzania to bolster its own fading empire. Today, that skull remains on display in a Tanzanian museum, a totem of anticolonial resistance. Weaving a broad tapestry of colonial violence and indigenous resistance, 'scientific' racism and stolen culture, Garsha's history reveals how such 'exhibits' are intimately tied to legacies of empire.

Jeremiah Garsha is Assistant Professor of Modern Global History at University College Dublin, where he researches and teaches the entangled global histories of colonial violence. He is a leading expert on the colonial collection, display and return of human remains. He holds a PhD from the University of Cambridge.

FYODOR TERTITSKIY

Pyongyang on the Brink

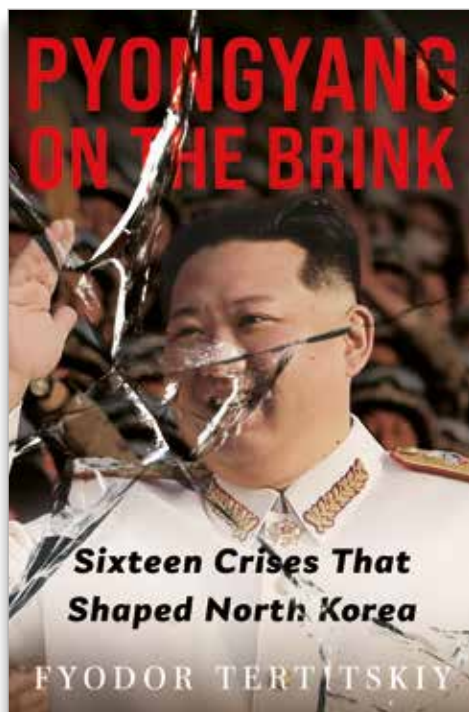
Sixteen Crises That Shaped North Korea

This nimble tour through North Korea's history revisits sixteen knife-edge moments when collapse, reform or war nearly shattered the Kim dynasty. Structured in four acts—from the peninsula's partition in 1945 to Kim Jong-un's 2020 health scare—each chapter reconstructs a crisis and asks, what if?

Regime change has come within reach far more often than we realise: defeat in the Korean War, leadership challenges in 1956, aborted coups, unrest during a currency crisis—even an armed clash with the US in the 1990s. Kim Il-sung's acclaimed biographer, Fyodor Tertitskiy, guides readers through these events, and explores why change failed to materialise on each occasion. His narrative blends the twists and turns of palace intrigue and battlefield drama with crystal-clear dissections of ideology, institutions and great-power competition.

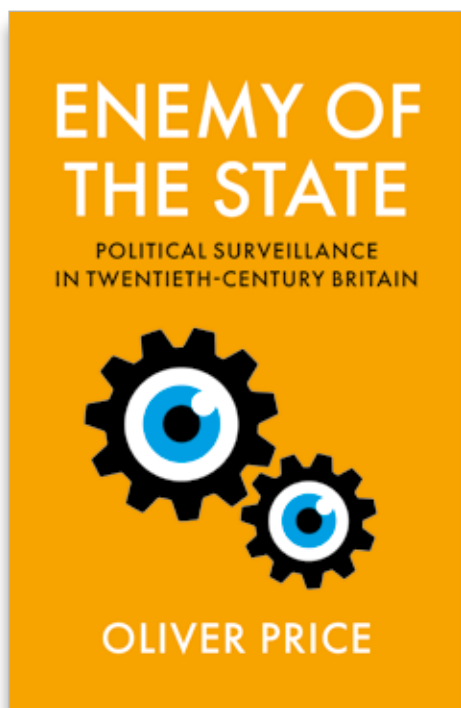
Drawing on Korean, Russian, Chinese and Japanese sources, Tertitskiy offers nuance without special pleading. By tracing the decisions, miscalculations and foreign interventions that locked the peninsula into stalemate, *Pyongyang on the Brink* offers a swift, fresh look at deterrence, engagement and the future of millions living under the Kims' yoke. Is North Korea truly doomed to never-ending tyranny?

Fyodor Tertitskiy researches North Korean political, social and military history from South Korea, where he has been living for more than a decade. He has authored several books in English and Korean, including *Accidental Tyrant: The Life of Kim Il-sung* (also published by Hurst), and *The North Korean Army*.



March 2026
9781805266082
190mm x 126mm
192pp
£19.99 Hardback
History / Politics
World rights excluding the Korean
& Russian languages

A briskly written primer on the North Korean decisions, foreign interventions and accidents of fate which have both threatened and, ultimately, preserved the country's dictatorship.



February 2026
 9781805265290
 216mm x 138mm
 352pp
 £19.99 Paperback
 History
 World rights

Shows how state surveillance of left-wing individuals and groups was normalised in Cold War Britain, under the guise of upholding democracy.

OLIVER PRICE

Enemy of the State

Political Surveillance in Twentieth-Century Britain

For much of the twentieth century, relations between Britain and the Soviet Union were defined by mutual hostility and distrust. From the Bolshevik Revolution until the end of the Cold War, the British establishment was deeply concerned about Soviet-inspired subversion, and secretly monitored thousands of its own citizens due to their real or perceived links to communism, the Soviet Union or both.

Enemy of the State reveals how Britain's intelligence services carried out mass spying operations on the grounds of protecting democracy. Using phone taps, hidden microphones, mail interception and covert break-ins, they investigated trade unionists, scientists, politicians, actors, anti-nuclear and anti-apartheid protesters, and more. But the culture of secrecy permeating British institutions has meant that the extent of these activities is little known. Drawing on recently declassified files from the British government and MI5, Oliver Price argues that while communism gained little traction in domestic politics, fear of left-wing radicalism led to the widespread monitoring of individuals and political groups—many of whom posed no threat to the British state.

Britain was long considered a country in which 'political policing' was resisted. But Price shows how the tumultuous events of the last century reshaped official attitudes and normalised surveillance.

Oliver Price is a historian of modern Britain. He completed his PhD in 2024 and has had work featured in publications including *Contemporary British History*; *Modern British History* and *History Today*. This is his first book.

PHILIPPE LE BILLON

The Great Green Grab

Climate Extractivism and the New Resource Imperialism

The spiralling climate crisis demands a rapid shift away from fossil fuels. But most current approaches to decarbonisation rely on a dramatic expansion of resource extraction—exacerbating environmental degradation and deepening global inequalities. This is the paradox of the so-called green transition.

Philippe Le Billon offers a critical examination of the material and political underpinnings of climate change mitigation. Drawing on insights from political ecology, critical geography and environmental justice, he interrogates the rise of 'climate extractivism': the opening up of new resource frontiers and the construction of infrastructure megaprojects in the name of sustainability. From artisanal cobalt mining in the DRC to rare-earth geopolitics, and from biofuel plantations to deep-sea and space mining, he reveals how green growth agendas frequently reproduce colonial structures, social injustice and patterns of dispossession.

Scrutinising proposed solutions such as geoengineering, carbon offsets, circular economy schemes and degrowth, Le Billon shows that many climate adaptation strategies remain tethered to considerations of economic growth and geopolitical competition. Rather than rejecting the urgency of climate transition, *The Great Green Grab* calls for a fairer, post-extractive future—one that wholly reshapes how we produce and consume energy, and fosters a more democratic, cooperative relationship with the earth.

Philippe Le Billon is Professor at the University of British Columbia. A political ecologist, he works on the linkages between environment, development and security. He is the author of *Wars of Plunder: Conflicts, Profits and the Politics of Resources* (also from Hurst); co-author of *Oil*; and co-editor of *Environmental Defenders*.



April 2026

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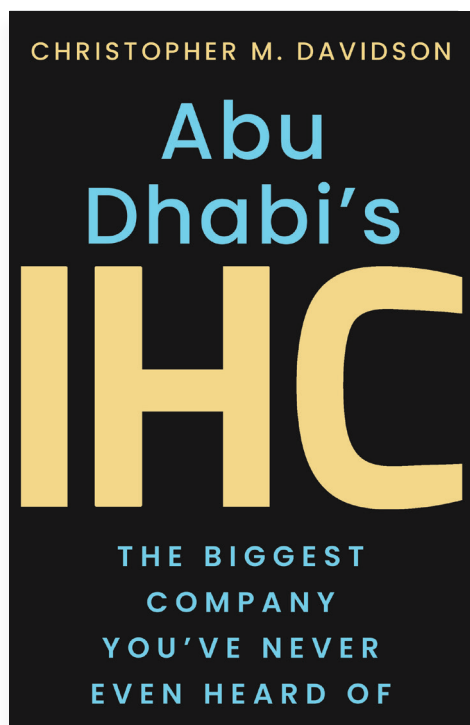
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Current Affairs / Environment

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A powerful critique of the Global North's resource-hungry 'green transition', calling for a fundamental overhaul of our profit-driven, exploitative world order.



June 2026
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A revealing account of
 the power and ingenuity
 behind the new Gulf
 capitalism, through
 the story of its most
 successful company.

CHRISTOPHER M. DAVIDSON

Abu Dhabi's IHC

The Biggest Company You've Never Even Heard Of

Bigger than McDonald's? Yes. Toyota? Yes. Chevron? Almost. Coca-Cola? Soon. From humble beginnings as an Abu Dhabi fish farm operator to becoming one of the world's most powerful investment giants, the International Holding Company's meteoric rise reads like a modern business fairytale. This compelling book chronicles the breathtaking 42,000 per cent growth that catapulted the IHC from regional obscurity to global prominence under the visionary leadership of its enigmatic chairman, Sheikh Tahnun bin Zayed Al-Nahyan.

Abu Dhabi's IHC unveils the strategic masterstrokes, ambitious acquisitions and bold partnerships that built this diversified empire. From Indian corporate alliances and Chinese tech deals to pioneering sustainability initiatives and Microsoft partnerships, readers discover how the IHC became instrumental in Abu Dhabi's ambitious economic diversification agenda, successfully navigating complex geopolitical tensions and market volatility.

This remarkable narrative of modern Arab capitalism spotlights the intersection of royal influence, strategic vision and unprecedented growth ambitions. Through detailed analysis of leadership dynamics, financial performance and future strategic planning, Gulf politics expert Christopher M. Davidson reveals how this cornerstone of the UAE's metamorphosis is poised to dominate the world stage. His book is essential reading for business leaders, prospective investors—and anyone fascinated by the Middle East's new economics.

Christopher M. Davidson is an academic and consultant specialising in Arab Gulf states. He formerly taught at Zayed University, United Arab Emirates, and Durham University, and held visiting positions at Leiden and Kyoto Universities. His books with Hurst include the Saudi–Emirati comparative study *From Sheikhs to Sultanism*.

AHANA DATTA FASEL

Full Stack Spies

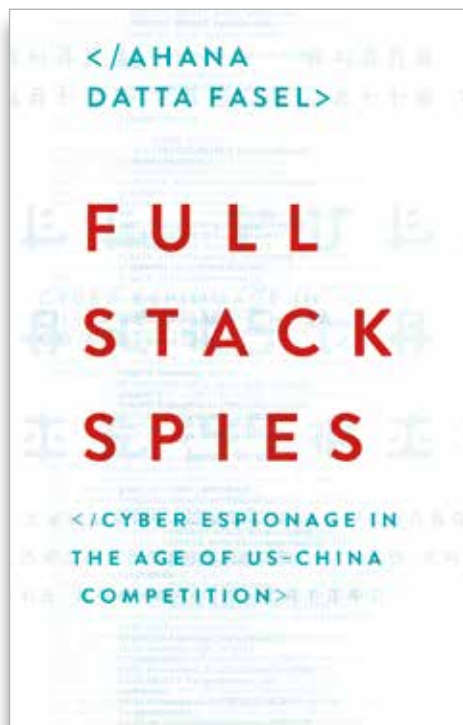
Cyber Espionage in the Age of US–China Competition

Even the most elite hackers use common technologies to steal state secrets, which help intelligence agencies to catch them. Are these hackers simply reckless, or do their operations reveal something deeper about their nation-state patrons?

Over a globally interconnected Internet, nations must constantly toe the delicate line of maintaining stability—developing shared tech protocols that they themselves must also break, in order to spy. This is the paradox at the heart of cyber espionage: states need to cooperate if they are to compete. As the US and China vie for strategic advantage through a new form of statecraft in cyber space, an intensifying cat-and-mouse game makes cyber security more difficult, more expensive and more unpredictable for us all.

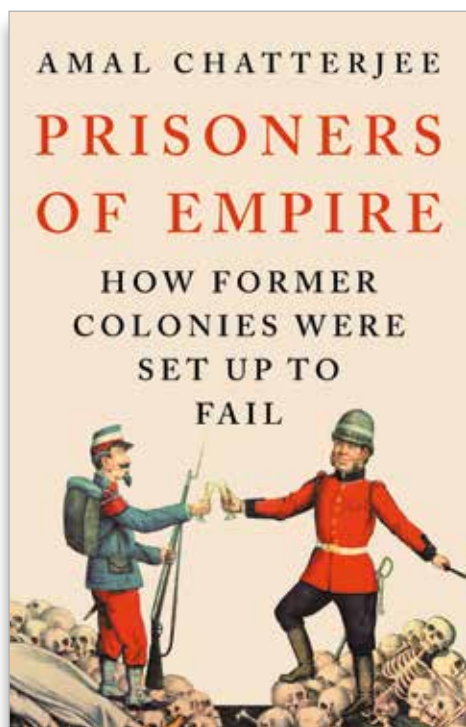
Full Stack Spies examines the dynamic, interdependent relationships that hackers, cyber defenders, tech giants and nation-states forge, leverage and exploit to amass cyber power against a wide range of targets in geopolitics, global trade and finance, the armed forces, and critical infrastructure. But this jostling for cyber dominance makes spying online harder—and, more crucially, undermines long-term trust in cyber space, destabilising the foundations of digital societies.

Ahana Datta Fasel is Honorary Senior Research Fellow at the Institute for Security Science and Technology, Imperial College London. A trustee at Privacy International, she previously worked in the UK's Ministry of Justice, and advises governments and companies globally. She has written for the *Financial Times* and *Columbia Journalism Review*.



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Examines how the often-contradictory relationships between states, hackers and tech companies can undermine trust in cyber space, and complicate government spying operations.



March 2026
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 History / Politics
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A compelling social and political balance-sheet of empire, revealing how former colonies worldwide are still shackled by the legacies of colonial oppression.

AMAL CHATTERJEE

Prisoners of Empire

How Former Colonies Were Set Up to Fail

Why do some former colonies fail, staggering from crisis to crisis, while others recover? Why did so many succumb to dictatorship, corruption, civil war and instability after independence?

Amal Chatterjee argues that these 'failures' are underpinned by persistent, robust colonial structures which preserve and reproduce the oppressive, exploitative systems of the past. From land ownership to mining, transport networks to education provision, morality to law, many post-colonial institutions function almost exactly as they did under foreign rule, with power still concentrated in the hands of elites, and inequalities baked in. Drawing on a wide range of contemporary and historical material, including memoirs, economic data and administrative documents, Chatterjee explains how empire not only made its colonies into places of extraction and exploitation, but keeps them there today. Offering a truly global account—from the British Empire to the Belgian, from Mexico to Mozambique, from the Sahel to Sri Lanka—he shows how extractive capitalism and colonialism are intertwined, and how human rights and development are hostage to the imperatives of profit-making.

The world built by empire can still be challenged and changed—but to design a new, equitable future for all, we must first understand the legacies of the past.

Amal Chatterjee is a fellow of the Royal Historical Society and teaches Creative Writing at the University of Oxford. His work includes plays; a Crossword Book Award-nominated novel; and a historical study, *Representations of India*. His writing has also appeared in *Prospect*, the *Huffington Post*, *The Independent* and others.

MAXIMILIAN HESS

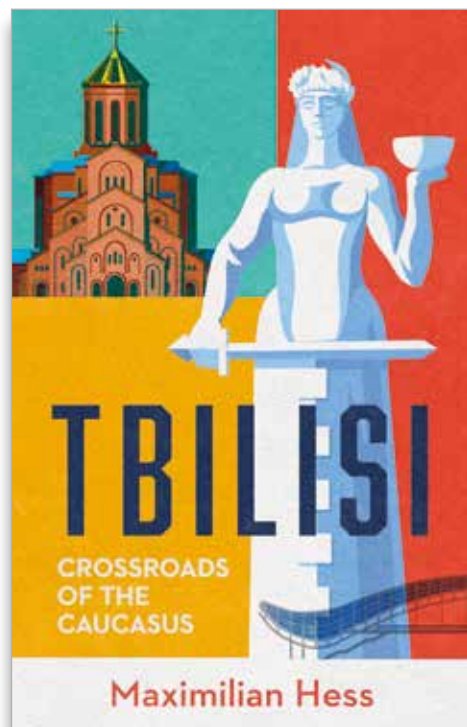
Tbilisi

Crossroads of the Caucasus

Located on Europe's periphery, at the edge of Asia, Tbilisi has always been a crossroads of culture, peoples and politics. From architecture to art, protest to religion, nationalism to language, this book offers a pen portrait of the modern Georgian capital—a city where old and new live side by side in restless harmony.

Tbilisi has played an outsize role in modern global politics. Beginning in 1989, Maximilian Hess shows how the city's experiences over the last four decades shed light on the historical, political and cultural forces shaping the world today. Momentous events in Tbilisi helped drive the collapse of the Soviet Union, and this was where the neoliberal era of the early 2000s found its firmest foothold. The city's post-Soviet years also foreshadowed the devastation that Russian interference and aggression have now brought to Ukraine, while the rise and subsequent dominance of a Georgian billionaire-turned-politician have clear echoes across the Atlantic.

Delving into Tbilisi's remarkably great influence on contemporary music and the arts, Hess showcases the intriguing capital's entrepôt nature, and its turbulent recent history. This is a place which blurs the lines between the real and the imagined; between past and present, East and West.



May 2026

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History

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A kaleidoscopic portrait
of Georgia's capital city
since 1989.

Maximilian Hess founded the political risk consultancy Enmetena Advisory, and has written for Al Jazeera, *The New Statesman*, the *Financial Times* and others. His first book, *Economic War: Ukraine and the Global Conflict Between Russia and the West* (also published by Hurst), won the Fletcher US–Russia Relations Book Prize.



July 2026

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How did Putin co-opt
Russia's political and
economic elites, ensuring
no more than fitful
resistance to the regime's
war on Ukraine?

ALEXANDRA PROKOPENKO

From Sovereigns to Servants

How the War Against Ukraine Reshaped Russia's Elite

When Moscow launched its full-scale invasion of Ukraine, the West slapped crushing sanctions on Russia. Many expected the country's elite—prominent liberals and global businessmen—to defend their assets and cosmopolitan lifestyles by forcing Putin to stop the war. Instead, liberal-minded officials rewired the economy for war; corporations obeyed new rules; and only a handful resigned or spoke out. Why?

Built on dozens of candid conversations with top Russian officials and businessmen since the mid-2010s, this book dissects their moral reasoning, and how their boundaries of ethical acceptability expanded over time, in line with the expectations of their superiors. Though the Russian upper class retained formal attributes of power, in reality it lost its agency, essentially becoming a mere instrument of governance.

Alexandra Prokopenko illuminates the war's pivotal moments: Western sanctions, mass mobilisation, the annexation of four Ukrainian regions, and Yevgeny Prigozhin's aborted mutiny in 2023. She traces meticulously how competing factions, from technocrats to hawks, rationalised each shock and recalibrated their loyalties. And she sets this process within an inside history of Putin's regime, analysing the transformation of mindset at individual and sociological levels. These people will continue influencing global politics; we must understand how they think and act.

Alexandra Prokopenko is a fellow at the Carnegie Russia Eurasia Center in Berlin, and has written for the *Financial Times*. Before the full-scale invasion of Ukraine, she was an adviser at Russia's central bank (2019–22) and a Russian government press corps journalist, reporting from the Kremlin (2008–17).

NATIA SESKURIA

Georgia's Silent War

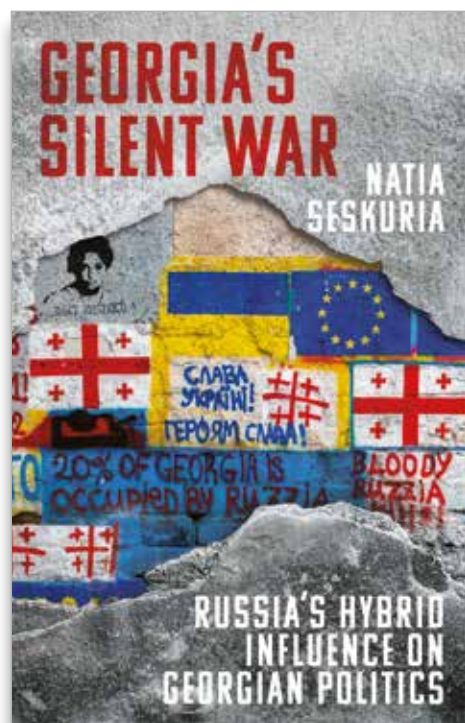
Russia's Hybrid Influence on Georgian Politics

Fourteen years before Putin launched a full-scale war against Ukraine, he waged a brief five-day war with Georgia. For Moscow, the 2008 war was an opportunity to punish its neighbour—for pursuing European and Euro-Atlantic aspirations—as well as to send a signal to Ukraine. Once the dust of war settled, international focus shifted away from Georgia. Yet, Putin's aims remained firm, and the conflict turned into a silent war, with Russian intervention persisting below the threshold of military escalation.

From independence to the present day, Natia Seskuria examines how conflict with Russia has shaped modern Georgian politics and foreign policy, and considers what 'war by other means' entails in Georgia's case. Drawing on sources in Georgian, Russian and English, as well as interviews with politicians and senior decision-makers both Georgian and Western, she explores the country's dilemma: pursuing its foreign policy ambitions while constrained by geographic proximity to Russia.

This comprehensive analysis of political developments in post-independence Georgia traces the evolution of Georgian statehood and the growing sophistication of Russia's coercive strategy. Seskuria's nuanced and probing account centres Georgian agency, and exposes the mechanisms of Russian interference and influence.

Natia Seskuria is Associate Fellow at London's Royal United Services Institute; Visiting Fellow at Harvard University; and the founder of a Tbilisi-based thinktank, the Regional Institute for Security Studies. She advises various governments on international security issues, regularly appears on the BBC and CNN, and writes for *Foreign Policy*.

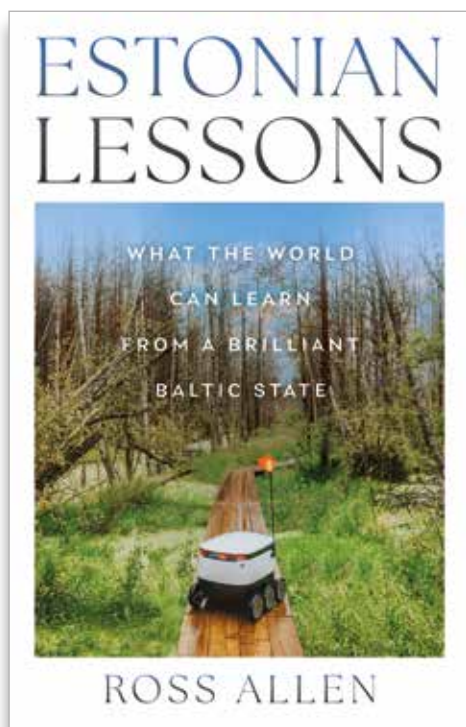


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From the Rose Revolution to Ukraine today, an in-depth analysis of Russia's strategy toward Georgia—and the story of a war that never truly ended.



May 2026

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256pp, 32 colour illus

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Politics / International Relations

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An intimate portrait of
Estonia and all things
Estonian from the UK's
ambassador, as entertaining
as it is informative.

ROSS ALLEN

Estonian Lessons

What the World Can Learn from a Brilliant Baltic State

Near the top of most international league tables comes a surprising name: Estonia. This small country has many brilliant achievements to its name which can and should inspire the rest of the world: top globally in both environmental performance and human rights; the biggest per capita supporter of Ukraine; second globally in digital government; home to more tech unicorns per capita than any other state; and boasting the best exam results in Europe. Estonia has the best tax system (seven years in a row!) and the world's most performed living classical composer. All underpinned by a deep commitment to freedom.

Ross Allen, UK Ambassador in Tallinn and a fluent Estonian-speaker, explores how this country has come to excel in so many fields, and what the rest of the world could learn from it. He offers insights from his diplomatic work, but also shares his embrace of local culture, from song festivals to smoke saunas. Having travelled across Estonia's towns, villages, islands and bogs, his understanding of and enthusiasm for this relatively obscure country shine through.

With elements of travel, history, geography and international politics, this highly enjoyable book will make you see Estonia and the Baltics in a new light.

Ross Allen is a career diplomat who has been UK Ambassador to Estonia since June 2021. He formerly held posts in New York, Washington DC and Jerusalem; in the UK Cabinet Office and Foreign Office; and in the banking sector. He holds a Theology degree from the University of Cambridge.

STEFANO BOTTONI

The Orbán Enigma

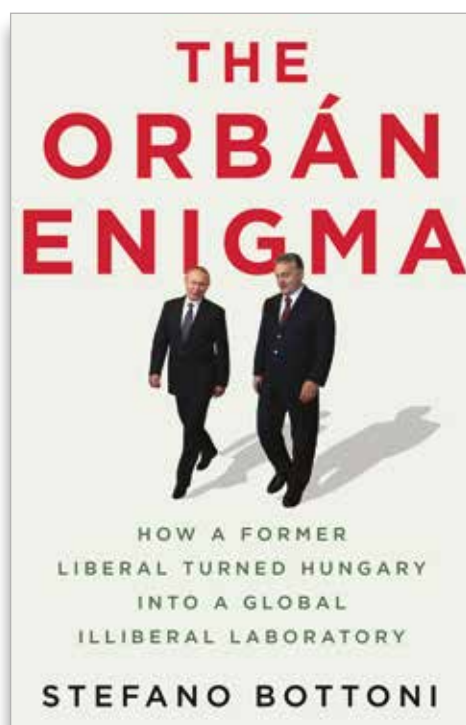
How a Former Liberal Turned Hungary into a Global Illiberal Laboratory

How did a simple boy from the Hungarian countryside end up leading political life in his country for decades? How, as Prime Minister of a small Central European state, did he become one of the most influential illiberal rulers in the world? How and why did Hungary turn into a neo-authoritarian laboratory? And what geopolitical game is Viktor Orbán playing between continental alliances and global powers?

This book is a political biography of Orbán, but also offers first-hand historical analysis of Hungary post-1989. What started as an imperfect, albeit fully-fledged, democracy has been replaced by a new constitutional system. Orbán's Hungary is a constantly radicalising electoral autocracy, with two intertwined role models: Putin's Russia and Trump's new America.

The Orbán Enigma explains how Hungarian democratic backsliding has become a hot-button issue for the Western political community; and charts how, over the course of fifteen years, the Orbán regime has ushered in illiberal rule while maintaining Hungary's global connections via the EU and NATO. Stefano Bottoni's timely study reminds us that democracy dies if it loses its spirit and civic commitment.

Stefano Bottoni is a senior fellow at the Institute of History, HUN-REN Research Centre for the Humanities, within the Hungarian Academy of Sciences; a former senior fellow at the Institut Montaigne; and author of *Long Awaited West: Eastern Europe since 1944*. He holds a PhD from the University of Bologna.



July 2026
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Exposes the inner workings of Orbán's Hungary and assesses how his style of politics has affected states and electorates worldwide.



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Politics
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Almost a million Russians
went into exile after the
2022 invasion of Ukraine.
This study reveals how
dissident activism continues
in the face of repression.

MARGARITA ZAVADSKAYA, ANDREI
SEME NOV & REGINA SMYTH

Sudden Departures

Russian Exiles Between Putin and the West

This book captures the largest post-Soviet exodus in Russian history, triggered by the 2014 annexation of Crimea and the full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022. Through hundreds of interviews, the authors trace the journeys of those who fled Russia—crossing the steppes of Kazakhstan, the mountains of Armenia and Georgia, and even the Atlantic—in search of safety, belonging and peace.

Rejected by their homeland and confronted by global suspicion, these wartime exiles face the challenge of defining what it means to be Russian in an era of war and authoritarian retrenchment. Many turn to action as a path forward: mutual aid, support for Ukraine, anti-war activism. For others, survival is the priority.

Set against the backdrop of a shifting global order—renewed Great Power politics, tightening borders and migrant fatigue—*Sudden Departures* gives voice to a diaspora in motion. These stories offer a rare ground-level lens on exile, resistance and the high personal costs of standing against Putin's regime.

Margarita Zavadsкая is a senior research fellow at the Finnish Institute of International Affairs. **Andrei Semenov** is Assistant Professor of Political Science and International Relations at Nazarbayev University. **Regina Smyth** is Professor of Political Science at Indiana University.

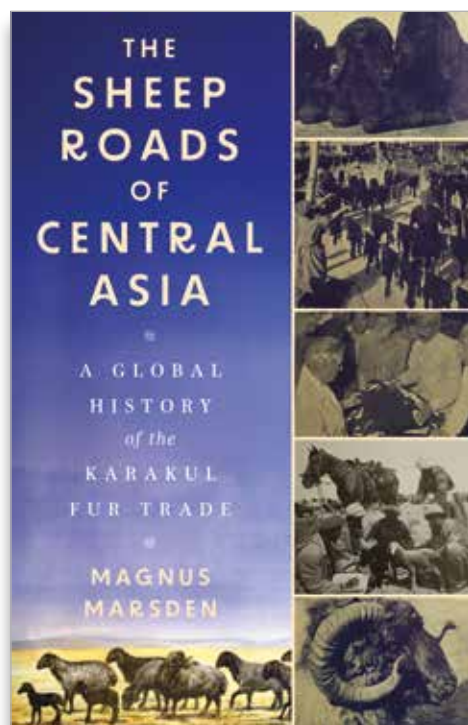
MAGNUS MARSDEN

The Sheep Roads of Central Asia

A Global History of the Karakul Fur Trade

Indigenous to Central Asia, Karakul sheep can thrive in the region's arid environment. For centuries, men across Muslim Asia and Russia wore hats made from the sheep's fur, which often symbolised status and masculine power. In the late nineteenth century, the thirst for furs among fashionable women in Europe and America saw millions of Karakul lambskins change hands annually, in Leipzig, London and New York. In the early twentieth century, the Russian Revolution led shepherds and merchants to flee Central Asia for Afghanistan; over the following decades, the trade in Karakul lambskins—initially referred to in the West as 'Persian Lamb' or 'Astrakhan fur'—became a central element of Afghanistan's economy.

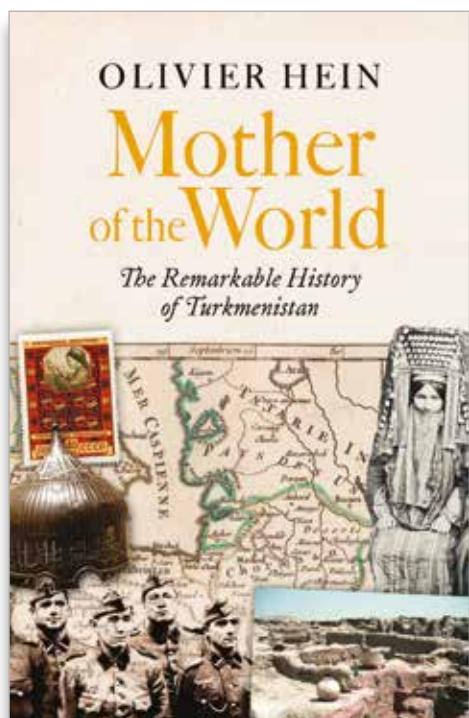
In this unique book, Magnus Marsden illuminates Karakul's role in the region's globalisation, drawing on rich archives, three decades of research in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Central Asia, and interviews with fur traders and their families. He discovers that Jewish and Muslim Central Asian merchants played a pivotal role in the trade's international expansion, demonstrating remarkable resilience in an environment growing ever more hostile to the long-distance commercial networks which they formed.



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 History
 World rights

A history of the fur trade originating on the Karakul sheep-raising steppe, and of the merchants who took the pelts to markets worldwide.

Magnus Marsden is Professor of Social Anthropology and Director of the Asia Centre, University of Sussex. He has conducted decades of research in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Central Asia. His books include *Trading Worlds: Afghan Merchants Across Modern Frontiers*, and *Beyond Swat* (co-edited with Benjamin D. Hopkins)—both published by Hurst.



May 2026
 9781805265818
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 336pp
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 History
 World rights

Reclaiming Turkmenistan from the margins of global attention, Hein offers a lively history of the 'Mother of the World' and its people.

OLIVIER HEIN

Mother of the World

The Remarkable History of Turkmenistan

These days, it's rare for news items to come out of Turkmenistan. It can be easy for us to assume that the country was always isolated, quirky or even irrelevant. But its real history paints a wildly different picture.

Turkmenistan's desert-dominated landscape has been an unheralded flashpoint at many key moments in history, whether as an integral but misunderstood part of the Soviet Empire, or as a major strategic prize in the brutal invasions of Genghis Khan. Sat exactly where East met West, yet often aloof from both, Turkmenistan was a key crossroads on the Silk Road, and once hosted the largest city on Earth, which doubled up as one of the world's great seats of learning. It lays claim to conjuring up the world's first monotheistic religion, and it may well have been one of the major players in that elusive turning point of history, the birth of civilisation—up there with Mesopotamia, Egypt and the Indus Valley.

No other nation can claim all of this, yet Turkmenistan's past has long remained hidden from our understanding. This is the extraordinary story of a starkly beautiful land, its unique culture, and the wonderful people who now call it home.

Olivier Hein is a Mauritian-British author, whose books include *Star and Key: The Historical Adventure of Mauritius* and *Borneo: The History of an Enigma* (both published by Hurst). Formerly a UN, UK and OSCE diplomat posted to New York, Paris, Ashgabat and Pristina, he is now based in the Cotswolds.

ROBERT BAXTER

Art, Ambition and Empire

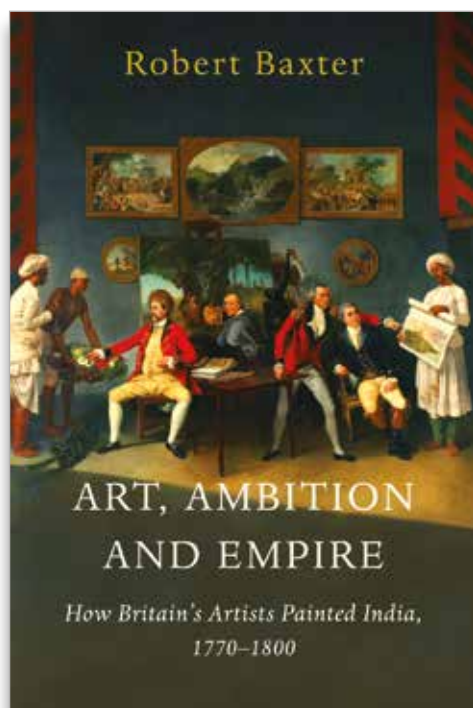
How Britain's Artists Painted India, 1770–1800

As the armies of the East India Company were busy transforming Britain into a territorial and ruling power, laying the foundations for the imperial Raj, an artistic 'Scramble for India' was taking place.

Art, Ambition and Empire tells the story of the remarkable but little-known artistic encounter between Britain and India in the closing decades of the eighteenth century. Between 1769 and the early 1800s, more than sixty British-based artists made the long voyage east. Among them were some of the finest painters of the Golden Age of British art: the portrait painters Tilly Kettle and Johan Zoffany, the landscape artist William Hodges, and the miniaturist Ozias Humphry. Between them, this quartet would produce an extraordinary record of Indian life and landscapes, of Company merchants and military men, and of the courtly world of princely India. The rewards were spectacular, but, as they soon discovered, there was also a personal and a professional price to be paid.

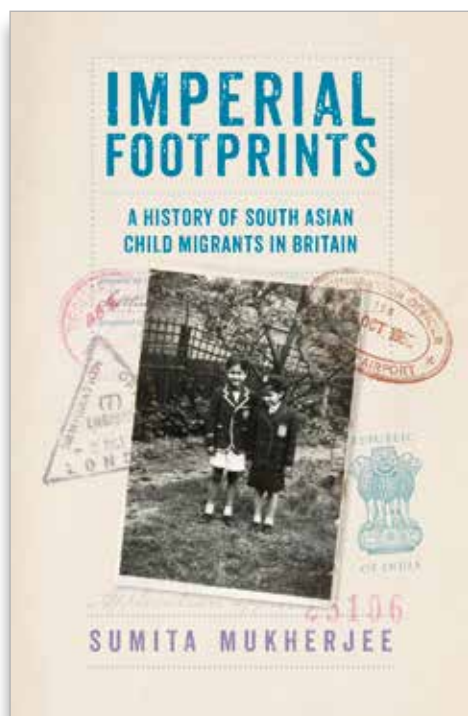
Why did these four artists go to India? How did they respond to the place and represent it in their work? And what role did they play in shaping perceptions of the subcontinent, during one of the most controversial periods of British imperial expansion?

Robert Baxter was born and educated in the United Kingdom, where he read history at the University of Exeter. He has lived and worked in Asia for almost forty years, mostly in Hong Kong. A frequent traveller in the region, he has wide-ranging interests in art, history and cross-cultural encounters.



April 2026
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Following the lives of
four artists, a beautifully
illustrated account
of Britain's artistic
interactions with India at
the height of the Raj.



February 2026
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 £19.99 Paperback
 History
 World rights

From the Victorian era to Partition, Mukherjee uncovers the unique experiences of the very youngest South Asian migrants to Britain.

SUMITA MUKHERJEE

Imperial Footprints

A History of South Asian Child Migrants in Britain

Between 1857 and 1947, over 28 million Indians left the subcontinent to live, work and study elsewhere. Today, India has the largest diaspora in the world, with approximately 18 million Indians living overseas. Though often absent from historical narratives, migrant children were instrumental during the time of the British Empire in the development not only of Indian national and diasporic identities, but of British identity too. These children were marginalised by their political status, their race and their age; yet they were fundamental to historical change, from the 1830s through to independence in 1947.

Imperial Footprints vividly charts this history of emigration from British India to the imperial heartland, through the eyes of its youngest participants. From pupils sent to English boarding schools and runaway servants, to sailor children and refugees of war or Partition, Sumita Mukherjee reveals that these child migrants were crucial players in founding Indian communities abroad. Drawing on archival records and firsthand accounts, she offers a portrait of migration to Britain that pre-dated the larger waves of arrivals post-war.

Imperial Footprints challenges the assumptions of the historical voices we often foreground; reflects on post-colonial legacies; and offers a fascinating new perspective on migration and empire.

Sumita Mukherjee is Professor of Modern History at the University of Bristol. A fellow of the Royal Historical Society, she is an expert on the histories of South Asian migration and has written widely on this topic. Her books include *Indian Suffragettes: Female Identities and Transnational Networks*.

SAMUEL BASHFIELD

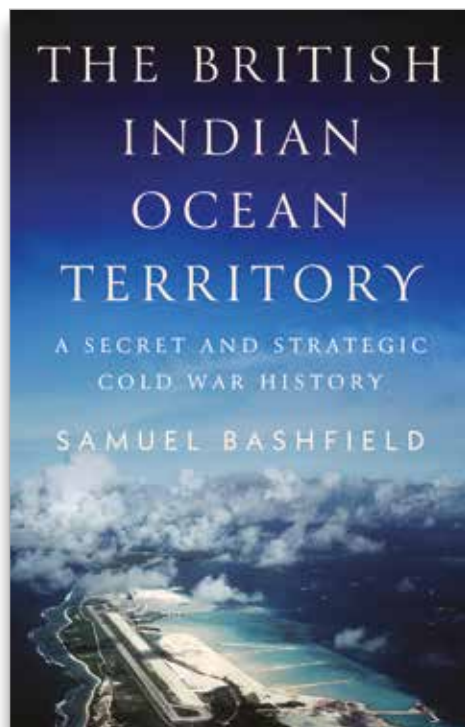
The British Indian Ocean Territory

A Secret and Strategic Cold War History

While Britain's empire decolonised after the Second World War, one more colony was created, in secret and against international law: the British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT). This founding, in 1965, dismembered sixty Indian Ocean islands within the then British colonies of Mauritius and Seychelles. The entire population of these islands was forcibly displaced to make way for Anglo-American military facilities.

Ostensibly, the new territory was first created to house a communications station on Diego Garcia. But BIOT's utility went far beyond this specific purpose: it facilitated the transfer of strategic power from the UK to the US in the new Cold War world. Samuel Bashfield's eye-opening account illuminates how British and American defence strategies each shaped BIOT's militarisation, with the territory used both by London—to slow its withdrawal 'East of Suez'—and by Washington, to entrench its own power in the Indian Ocean and the Middle East.

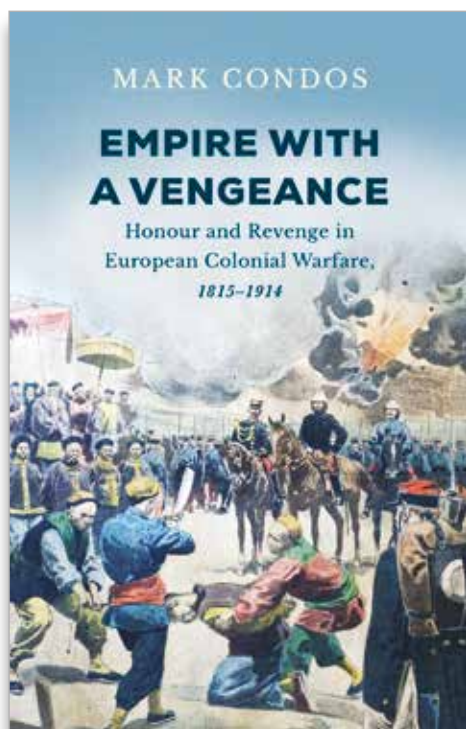
Diego Garcia did not become one of the West's critical overseas bases by chance. It was painstakingly honed as a linchpin of Western predominance. Drawing on declassified archives, Bashfield reveals how BIOT was selected, militarised, transacted and defended, from its illegal creation through to the end of the Cold War.



May 2026
9781805265849
216mm x 138mm
352pp
£35.00 Paperback
History
World rights

A vital investigation into the mysterious events behind the surreptitious, illegal creation of a British colony in 1965—just as the United Kingdom decolonised elsewhere.

Samuel Bashfield PhD is an Australian-based consultant, historian, and defence and national security researcher. He is currently a research fellow specialised in security and geopolitics at the Australia India Institute, University of Melbourne.



April 2026

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448pp, 16 b&w illus

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History

World rights

An absorbing new history
of European colonialism,
showing how ideas of
retribution and revenge
were used to justify violent
conquest and rule.

MARK CONDOS

Empire with a Vengeance

Honour and Revenge in
European Colonial Warfare,
1815–1914

Today, the use of military force to punish enemies is strictly prohibited under international law. It is also a widely accepted principle that acts of vengeance and reprisal have almost no legitimate place in warfare.

Throughout much of Western history, however, punishment and retaliation were not only important aspects of conflict, but were key justifications for waging war in the first place—particularly when it came to the defence of national honour. European empires were no exception to this rule. Throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, two of the world's most formidable powers, France and Britain, regularly framed wars of conquest and counterinsurgency using the language of justice and revenge. Whether to avenge alleged insults, punish perceived transgressions, or exact retribution for 'crimes' committed against the dignity and authority of Europeans, 'honour' was used as a legal, religious and moral rationale for violent expansion, consolidation and policing.

Based on extensive archival research in multiple languages, *Empire with a Vengeance* is the first comparative examination of honour and revenge in colonial policy. Showing the central importance of these seemingly archaic concepts, it offers crucial insight into the brutal dynamics of empire's 'civilising mission'.

Mark Condos is Senior Lecturer in Imperial and Global History at King's College London, where he researches and teaches the history of the British and French Empires. He is the author of *The Insecurity State: Punjab and the Making of Colonial Power in British India*.

JOELLE M. ABI-RACHED &
SARAH EL-RICHANI (eds)

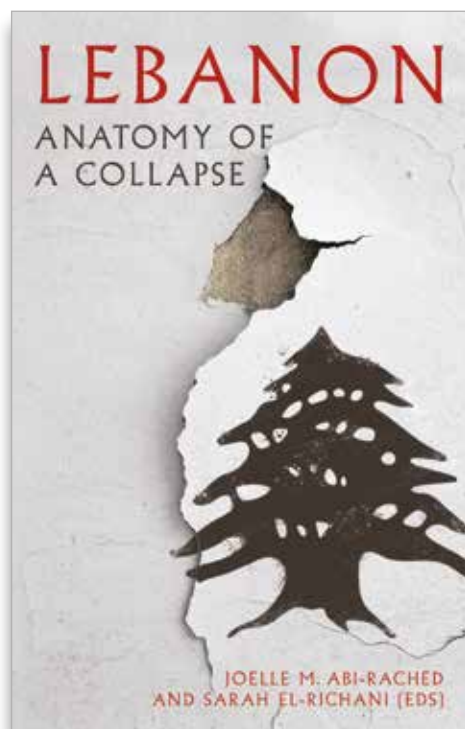
Lebanon

Anatomy of a Collapse

Lebanon is in freefall. Poverty is rising exponentially, healthcare is at breaking point, corruption is rampant, and educated professionals are leaving the country in droves. How did this happen?

Lebanon: Anatomy of a Collapse explores the unravelling of the Lebanese state. Bringing together industry experts and academics, this timely collection analyses the complex and interconnected crises that have driven Lebanon into the abyss, whether political or social, financial or legal. With a clear and compelling narrative, the contributors highlight the economic mismanagement, infrastructure devastation, and government, educational and media breakdowns that have left the country in ruins. From the financial collapse of 2019 to the 2020 Beirut port explosion, and from the latest Israel–Lebanon war to the disastrous repercussions of the Syrian refugee crisis, this volume reveals the compounding effects of systemic failures, historical fractures and political ineptitude. It also examines the struggles of Lebanese society to maintain a semblance of institutional life and functionality, despite widespread disruption and chronic uncertainty.

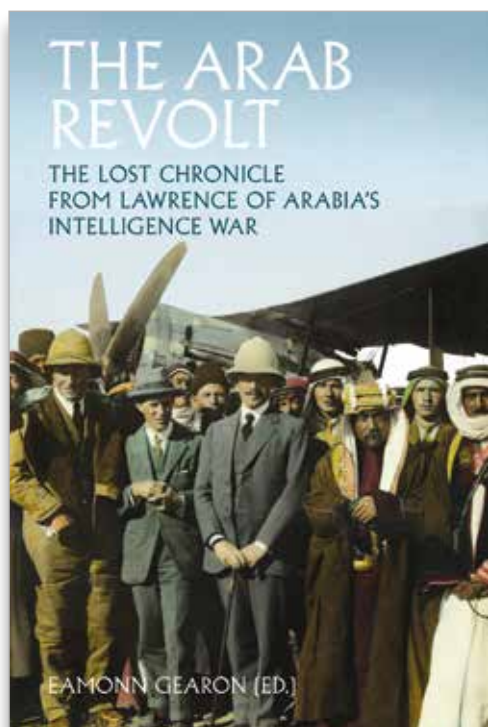
This is an urgent and nuanced perspective on Lebanon's tumultuous recent years, offering crucial insights for readers seeking to understand and learn from the calamitous implications of state failure. Can Lebanon recover from the traumas of its past?



June 2026
9781805265863
216mm x 138mm
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Middle East Studies
World rights

From leading experts on Lebanese politics and society, a comprehensive account of the country's descent into chaos since 2019.

Joelle M. Abi-Rached is Associate Professor of Medicine at the American University of Beirut, and author of *ʿAṣfūriyyeh: A History of Madness, Modernity, and War in the Middle East*. **Sarah El-Richani** is Visiting Fellow at Freie Universität Berlin's Institute for Media and Communication Studies, and author of *The Lebanese Media*.



June 2026

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History / Middle East Studies

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The first English translation of this revolutionary 1916 text, an unlikely collaboration between Arab intellectuals and British wartime intelligence.

EAMONN GEARON (ed.)

The Arab Revolt

The Lost Chronicle from Lawrence of Arabia's Intelligence War

Foreword by EUGENE ROGAN

In December 1916, a modest Arabic-language book rolled off the presses in Cairo—one that could challenge everything we thought we knew about British intelligence and Arab nationalism. *Thawrat al-Arab*, the longest piece of British propaganda from the First World War, has been hiding in plain sight for over a century.

This first English translation reveals an extraordinary collaboration—between Arab intellectuals and British Military Intelligence—which revolutionised wartime information operations. Commissioned by the legendary Arab Bureau and written by Lebanese journalist As'ad Dagher, this early work of Arab nationalism masterfully weaves together history, political analysis and emotional appeals for independence from Ottoman rule. Although its publication advanced British strategic interests, *Thawrat al-Arab* was far more than simple propaganda: it allowed authentic Arab voices to speak to Arab audiences. Between its dedication to the 'martyrs' hanged by Ottoman authorities and its sweeping vision of Arab greatness, this remarkable text shaped the narrative of the Arab Revolt.

A compelling companion to Gearon's *The Arab Bureau*, which offers a fresh look at Lawrence of Arabia's intelligence unit in light of *Thawrat al-Arab*, this new book brings a crucial historical document to English-language readers for the first time.

Eamonn Gearon is a global historian, specialising in the Middle East and North Africa and the history of intelligence, whose books include *The Arab Bureau* (also published by Hurst). His doctoral research uncovered previously unknown Arabic documents which shed new light on British intelligence work in the region.

ANDREW P. MAHER

Riding Tigers

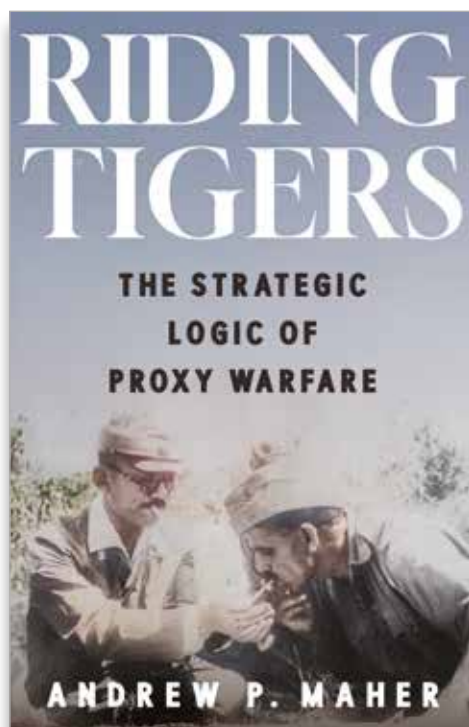
The Strategic Logic of Proxy Warfare

Today's global security environment is characterised by great power contests. As we know from previous histories of strategic competition between states, such heightened rivalry routinely manifests in violence perpetrated by proxy forces—a dynamic intended either to avoid war, or to assist in its prosecution.

This book explores the use of proxies in arenas of international strategic competition characterised by force. It looks at why, where and when proxy warfare is waged, examining how states seek to employ proxies, to cajole them to act on their behalf, and then to ensure their compliance. Today, states wishing to avoid war, yet still to pursue competition, often turn to proxy warfare as an attractive low-cost option. This policy response is informed by history, from Europe's Napoleonic-era competition and the Great Game during the age of empire, to interwar competition in East Asia and, later in the twentieth century, the global Cold War.

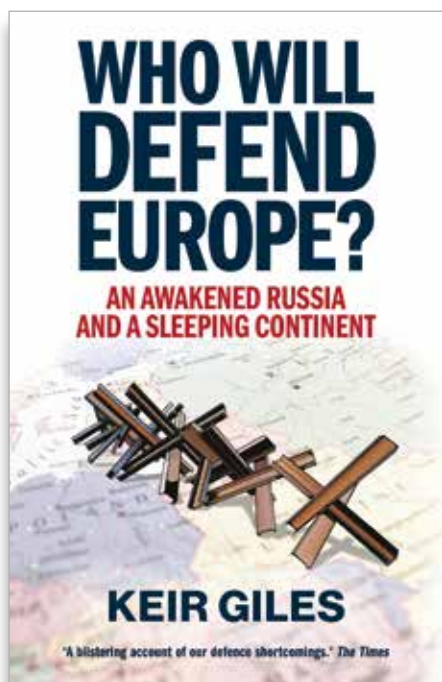
Proxy warfare is not the preserve of major powers, but a tool of statecraft available to all. Andrew P. Maher illuminates current trends, deriving a strategic logic to the proxy wars that will continue to influence today's geopolitical competitions—and tomorrow's.

Andrew P. Maher PhD is Senior Lecturer at UNSW Canberra, specialising in irregular warfare and special operations, particularly proxy warfare. A twenty-year veteran of the Australian Defence Force, who served extensively in Iraq and Afghanistan, he has taught at Arizona State, Joint Special Operations and NATO Special Operations Universities.



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A novel examination of interstate competition, considering how and why states employ proxies to perpetrate violence on their behalf.



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defend itself?**

KEIR GILES

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‘Timely and excellent.’ — *The Australian Financial Review*

‘A powerful and urgent analysis of Europe’s looming security challenges—this book is a wake-up call for anyone who cares about the future of the continent.’
— Eliot Higgins, Director and Founder, Bellingcat

‘Giles has been warning us for many years of Russia’s determination to ... rebuild an empire. Now he offers a stark warning for Europe and the world: the only alternative to planning for a war is planning to lose it.’ — Anne Applebaum

© Munira Mustaffa



Keir Giles has advised governments worldwide on the Russian threat. A senior fellow with Chatham House’s Russia programme, and Director of the Conflict Studies Research Centre, he is a regular commentator for the BBC and

international media. His prescient books include *What Deters Russia* and *Moscow Rules*.

ALAN LESTER (ed.)

The Truth About Empire

Real Histories of British Colonialism

Foreword by SATHNAM SANGHERA

A BBC History Magazine Book of the Year

‘An essential contribution to scholarship on the British Empire. This is an important book for our times.’ — Kavita Puri

‘*The Truth About Empire* is for those wanting more, and something approaching the definitive response to those arguing for a sympathetic view of the empire.’ — *The Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History*

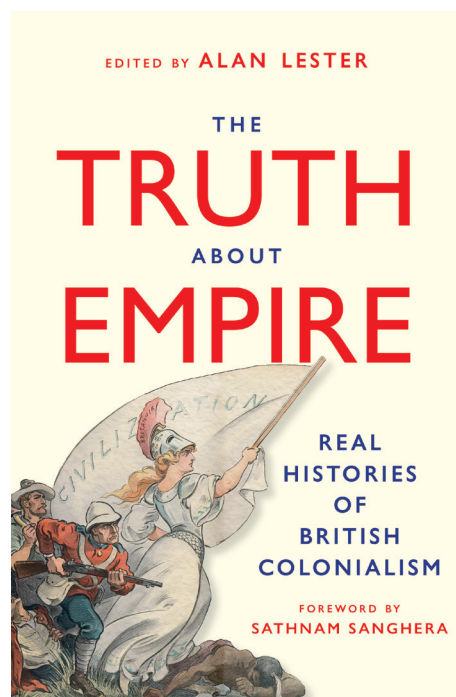
‘In a time of harmful, government-backed myth-making about the past, *The Truth About Empire* offers important assurance of the value of and need for ... expertise and dialogue ... historians patiently, and devastatingly, prove the scholarly malpractice behind recent ideologically motivated attempts to whitewash the past. A lesson in the follies of peddling, and trusting, bogus history.’ — Priya Satia

‘A masterclass in historical scholarship.’ — *Australian Book Review*



Alan Lester is Professor of Historical Geography at the University of Sussex and Adjunct Professor of History at La Trobe University. He has written eleven books on

British colonialism, most recently *Ruling the World: Freedom, Civilisation and Liberalism in the Nineteenth-Century British Empire*; and *Deny and Disavow: The British Empire in the Culture War* (co-authored; 2nd edition).



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History

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BLEDDYN E. BOWEN

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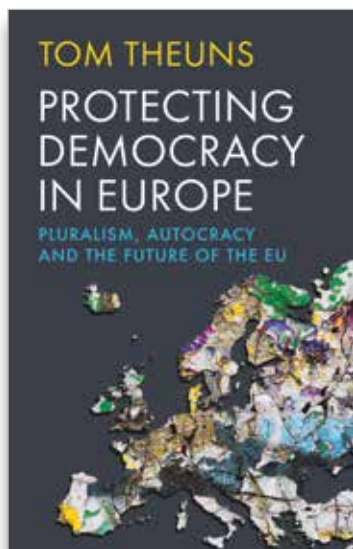
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‘A comprehensive and thorough account of the particular “fall” of developing space-related technologies with military uses.’ — Lawrence Freedman, *Foreign Affairs*

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Bleddyn E. Bowen is Associate Professor in Astropolitics at Durham University. The internationally recognised author of *War in Space*, he has advised on space policy for institutions including the UK Parliament, the UK Ministry of Defence, the European Space Agency, the Japanese Ministry of Defense, and the Pentagon.



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Politics / Europe

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TOM THEUNS

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Tom Theuns is Senior Assistant Professor of Political Theory and European Politics at Leiden University’s Institute of Political Science, and Associate Researcher at Sciences Po in Paris. He has published widely, including in *American Political Science Review*, the *Journal of Common Market Studies* and the *Journal of European Integration*.

ZSUZSANNA SZELÉNYI

Tainted Democracy

Viktor Orbán and the Subversion of Hungary

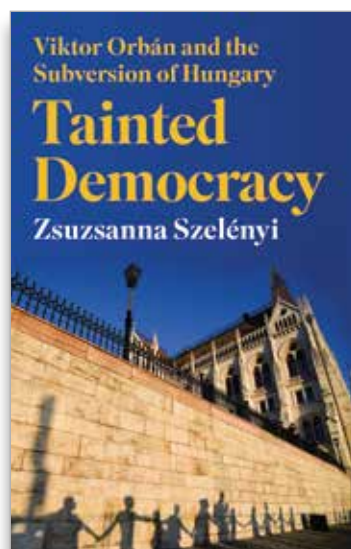
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‘Detailed and authoritative.’ — *London Review of Books*

Zsuzsanna Szelényi is a Hungarian politician and foreign policy specialist. In the 1990s, she was an activist and MP for Fidesz, then a liberal anti-Communist party. After working at the Council of Europe for fifteen years, she returned to politics in 2012, representing the liberal opposition in Parliament.



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TIM SWEIJS & JEFFREY H. MICHAELS (eds)

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Tim Sweijs PhD is the Director of Research at The Hague Centre for Strategic Studies. **Jeffrey H. Michaels** PhD is the IEN Senior Fellow in American Foreign Policy and International Security at the Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals.



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Hope and Despair

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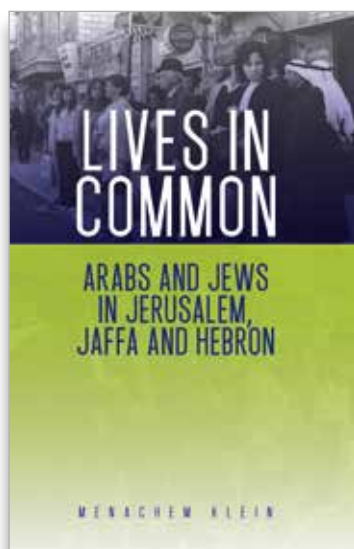
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'Masterly.' — *The Church Times*

Michael A. Horowitz is a renowned geopolitical expert, focussing on the Middle East. Since serving in the IDF, he has held positions in consultancies in Israel and the Gulf, advising local and foreign governments, NGOs and global corporations. He writes commentary and analysis for both regional and international media.



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Menachem Klein is Professor Emeritus in Political Science at Bar-Ilan University. He has been a fellow at Leiden University, the European University Institute and St Antony's College, Oxford; a visiting professor at MIT; and a visiting research fellow at King's College London. His books with Hurst include *Arafat and Abbas*.

ELIZABETH PEARSON

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Elizabeth Pearson PhD, formerly a BBC radio journalist, is Lecturer in Criminology with the Conflict, Violence and Terrorism Research Centre at Royal Holloway, University of London, and an associate fellow with the Royal United Services Institute and the International Centre for Counter-Terrorism. She co-authored *Countering Violent Extremism: Making Gender Matter*.



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Politics / Gender Studies

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MICHAEL LLEWELLYN-SMITH

Athens

A Cultural and Literary History

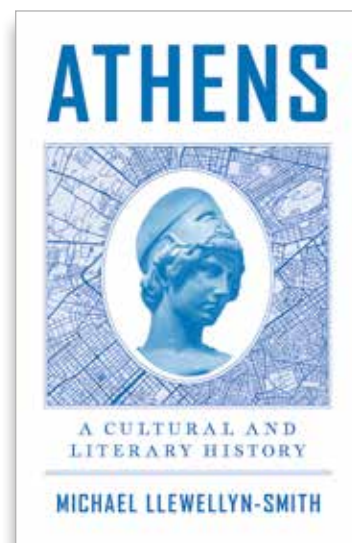
Preface by RODERICK BEATON

‘Among a large pack of guides-cum-histories for [Athens], this should take the gold.’ — *The Independent*

‘Popular history at its best, absorbing, witty and challenging ... a warm fondness for Athens, in all its complexity, suffuses every page.’ — *The Times Literary Supplement*

Exploring Athens’ streets and squares, the author reveals layers of Ancient Greek, Roman and Byzantine history; elegant neoclassical Bavarian buildings; and a modern city of concrete and glass, metro and tram.

Michael Llewellyn-Smith was British Ambassador in Athens in the 1990s. He has written books on Greece in Asia Minor (1919–22), the first modern Olympic Games in Athens in 1896, and the life of Eleftherios Venizelos.



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Travel

World rights

MARTIN PLAUT

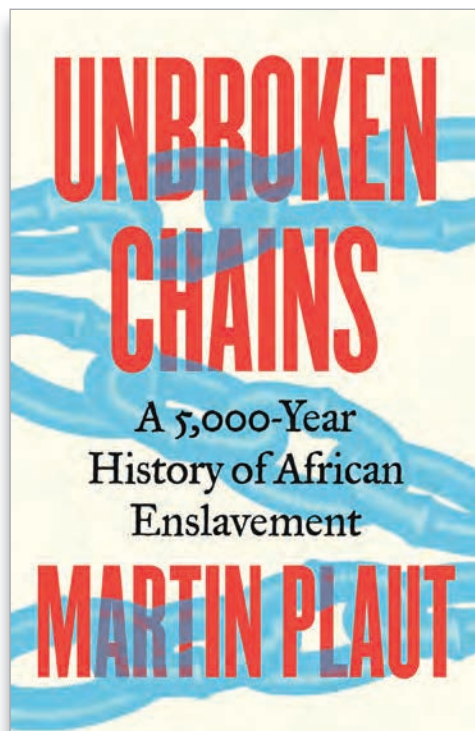
Unbroken Chains

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.

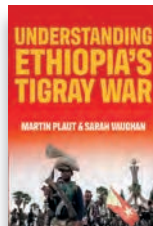
Unbroken Chains offers readers a full, accessible history of the myriad bondage systems that have devastated African communities over the millennia. It is a haunting, sensitive, powerful read.



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

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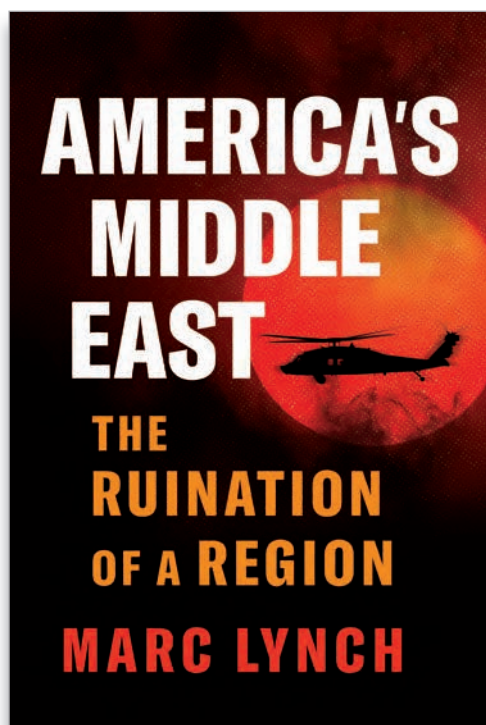
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Martin Plaut, the BBC World Service's former Africa editor, has published extensively on African affairs. An adviser to the Foreign Office and the US State Department, he is Senior Researcher at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies.



October 2025

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Current Affairs / Geopolitics / Middle East

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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

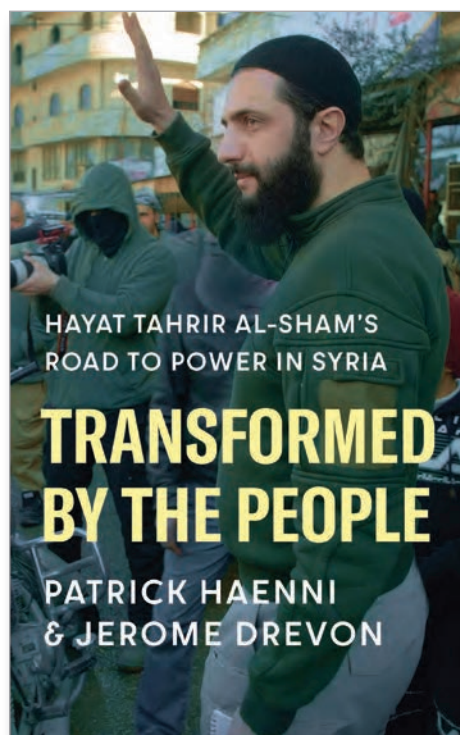
Hayat Tahrir al-Sham's Road to Power in Syria

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

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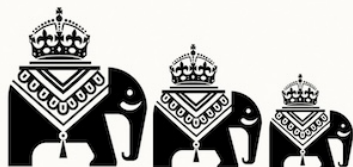
Current Affairs / Geopolitics / Middle East

World rights

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

SAMIR PATIL

THE
COST OF
COLONIALISM



India's Economic
Decline Under
British Rule

January 2026

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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.

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.

ADÉWÁLÉ MÁJÀ-PEARCE

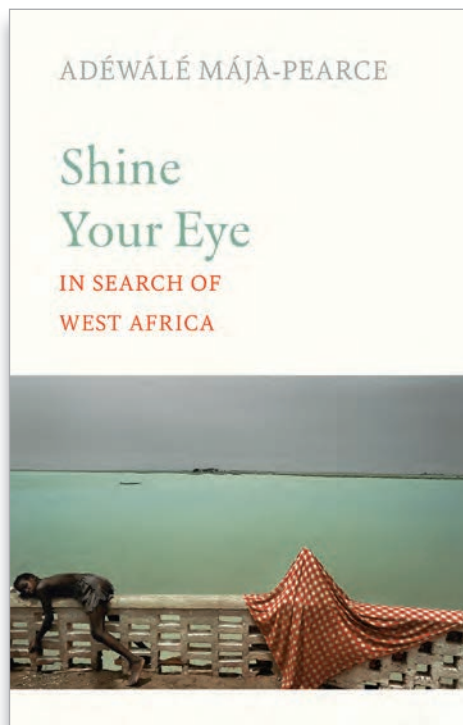
Shine Your Eye

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

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264pp

£14.99 Paperback

Travel / Africa

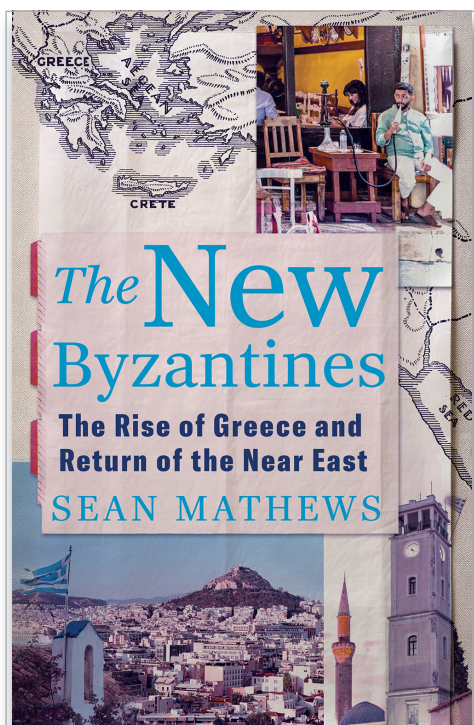
World rights

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.

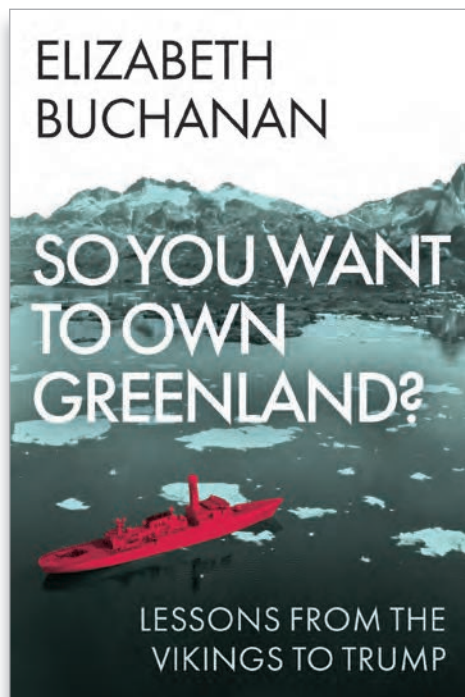
Greenland finds itself at the centre of a renewed 'great game', balancing transatlantic ties, rising Chinese influence, and mounting domestic pressures for independence. And that's before President Trump's agenda is factored in.

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*.



August 2025

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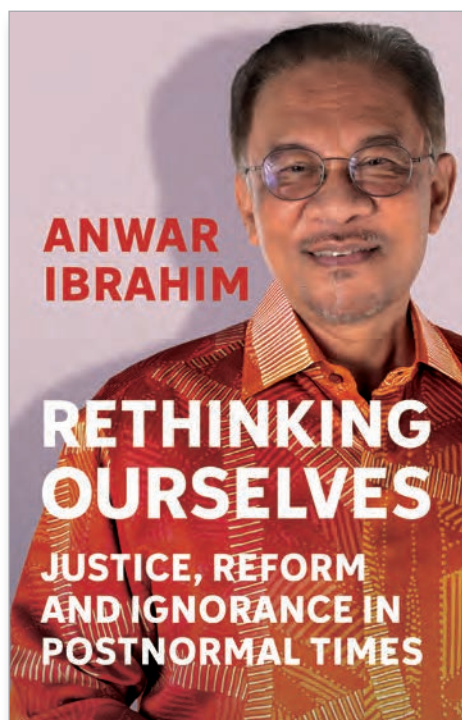
312pp

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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
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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

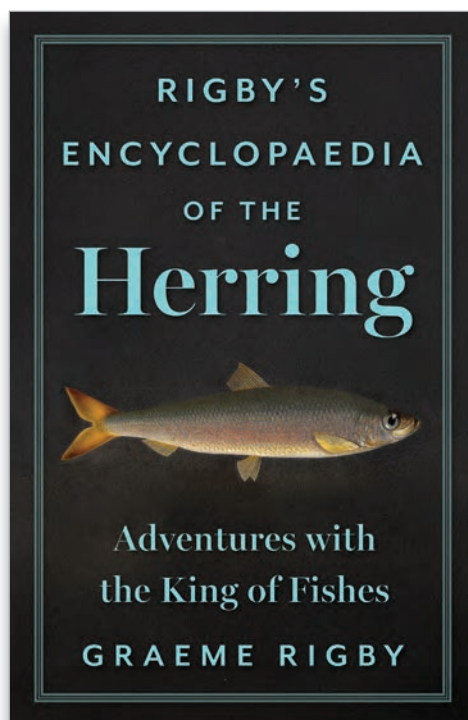
Almost everything you didn't know you needed to know about Atlantic herrings can be found in this book. (Pacific and Baltic herrings are in there too.) Yes, they changed the world—everything changes everything—but herrings make the world bigger. With spawnings seen from space, a trillion individuals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

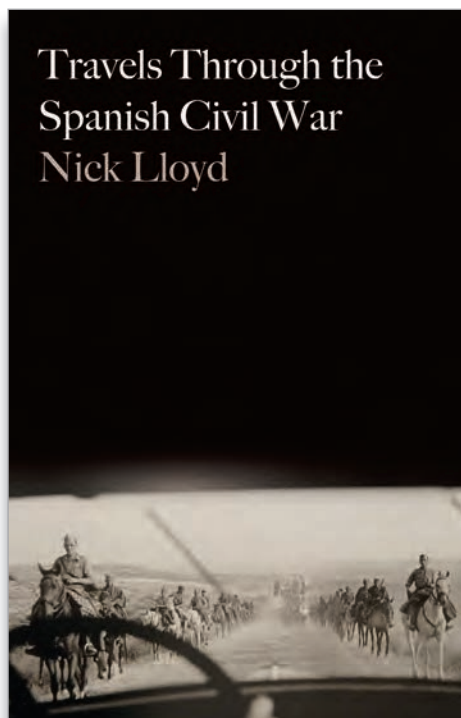


Graeme Rigby's encyclopaedia grew out of a BBC Radio 4 series on preserved fish, *Rigby's Red Herrings*, and the blogs and podcasts website herripedia.com. Part of Amber Film & Photography Collective for nearly twenty years, his allotment documentary book *Peaceable Kingdoms* was a collaboration with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



September 2025
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234mm x 156mm
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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
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 £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.



He lives with his partner and children in Poble-sec, Barcelona.

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

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'*.



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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.

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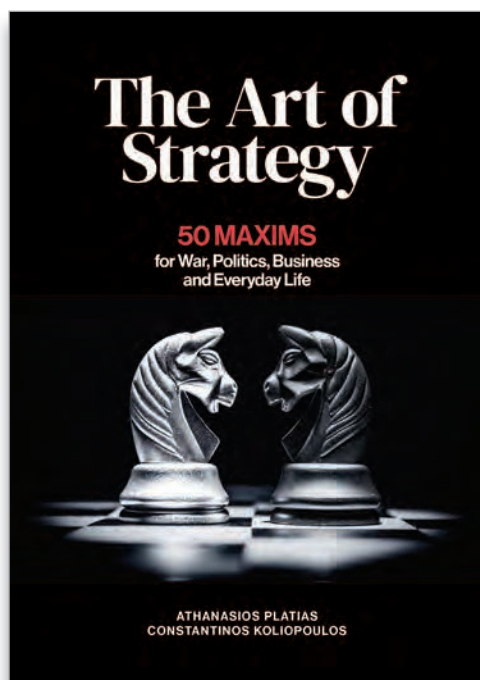
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 Smart Thinking
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 the Greek language

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

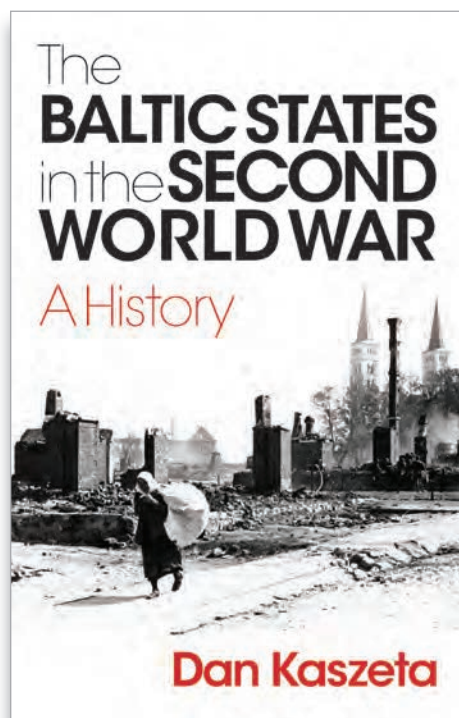
A History

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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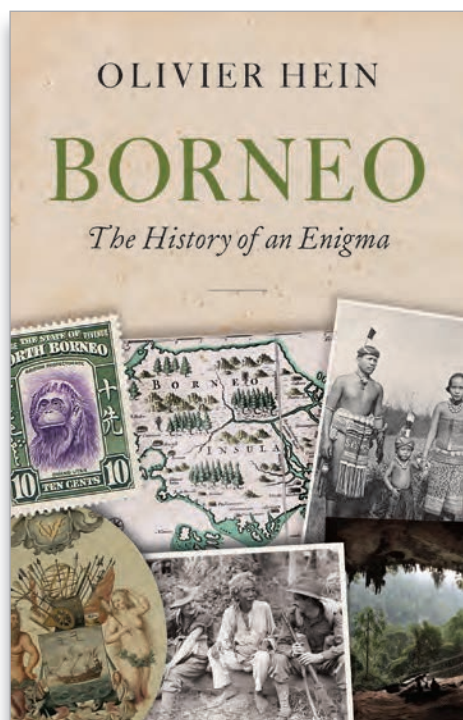
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History / Eastern Europe

World rights

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.



October 2025
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 History / South East Asia
 World rights

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

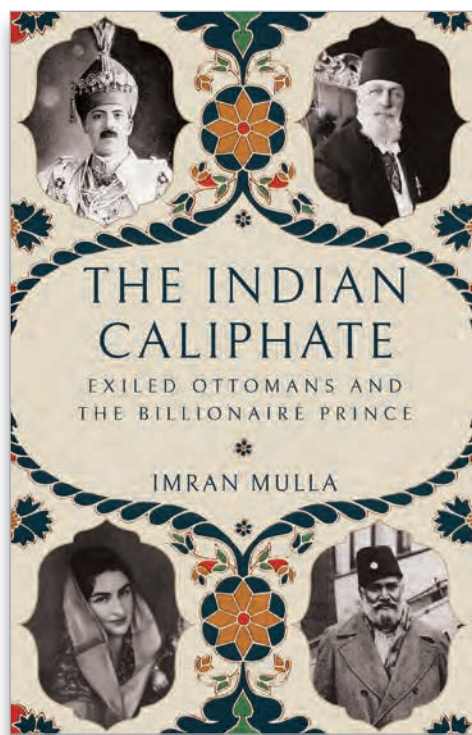
Exiled Ottomans and the Billionaire Prince

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.



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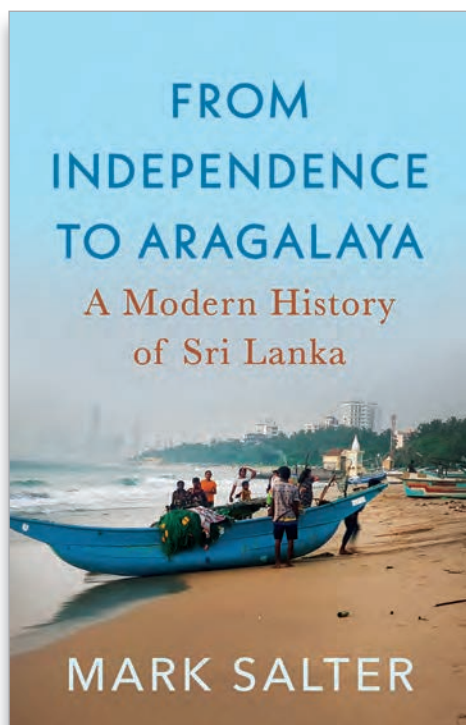
£25.00 Hardback

World History

World rights

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

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.



October 2025
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 440pp
 £22.00 Hardback
 History / South Asia
 World rights

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

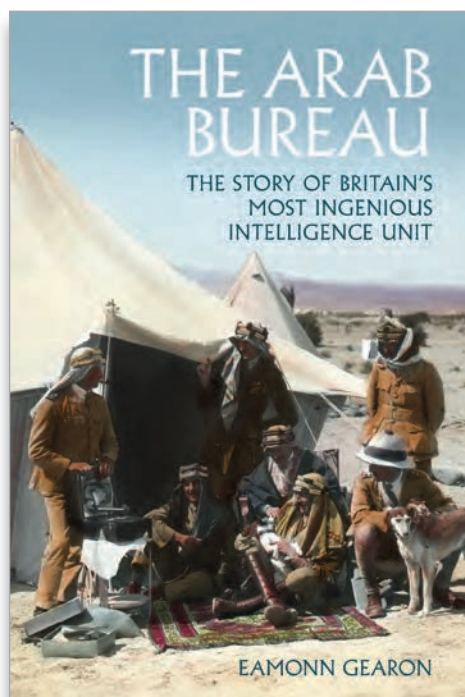
The Story of Britain's Most Ingenious Intelligence Unit

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.

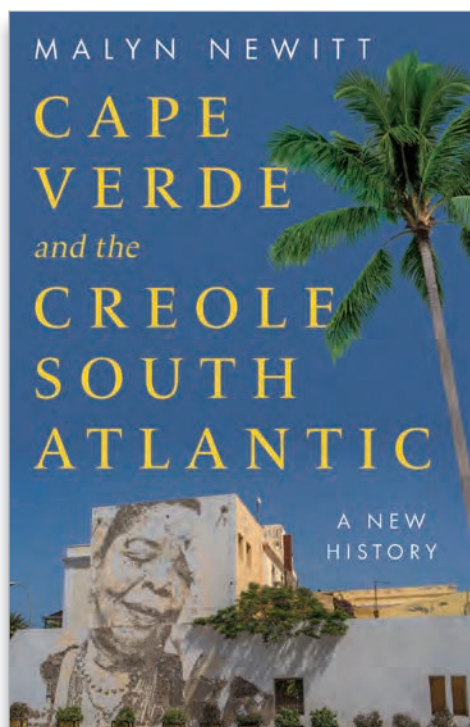
Eamonn Gearon's compelling narrative reveals how this unique organisation navigated the complexities of Arab politics, tribal rivalries and Ottoman intelligence, while developing techniques that resonate with today's challenges in intelligence-gathering. Essential reading for anyone interested in intelligence 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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 History
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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

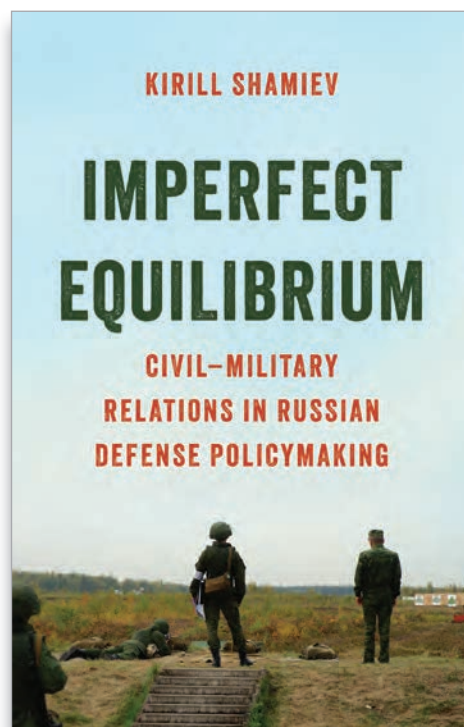
Civil–Military Relations in Russian Defense Policymaking

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 visiting research fellow at the European Council on Foreign Relations and a senior researcher at Verian, he specialises in civil–military relations, Russian domestic politics and defence affairs. He speaks Russian, English and German.



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EASTERN EUROPE & EURASIA

Edited by Dr Ben Noble



Why has Russia's
military struggled to
adapt to the challenges of
contemporary warfare?



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Geopolitics / Eastern Europe

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Explains how Ukraine's
2014 turn to the West
was intertwined with
events in the Baltic states
—which influenced, and
were affected by,
developments in Kyiv.

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 EU culminated in Europe's deadliest conflict since the Second World War.

Kyiv's bold shift towards the West in 2014 had been closely connected with the Baltic—both evolving in light of, and contributing to, policy developments in the greater region. Russia's annexation of Crimea and invasion of Donbas triggered a rethink of security policy across this part of the continent, 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 memory of Ukraine's association with the wider 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 to examine the greater Baltic's role in, 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

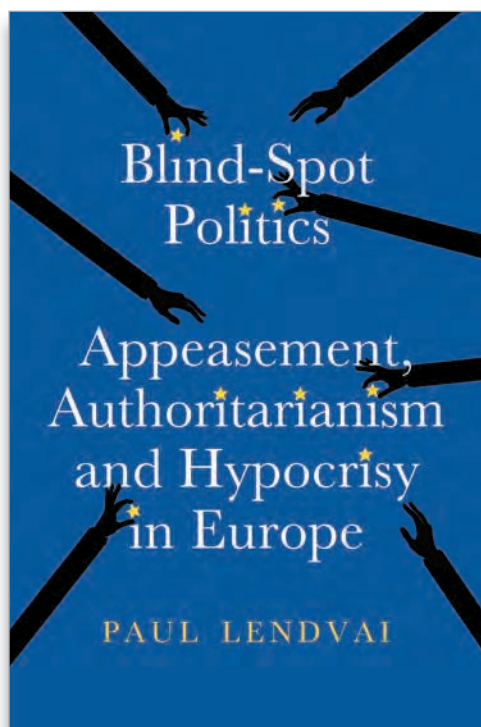
Blind-Spot Politics

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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Current Affairs / Europe / Politics

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A leading Central European journalist investigates how political and intellectual elites in Europe’s democracies underestimate and enable the continent’s authoritarians—from the Cold War onwards.



October 2025

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Security / East Asia

World rights

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.

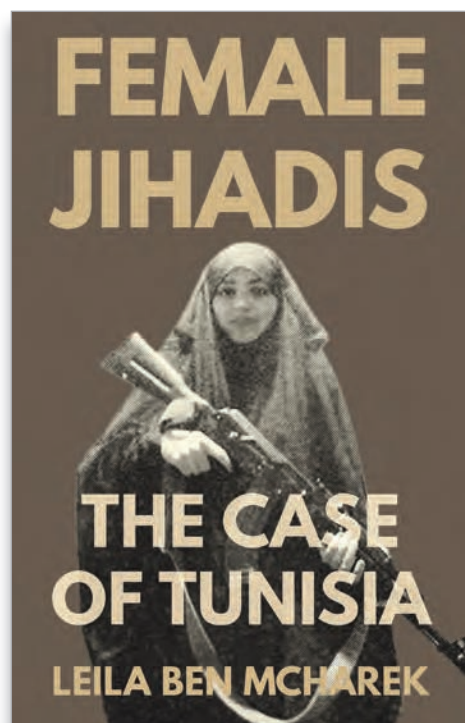
LEILA BEN MCHAREK

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.



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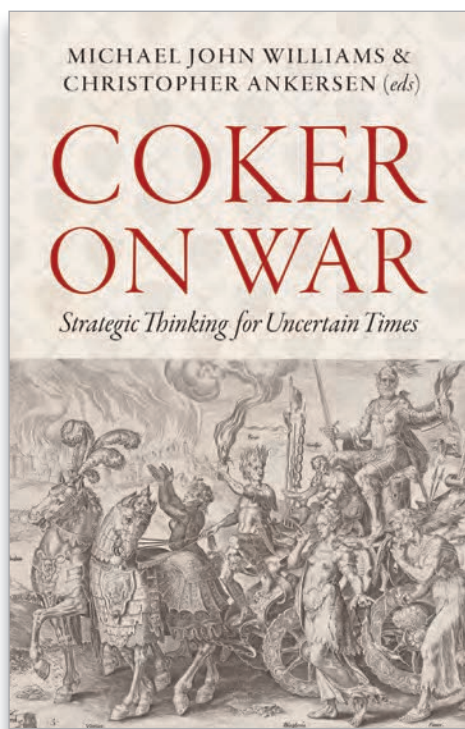
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Why has Tunisia, widely considered an Arab Spring 'success story', seen such an explosion in violent Islamism among its women?

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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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

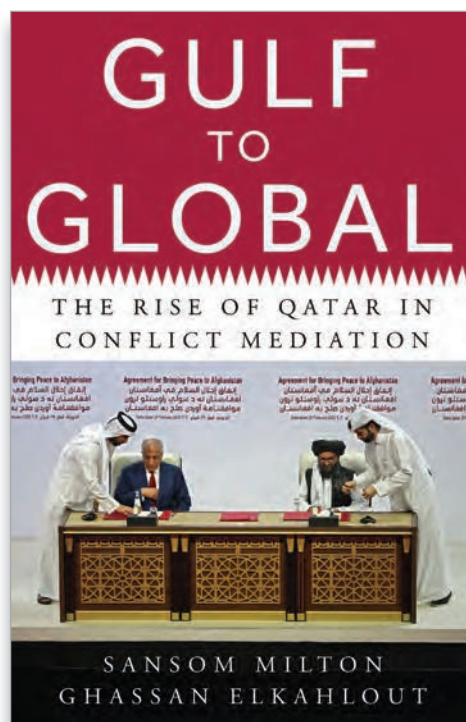
Gulf to Global

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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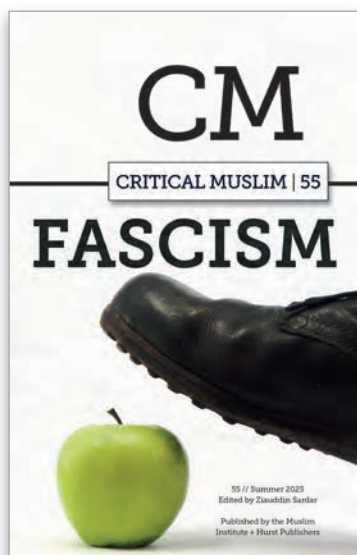
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**Charts Qatar's key role in
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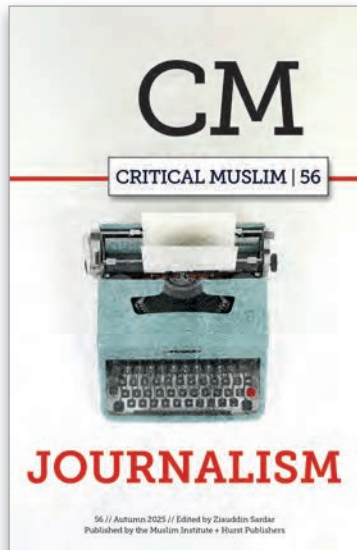


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ZIAUDDIN SARDAR (ed.)

Critical Muslim 55: Fascism

Only about a century old, fascism—bogyman of ideologies—has been both over- and under-attributed to various political phenomena. While the baseline cases of Hitler's Germany and Mussolini's Italy are generally agreed upon, once these two forces were defeated, it was nigh impossible to believe that such a compulsion would ever return in a more enlightened future—let alone be ushered in by the children of those who defeated the fascist regimes. Today, card-carrying fascist forces grab ever more political power across the US and Europe, even in the European Parliament itself, and around the globe. Yet, while there's a reason for Godwin's Law—the longer an online conversation continues, the more likely someone is to invoke Hitler and the Nazis—we must find ways to discern the fascist wheat from the garden-variety nationalist chaff. This issue looks at today's tidal wave, and asks how to ensure that such forces are not allowed to tear the world asunder once more.



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ZIAUDDIN SARDAR (ed.)

Critical Muslim 56: Journalism

Is journalism dead? This age-old question followed the emergence of the internet and 24-hour broadcast news, both threatening to change the game entirely. Yet nothing compares to the changes we have experienced since the mid-2010s. Money is always a concern in terms of distribution, ratings and influence. Issues of bias and quality remain pressing, as we wonder, what is 'good journalism' in a post-truth world? Are facts really impossible to pin down while inundated with social media conspiracies, fake news, influencers and information overload? This issue of *Critical Muslim* asks what happened to the integrity of trusted newspapers and broadcasts; what billionaire owners of media outlets actually want; whether citizen journalism will come to the rescue, or whether social media will rule the world. Can there even be journalistic ethics to govern this new era? Or is the Fourth Estate no longer fit to print, broadcast, post, like, share or comment in our turbulent times?

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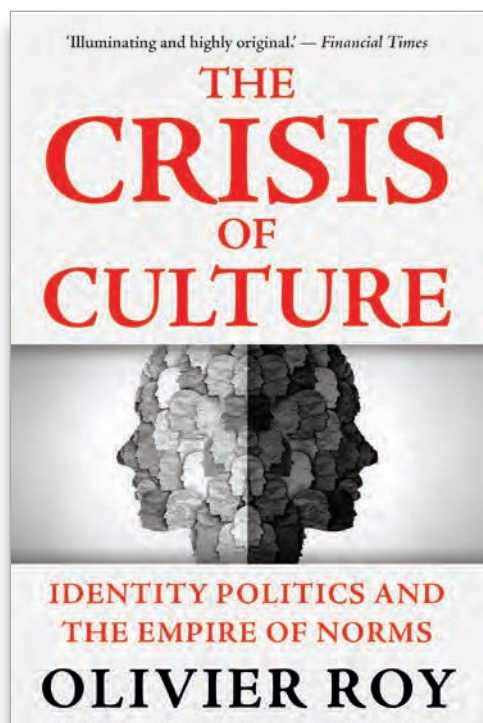
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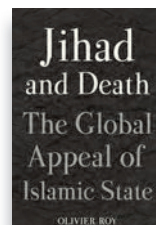
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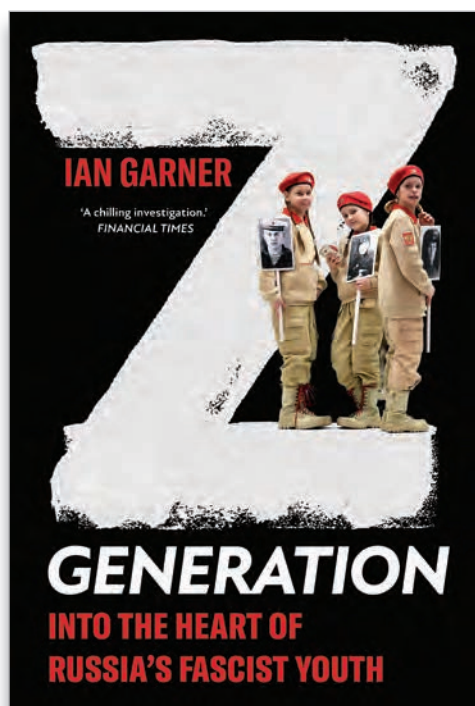
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Olivier Roy is Professor at the European University Institute in Florence. Six of his highly acclaimed books on religion and politics are published by Hurst, including *Globalised Islam*; *Jihad and Death*; *Holy Ignorance*; and *Is Europe Christian?*



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Ian Garner is Assistant Professor of Totalitarian Studies at the Pilecki Institute, Warsaw. His research focuses on Soviet and Russian war propaganda. The author of *Stalingrad Lives: Stories of Combat and Survival*, and a fellow of

the Royal Historical Society, he holds a PhD from the University of Toronto.

GEOFF MULGAN

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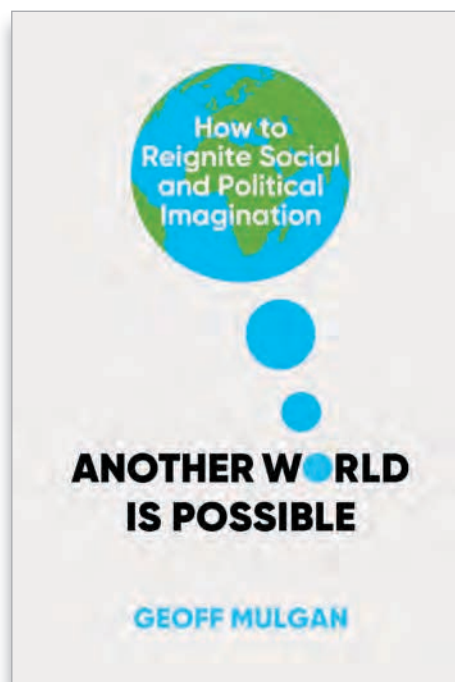
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Geoff Mulgan is Professor within University College London’s Science, Technology, Engineering and Public Policy team. Formerly Nesta’s chief executive, and co-founder of a dozen organisations, his past

government roles include Strategy Unit director and head of policy at 10 Downing Street. His books have been translated into over twenty languages.



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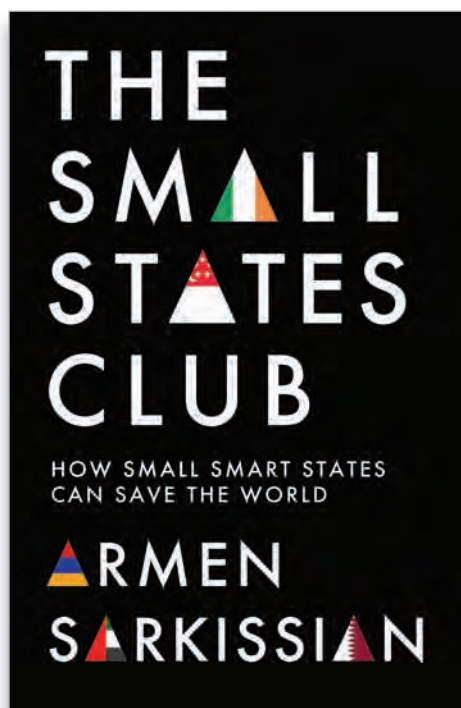
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Armen Sarkissian is a world-renowned theoretical physicist, diplomat, businessman and philanthropist. Armenia’s former president (2018–22) and prime minister (1996–7), founding director of the University of Cambridge’s Eurasia Centre and co-creator of TETRIS-Gold, he held senior positions at BP, Alcatel-Lucent, Bank of America, WEF, EBRD and EastWest Institute (NY).

MARA KALNINS

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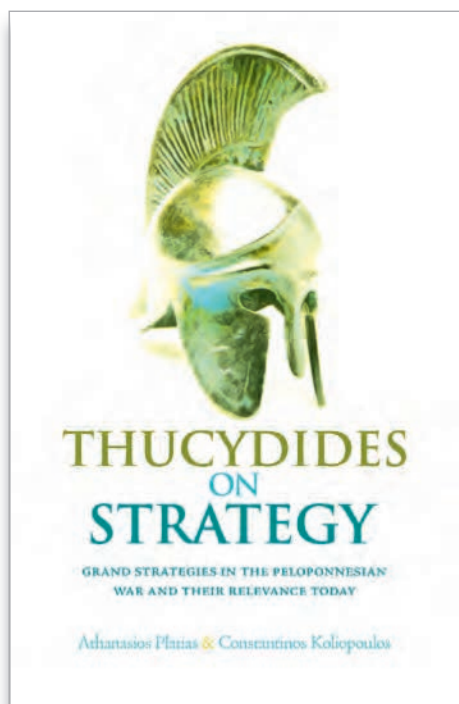
This book traces the genesis and growth of that nation, its endurance over centuries of conquest and oppression, the process by which it achieved its independence, and its status as a member of the European community in the twenty-first century.

Mara Kalnins is a life fellow of Corpus Christi College, and former reader in Modern Literature, at the University of Cambridge. Her most recent book, *The Ancient Amber Routes*, explores the links between the Baltic and Classical worlds. She is currently translating the ancient Latvian *dainas* (songs) into English.



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Athanasios Platias is Professor of Strategy at the University of Piraeus, the President of the Council for International Relations, Greece, and a coordinator for Europe at the Mackinder Forum. **Constantinos Koliopoulos** is Professor of International Relations and Strategic Studies at the University of Piraeus, and a former Fulbright scholar.

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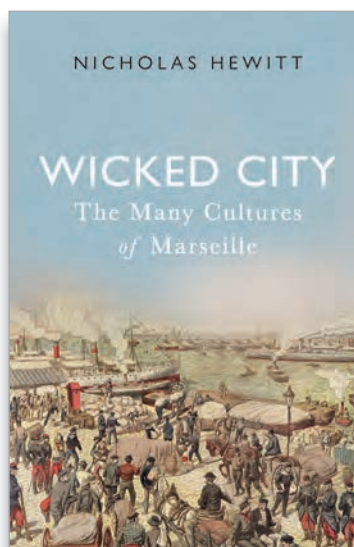
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Daniel Marwecki is a lecturer in International Relations at the University of Hong Kong. He previously taught at the University of Leeds and at SOAS University of London, where he also received his PhD.



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Nicholas Hewitt (d. 2019) was the editor of *French Cultural Studies*, an emeritus professor of French and Francophone Studies at the University of Nottingham, and a specialist in twentieth-century French cultural and literary history. He is the author of *Montmartre: A Cultural History*.



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Gérard Prunier is a renowned historian of contemporary Africa, and author of, inter alia, the acclaimed *The Rwanda Crisis: History of a Genocide* and the forthcoming *Colonialism Devours Itself: The Waning of Françafrique*, both published by Hurst.

MOHAMMAD WASEEM

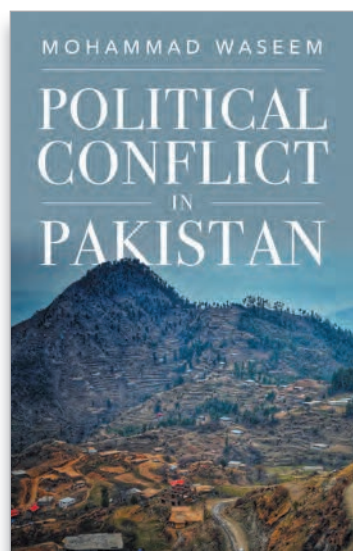
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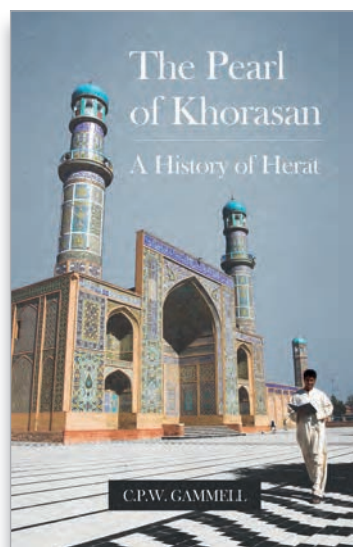
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C. P. W. Gammell is a Cambridge- and Oxford-educated historian of Afghanistan and Iran. He has worked in both countries since 2009, including interpreting Dari and Pashtu for the ICRC and advising UNESCO. A former British diplomat, he appears regularly on Sky News, BBC Persian and various podcasts.



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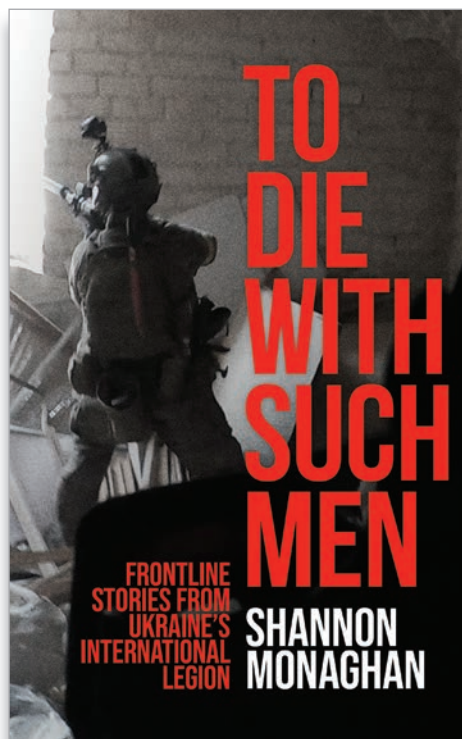
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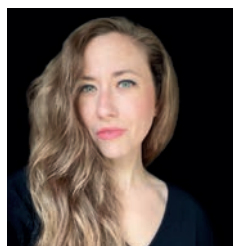
To Die With Such Men

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Shannon Monaghan follows a core group of Western volunteers in Ukraine, fighting together from the early days of the battle for Kyiv through to the last stands at Severodonetsk and Bakhmut. They arrived alone, but formed a family—back when nobody bothered to learn names, because they all expected to die. One of them was among the last men to leave the city of Bakhmut in the final days of May 2022.

These men knew very well that they'd be fighting without the NATO support they were used to. They knew the severe risks they would run, and the potential criticism they would face for fighting someone else's war. But they also knew it was the right thing to do. This is their story.



Shannon Monaghan PhD is a historian of modern war educated at Yale University and Boston College, and author of *A Quiet Company of Dangerous Men*. She has interned in international arms transfers at the US State Department, worked in strategy consulting and data analytics, and taught writing at Harvard University.

RACHEL CHARLTON-DAILEY

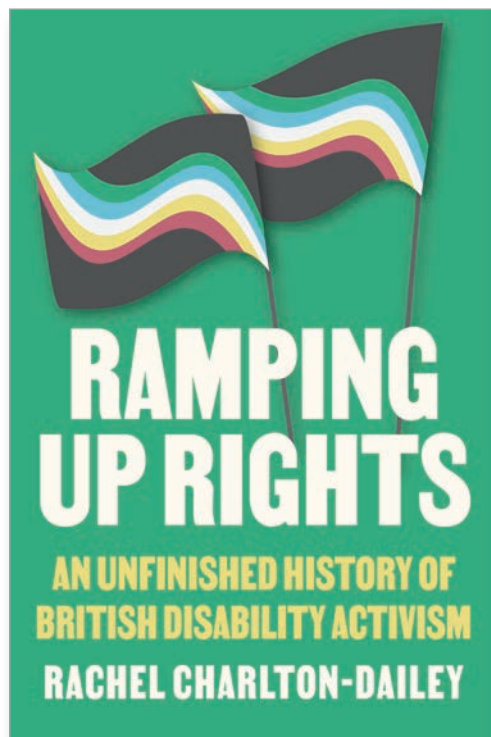
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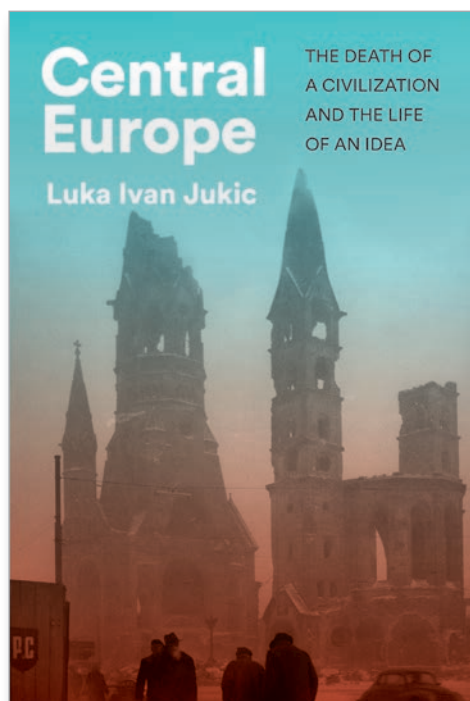
World rights

A vivid history of the 100-year battle for British disability rights, spotlighting enraging injustices and inspiring campaigns, past and present: this fight isn’t over.



Rachel Charlton-Dailey (she/they) is an award-winning disabled journalist, activist and author. A columnist at *The Canary*, she has previously reported for the BBC, *The Unwritten*, *The Big Issue*, *Metro*, *The Guardian*

and the *Daily Mirror*. When Rachel isn’t writing, they can be found walking their sausage dog, Rusty.



June 2025

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234mm x 156mm

344pp

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History / International Studies

World rights

An absorbing journey
through a region
caught between history,
geography and ideology.

LUKA IVAN JUKIC

Central Europe

The Death of a Civilization and the Life of an Idea

What is 'Central Europe'? Where do its borders lie? Does it even exist? Attempts to define it usually yield more questions than answers. But perhaps the wrong questions are being asked.

Luka Ivan Jukic disentangles the enigma of Central Europe through its history of birth, death and rebirth. Countries like Poland, Croatia and even Ukraine proudly proclaim themselves part of this region, and so part of Western civilisation. But the term originally described an unrecognisably different world—one formed in the eighteenth century by the unique inheritance of the House of Habsburg across a decentralised Germany and a sprawling Danubian realm; by the rise of standard High German; and by an intermediate position within a continent defined by the 'advanced West' and 'backwards East'.

Amid the displacement and destruction of the world wars and their aftermath, this extraordinary civilisation was shattered, reduced to the frontline of a global Cold War. Its unexpected reincarnation in the 1980s, as an ideological antidote to the Soviet East, spawned myths and polemics, but little clarity. Yet 'Central Europe' still seems to feature in every crisis today, from Russian aggression to European disunity. Why does it remain such a powerful political idea in our times?



Luka Ivan Jukic

is a journalist and historian based in London. His work has appeared in *The Atlantic*, the *Financial Times*, *New Lines Magazine*, *Engelsberg*

Ideas, *Foreign Policy*, *History Today*, and other publications.

JAMES HARPUR

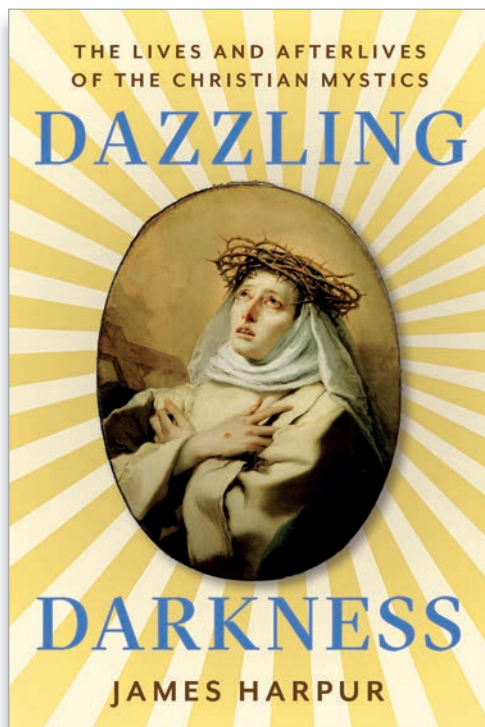
Dazzling Darkness

The Lives and Afterlives of the Christian Mystics

At the core of the Christian faith lies the spiritual journey to the heart of ultimate reality, or God—described by some mystics as a ‘dazzling darkness’. For over 2,000 years, certain women and men have experienced various degrees of direct communion with God, from mild illuminations to a union in which the will of the mystic has been consumed.

This book explores such spiritual figures’ lives and teachings, alongside their personal and historical backgrounds, from early Christendom to modern mystics such as Simone Weil and Thomas Merton. It reveals that the English anchoress Julian of Norwich grew up while the Black Death was devastating Europe; that the beguine Marguerite Porete lived at a time when the Church was particularly primed to burn ‘heretics’—a fate she suffered; and that Pierre Teilhard de Chardin developed his idea of spiritual evolution with Charles Darwin’s theories in the air.

Comprehensive, deeply researched and highly engaging, *Dazzling Darkness* tells the stories of towering figures like Hildegard of Bingen, Teresa of Ávila and John of the Cross. Its pages also highlight many lesser-known mystics, including Mary of Egypt, Seraphim of Sarov and Charles de Foucauld, allowing their voices to sing out to future generations.



April 2025

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Religion

World rights

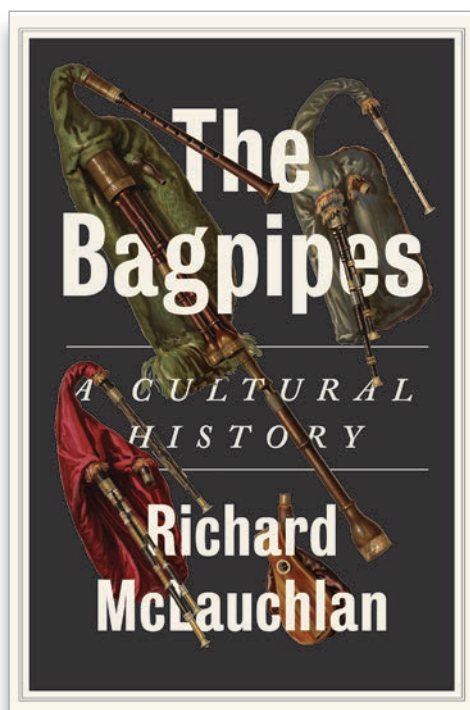
A captivating journey into the heart of divine communion and spiritual evolution, through the lives of Christian mystics—from the early Church to the 1900s.



© Dino Ignani

James Harpur is a poet, author and translator who lives in Ireland. He was the 2023 Writer Fellow at the Trinity Oscar Wilde Centre for Irish Writing, Trinity College, Dublin. His debut novel, *The Pathless Country*, won

the J G Farrell Award and was shortlisted for the John McGahern Prize.



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History / Music

World rights

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RICHARD MCLAUCHLAN

The Bagpipes

A Cultural History

In the early second century CE, someone was described as playing a pipe ‘with a bag tucked under his armpit.’ That man, the first named piper in history, was the Roman Emperor Nero. Since then, this improbable conflation of bag and sticks has become one of the most beloved and contested instruments of all time. When another piping emperor, Tsar Peter the Great, watched his pet bear take its last breath, he decided the creature would live on—as a bagpipe.

This rich and vivid history tells the story of an instrument boasting over 130 varieties, yet commonly associated with just one form and one country: Scotland, and its familiar Great Highland Bagpipe. In fact, the pipes are played across the globe, and their story is a highly diverse one, which illuminates society in remarkable, unexpected ways. Richard McLauchlan charts the rise of women pipers; investigates how class, privilege and capitalism have shaped the world of piping; and explores how the meaning of a ‘national instrument’ can shift with the currents of a people’s identity.

The vibrancy and inventiveness characterising today’s pipers still speak to the potency of this fabled and once-feared instrument, to which McLauchlan is our surefooted guide.



Richard McLauchlan is a Scottish writer, educated at the Universities of St Andrews and Cambridge, and a former pipe major, taught by the renowned instructor Colin MacLellan. The author of *Serious Minds*, and John Campbell’s

collaborator on *Haldane* (both published by Hurst), Richard co-founded the educational charity Light Up Learning.

MAX SMEETS

Ransom War

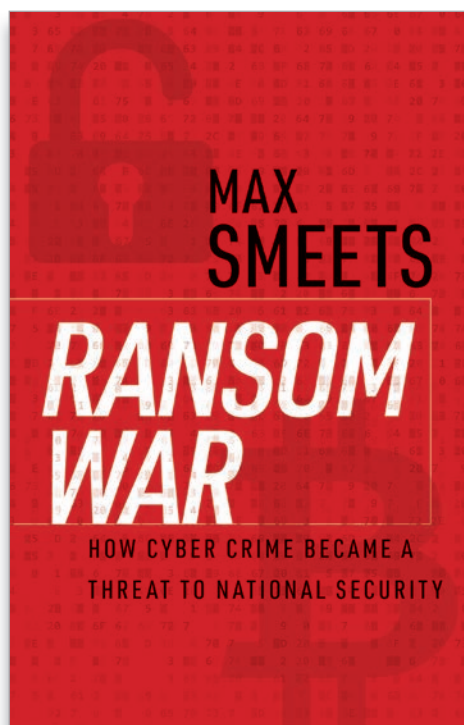
How Cyber Crime Became a Threat to National Security

This timely book explores the alarming rise of ransomware: malicious software blocking users from their systems or data, until they've paid money to regain access or to prevent the release of sensitive information. High-profile British examples of the twenty-first century have targeted national libraries and hospital trusts; in the US, hackers of Pennsylvania's Lehigh Valley Health Network held patient data hostage—when their demands went unmet, they published topless photographs of women with breast cancer.

The issue presents formidable challenges and costs for businesses, national security and, as the Pennsylvania case showed, individuals—often society's most vulnerable. But we can watch and learn from cyber extortionists, leaving us better prepared for next time. In 2022, a series of devastating ransomware attacks prompted Costa Rica's President to declare a national emergency, describing a 'state of war'. This episode had much to tell us about how these networks arise, operate, organise—and collapse.

Max Smeets' landmark study demystifies the ransomware playbook, from funding to networking. Through one of the largest ransomware operations on record, he reveals how this challenge has evolved, how it differs in substance and style from traditional cyber/hacking threats, and how to combat it.

Max Smeets DPhil is a leading cyber security expert, Co-Director of the European Cyber Conflict Research Initiative/Incubator, and author of *No Shortcuts*. Holding research positions at ETH Zurich, the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI) and Stanford University, he has written for *The Washington Post*, *War on the Rocks* and *Slate*.



February 2025

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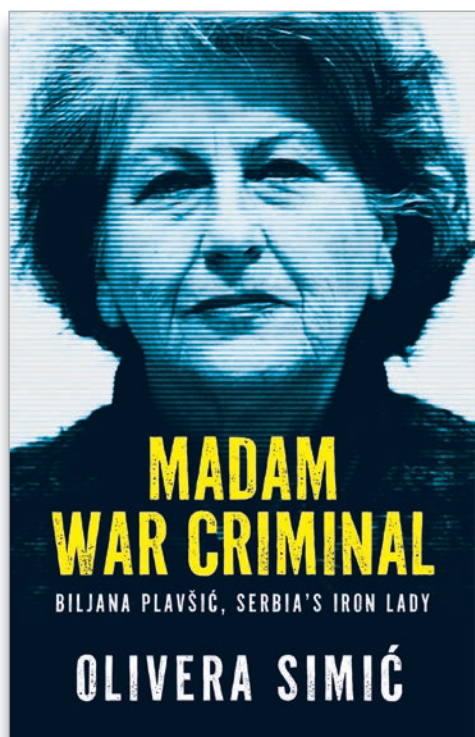
288pp

£25.00 Hardback

Current Affairs / War Studies / Technology

World rights

Sheds light on the inner workings of the groups responsible for deploying ransomware, and on how governments and businesses can combat the threat.



June 2025

9781805262862

216mm x 138mm

384pp

£25.00 Hardback

War Studies / History

World rights

A personal history of
conflict, imprisonment
and unrepentance, from
the only woman convicted
of crimes against humanity
for her role in the
Bosnian war.

OLIVERA SIMIĆ

Madam War Criminal

Biljana Plavšić, Serbia's Iron Lady

In 2001, Biljana Plavšić made history. Indicted by the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, she became the only female political leader ever prosecuted for mass atrocities. By the time the Tribunal closed in 2017, after 24 years in operation, she remained the only woman among the 161 people it had indicted.

Charged by the Tribunal for genocide and crimes against humanity, Plavšić's plea bargain made her the first woman to be convicted by an international court since Nuremberg. The only comparably senior Bosnian Serb politician to be sentenced was Radovan Karadžić himself—President to Plavšić's Vice-President in Bosnia's autonomous Republika Srpska, a role she then took over after the Bosnian peace. Yet until the Yugoslav wars erupted in 1991, Plavšić had been an internationally renowned scientist and faculty dean at the University of Sarajevo, with over 100 journal articles to her name.

Now in her 90s, and a free woman, Plavšić is also the Tribunal's oldest convicted defendant. Olivera Simić's gripping book is based on hundreds of hours of interviews with a stridently unrepentant war criminal, recorded over seven years. How did this biology professor end up running a vengeful ethno-nationalist movement that killed tens of thousands?

Olivera Simić is Associate Professor at Griffith University's Law School, specialising in transitional justice, international law, gender and crime. She has authored or co-edited twelve books. Her latest, *Lola's War: Rape Without Punishment*, about sexual violence in the Yugoslav wars, was shortlisted for the Australian Legal Research Book Award.

BEATRIX CAMPBELL &
RAHILA GUPTA

Planet Patriarchy

Global Tales of Feminism and Oppression

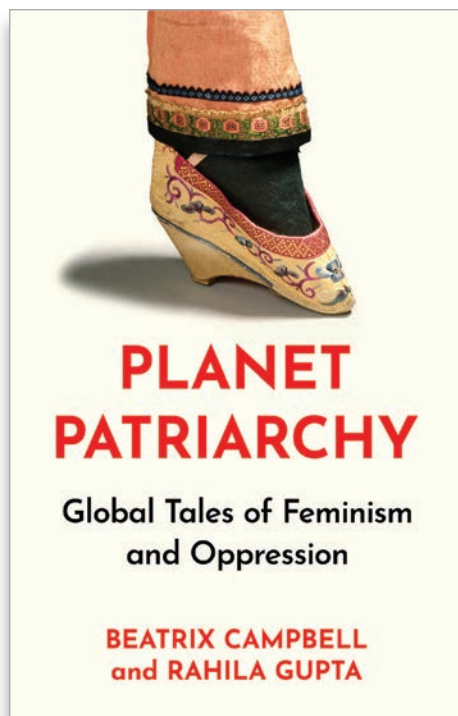
In 1995, the UN vowed to advance ‘equality, development and peace for all women, everywhere.’ Instead, in the Beijing Declaration’s thirtieth anniversary year, the world is lurching dangerously away from such democratic and progressive ideals—reinventing nationalist identities based on toxic-masculine values, and embracing economic policies against women’s interests. This reality exists in every type of country. Why does oppression, rather than feminism, still dominate our world?

This book reveals patriarchy’s many faces in the age of globalisation, exploring the political systems and cultures of eight very different societies. It takes readers from the extraordinary anti-capitalist women’s revolution in Kurdistan to the theocracies of Islamic State and Saudi Arabia; from China’s one-party state to Iceland’s democracy; and to South Africa, Russia and El Salvador—all radically changed since the fall of apartheid, communism and military dictatorship respectively.

Despite patriarchy’s remarkable shapeshifting powers to undermine feminist solidarity, *Planet Patriarchy* is equally a story of sisterhood and resistance, interviewing defenders of women’s rights about their cause and their country. Gender inequality endures, everywhere—but so does feminism. Campbell and Gupta’s fascinating discoveries show us how this timeless showdown is taking shape in, and being shaped by, the systems we live under today.

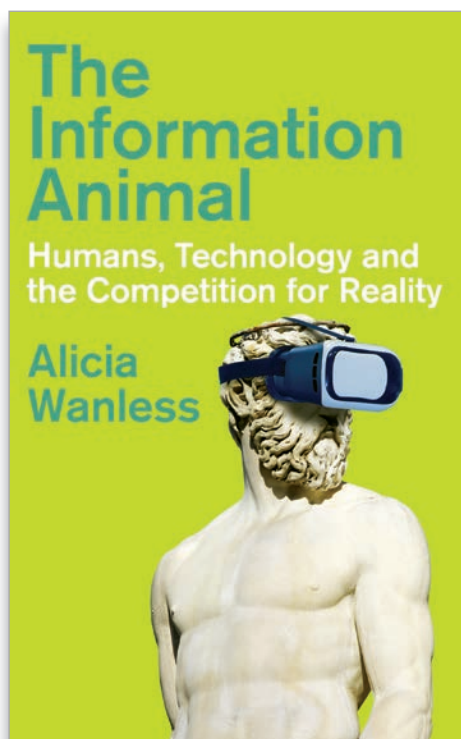
Beatrix Campbell OBE is a writer, broadcaster, playwright, and recipient of several honorary doctorates. Her pathbreaking *Wigan Pier Revisited* won the Cheltenham Festival Prize.

Rahila Gupta is a freelance journalist, author and activist, and Chair of Southall Black Sisters, which campaigns for Black/Global South women escaping violence in the UK.



July 2025
9781805262879
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392pp
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Society & Culture / Gender
World rights

A continent-crossing
panorama of women’s
rights, women’s
oppression and women’s
politics in the twenty-first
century.



May 2025

9781805262886

216mm x 138mm

272pp

£27.50 Hardback

Technology / Society & Culture

World rights

Humanity has always
craved, and feared,
information. Alicia
Wanless offers a fresh
understanding of the
relationship between
people, technology and
knowledge, today and
throughout history.

ALICIA WANLESS

The Information Animal

Humans, Technology and the Competition for Reality

Depending on which news story you read, new tools like artificial intelligence will either save or destroy the world.

The threat from emerging technology might seem unprecedented, but our response to it follows a pattern as old as civilisation. From ancient Athens to COVID-19, social media to spam, Alicia Wanless shows how humans have always consumed information, whether accurate or not. It's a familiar tale: first we develop a new technology that changes how information is shared, increasing the availability of content and the speed at which it can travel. Then, as more people engage with this new content, fresh ideas arise, often at odds with prevailing beliefs. Some use the new tools to promote their views, win power or simply profit, adding to the mounting information pollution. Competition and conflict follow. Fearing the worst, we scramble—in vain—to control flows of information and use of the new technology.

With democracies around the world lurching from crisis to crisis, knee-jerk reactions to information conflict won't suffice. What's needed is an understanding of humans' nature as 'information animals'—of our long-standing relationship with technology, and the ways in which a content-saturated world impacts the political battle for hearts and minds.

Alicia Wanless is a senior fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, where she runs the Information Environment Project. She completed her PhD in War Studies at King's College London, combining ecology and strategic theory in a new approach to understanding conflict within the information environment.

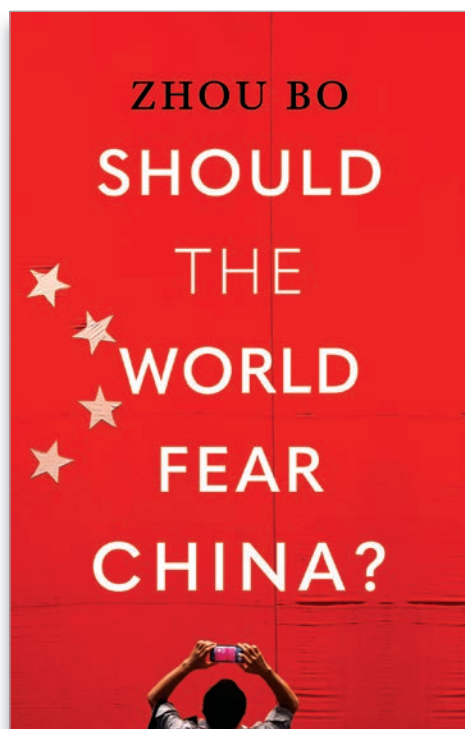
ZHOU BO

Should the World Fear China?

Our perception of China's global role and influence depends on our vantage point. For the United States, the People's Republic is a strategic competitor: the only country with both the intent to reshape the international order and, increasingly, the economic, diplomatic, military and technological means to do so. For Europe, China is a 'partner for cooperation, an economic competitor and a systemic rival'. For NATO, it is a 'decisive enabler' of Russia's war against Ukraine. Yet Beijing enjoys a far more positive image in the Global South, of which the PRC considers itself a constituent member.

In this collection of essays and opinion pieces, Zhou Bo seeks answers to some of the most important questions relating to China's role in global affairs of the twenty-first century. The landscape in which the PRC is operating is not only a world becoming less Western, but also—and more importantly—a West becoming less Western.

Are Moscow and Beijing really as closely aligned as some allege? What is the future of India–China relations? Is the West truly facing a new Cold War foe in China? Or will transnational economic links move the two power centres ineluctably closer together, rather than further apart?



March 2025

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216mm x 138mm

376pp

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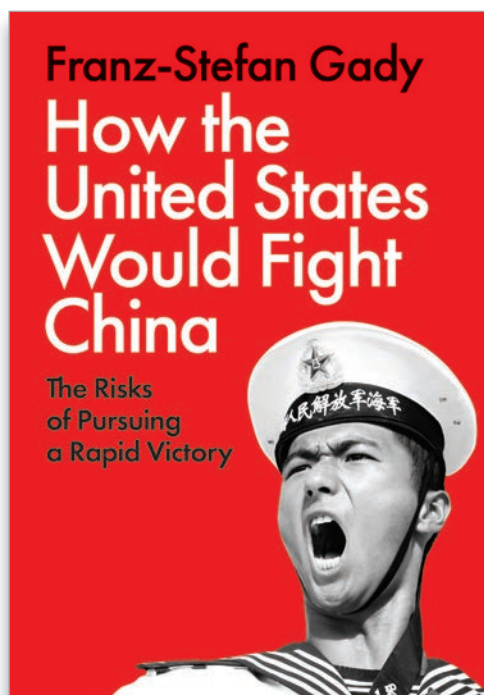
China / International Studies

World rights excluding the

Simplified Chinese language

A revealing assessment of
China's place in the world,
from one of its most
respected foreign policy
analysts.

Zhou Bo is Senior Fellow at Tsinghua University's Center for International Security and Strategy, Senior Colonel (Retired) in the People's Liberation Army, and a regular speaker at the Munich Security Conference and IISS Shangri-La Dialogue. Beyond China, he has studied at Harvard University and the Universities of Cambridge and Westminster.



June 2025
9781805263760
190mm x 126mm
256pp
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Security Studies / China
World rights

Assesses the substantial
risk of strategic defeat for
Washington in any war
with China.

FRANZ-STEFAN GADY

How the United States Would Fight China

The Risks of Pursuing a Rapid Victory

This is a detailed analysis of how the United States intends to fight a war against the People's Republic of China and why it risks strategic defeat—based on its doctrine, force structure and general 'way of war'. Franz-Stefan Gady contends that the US military's current approach to a potential war over Taiwan is flawed, relying heavily both on achieving rapid information superiority and on a decisive victory. This is unlikely to succeed, and may increase the risk of nuclear escalation between the world's only genuine superpowers.

A US-China war would more likely be characterised by prolonged attrition across multiple domains (cyber, space, air, sea and land)—a conflict for which America's military and society are ill-prepared. The US also lacks a viable blueprint, the military forces or the industrial capacity for a long war of attrition. This deficiency stems from a military culture prioritising advanced technology over mass, and the lack of political will or public readiness for the sacrifices such a conflict would require.

Gady's research and analysis, both of the highest order, reveal the significant risk of strategic defeat for the United States in a potential conflict with China, whether in the 2020s or 2030s.

Franz-Stefan Gady has advised US and European militaries on structural reform and the future of high-intensity warfare. An adjunct senior fellow with the Center for a New American Security, Washington, DC, he has conducted field research in Afghanistan, Iraq and Ukraine. His latest book is *The Return of War*.

DAVID LANE

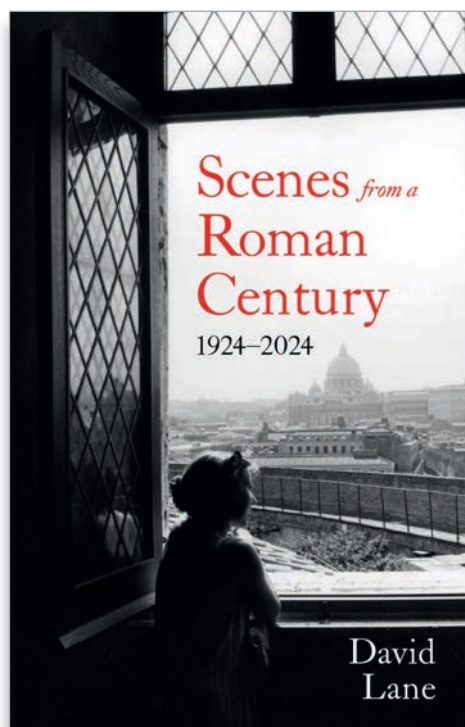
Scenes from a Roman Century 1924–2024

Hollywood film stars, fascist assassins. Bombs on San Lorenzo, *la dolce vita* on Via Veneto. Baroque fountains, umbrella pines. Urban planning, unregulated house-building. After half a century living in Rome, David Lane turns his eye on events and streetscapes in the Eternal City over the past 100 years.

Scenes from a Roman Century begins with the 1924 murder of Giacomo Matteotti—the beginning of the end for interwar democracy—and ends with the organised crime and political violence of our own era. It sketches Rome's growth under Mussolini's dictatorship, and its fortunes during the Second World War; the economic miracle of the post-war decades; and Rome's latest transformations through the turn of the millennium.

Lane sends readers meandering down the alleys, out towards the suburbs and to stand before the monumental architecture, capturing cultural and political moments from Rome's past and present. He explores fascism's material legacy across the city, terrorism and political extremism on the right and left, and the struggle to manage economic growth's burdens—ugly urban sprawl, and the crush of mass tourism in the historic centre. As pilgrims descend for the 2025 jubilee declared by Pope Francis, what is next for this ever-changing city of history?

David Lane has lived in Rome since 1972, has written for *The Guardian* and the *Financial Times*, and was *The Economist's* business and finance correspondent for Italy from 1994 to 2013. His books include *Berlusconi's Shadow*; *Into the Heart of the Mafia*; *Italian Electricity*; and two volumes of memoir.



March 2025

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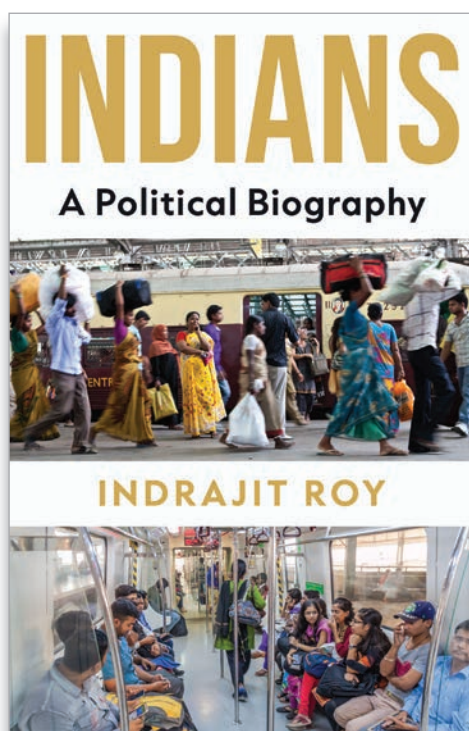
280pp

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Europe / History / Travel

World rights

An offbeat meander
through the streets and
histories of the great
Italian capital, where the
past is always present.



July 2025
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 312pp
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 History / Politics
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What can we learn from
 India's postcolonial
 experience of fashioning
 a democracy despite
 its extensive poverty,
 entrenched inequalities
 and widespread illiteracy?

INDRAJIT ROY

Indians

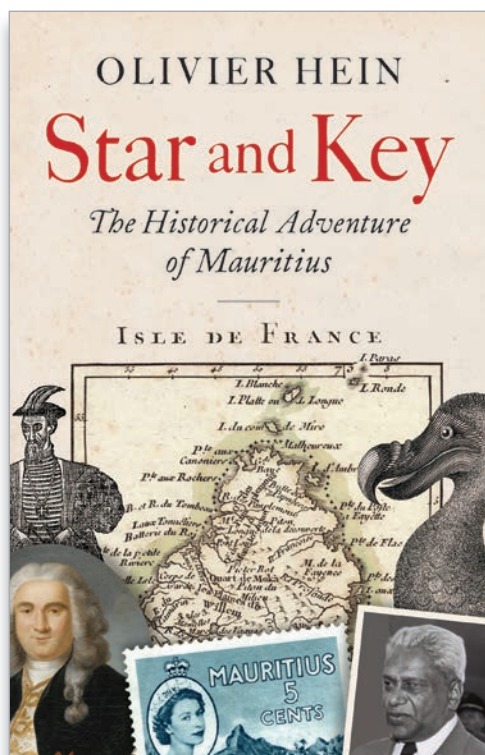
A Political Biography

With India under growing scrutiny over the erosion of its democracy since 2014, worldwide media coverage has revealed our poor grasp of it as a modern nation. In this book, Indrajit Roy sets out to understand modern Indians on their own terms. Beyond the usual polarising narratives—either pious platitudes to the ‘world’s largest democracy’, or laments over its ‘democratic backsliding’—Roy reveals the remarkable 75-year achievement of building a democratic nation in a country weathering mass poverty, severe inequality and deep social conflict. He also exposes how this process unfolds on the ground, telling the story of a nation-state via glimpses into how Indians have thought of themselves, the world and their place in it.

Indians charts the evolution of a people's identity since the spectacle, frenzy and hope of independence in 1947, and the republican constitution introduced in 1950. This is both a high-political history and, more importantly, an account of that history's interplay with the nebulous complex of ideas and passions that go into making, unmaking and remaking a democratic nation.

Roy's astute political biography of the Indian people is, ultimately, a tale of how one democracy influences, and is shaped by, its economy, society and culture.

Indrajit Roy DPhil is Professor of Politics at the University of York. His books on Indian democracy include *Politics of the Poor* and *Audacious Hope*. Indrajit has appeared on BBC Radio 3's *Free Thinking*, and his commentary has been published by The Conversation, openDemocracy, *Global Policy* and *The Economic Times*.



March 2025
 9781805262923
 216mm x 138mm
 336pp, 32 colour illus
 £25.00 Hardback
 History / Africa
 World rights

A lively history of an
 extraordinary island and
 the people who call
 it home.

OLIVIER HEIN

Star and Key

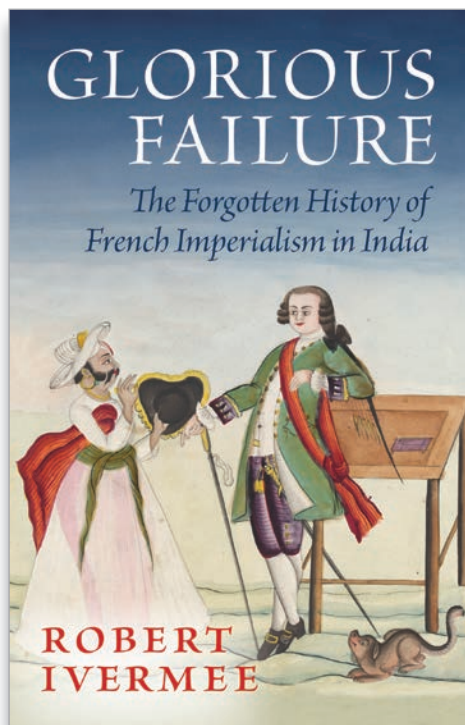
The Historical Adventure of Mauritius

Many countries have an interesting tale to tell about their origins and evolution. But few are as exciting and adventurous as that of Mauritius—‘Star and Key’ of the Indian Ocean.

A tiny island of volcanos, dodos and lagoons, Mauritius remained untouched by humans until Arab sailors discovered it in the tenth century. Settled by the Portuguese, Dutch, French and then British, it was passed from one empire to another, each recognising its immense strategic importance, yet all struggling fully to control it.

From a highly prized colonial chess piece to an independent success story, Mauritius has always been a place with outsized influence. This cultural melting-pot is home to peoples of Indian, Chinese, African and European descent, shaping the country’s vibrant literature, music, language and art—as well as its ethnic tensions, which have always bubbled near the surface. Olivier Hein’s sweeping history uncovers Mauritius’s fascinating yet little-known past, exploring the age of pirates; the horrors of indentured labour; the 1810 Franco-British war; the transformations in economy, landscape and climate during the twenty-first century; and much more. From its geological origins to the present day, this is the story of an island nation quite unlike any other.

Olivier Hein is a Mauritian-British author, whose books include *Punch a Hole in the Wind*. A regular contributor to *The Chap* magazine, he is a former UN, UK and OSCE diplomat, with postings to New York, Paris, Kosovo and Turkmenistan. He lives with his family in the Cotswolds.



June 2025

9781805262954

216mm x 138mm

412pp, 36 colour illus

£30.00 Hardback

History / Colonialism

World rights

From war with the British
to the enslavement of
Indians, Ivermee uncovers
the dark history of France's
doomed imperial project in
South Asia.

ROBERT IVERMEE

Glorious Failure

The Forgotten History of French Imperialism in India

This is a powerful new account of a chapter in history that is crucial to understand, yet often overlooked. For 150 years, from the reign of Louis XIV to the downfall of Napoleon, France was an aggressive imperial power in South Asia, driven by the pursuit of greatness and riches. Through their East India company and state, the French established a far-reaching empire in India, only to see their dominant position undermined by conflict with Indian rulers, competition from other European nations, and a series of fatal strategic errors.

Exploding the myth of a benign French presence on the subcontinent, Robert Ivermee's extensive research reveals how France's Indian empire relied on war-making, conquest, opportunistic alliances, regime change and slavery to pursue its ambitions. He considers influential French figures' reactions to the collapse of the imperial project, not least their deployment of new ideas, like freedom and the rights of man, to justify fresh ventures of domination—even as colonial authorities failed to acknowledge the equality of French India's diverse indigenous peoples, both before and after the French Revolution.

From great power rivalry to informal empire and entrenched inequalities, *Glorious Failure* tackles topics that remain vital and urgent in today's world.

Robert Ivermee is a historian of British and wider European colonialism in South Asia. He is Associate Professor at the Catholic University of Paris, and the author of *Hooghly: The Global History of a River* (also published by Hurst).

ZIAUDDIN SARDAR

Three Begums

The Women Who Shaped My Life

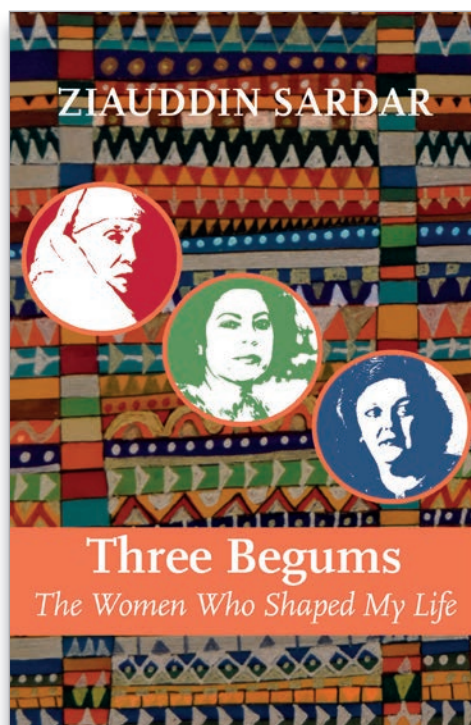
Illustrated by ZAFAR ABBAS MALIK

Three Begums revolves around the lives of three ordinary women—Hamida, Merryl and Saliha—who lived extraordinary, interwoven lives of fabulous joy, fierce pain, and untold trauma. Like many who came before them, they loved and dreamed. Although born in different times and places, they were united through their dedication to bettering the lives of all around them. Each fell victim to disease and premature death, without fulfilling their desires; but, like all desires, these continue beyond their lifetimes.

Flowing seamlessly between the biographical and autobiographical, Ziauddin Sardar captures the complexities of everyday living, human relationships and raw emotion, weaving lives and ambitions together. The great story of human societies unfolds through the eyes of an individual, with each chapter struggling to fulfil the aspirations of the last. Sardar shows how his own life was shaped by these women, and how their collective life undulated, sea-like, to the rhythms of Urdu poetry.

This genre-defying book takes readers on a journey that is inimitably personal, yet reverberates universally. Powerful and unforgettable, *Three Begums* is a profound reminder that, in a good life, the only thing that matters is virtue—particularly the virtue of compassion, and working for something greater than oneself.

Ziauddin Sardar is an award-winning, internationally renowned writer, futurist and cultural critic. His books include *Desperately Seeking Paradise: Journeys of a Sceptical Muslim*; *Reading the Qur'an*; and *Mecca: The Sacred City*. A former *New Statesman* columnist and equality and human rights commissioner, he is Editor of influential quarterly *Critical Muslim*.



March 2025

9781805263333

190mm x 126mm

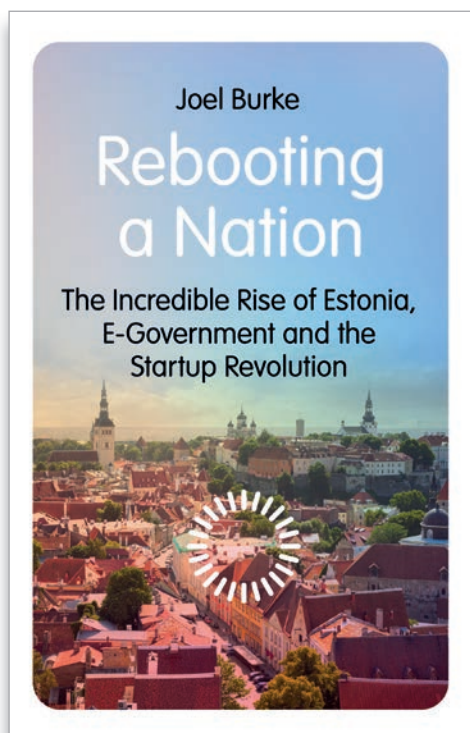
276pp, 20 b&w illus

£12.99 Paperback

Biography / Memoir

World rights

A poignant reflection on grief, empowerment and feminism through the lives of three women who shaped Ziauddin Sardar's destiny.



April 2025

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304pp

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Technology / Development Economics / Europe

World rights

In the series

NEW PERSPECTIVES ON

EASTERN EUROPE & EURASIA

Edited by Dr Ben Noble



How did a small post-Soviet state become a digital powerhouse, producing world-leading tech companies and pioneering policies for remote citizenship?

JOEL BURKE

Rebooting a Nation

The Incredible Rise of Estonia, E-Government and the Startup Revolution

Three decades after gaining independence from the Soviet Union, Estonia is a nation transformed. Today, the country is known worldwide as a startup hub, boasting billion-dollar companies including Wise, Veriff and Bolt—but even more impressive are Tallinn's pioneering efforts in e-government. With 99 per cent of government services digitalised and accessible online, citizens can vote via computer, or file their taxes online in minutes; and Estonia's use of artificial intelligence to enhance and automate its offering to citizens long predates ChatGPT.

Drawing on his experience as a former official for the Republic of Estonia, Joel Burke offers unique insight into the country's rapid rise as a tech and e-government powerhouse since the turn of the century. From the founding of Skype to the future of the e-state, he unveils the tactics and stories behind Estonia's spectacular journey—from abject poverty, after years of Soviet occupation and mismanagement, to global tech leadership. For those hoping to learn from Estonia's incredible journey, Burke offers insights into the government's use of AI, its creation of a digital society, and its cultivation of a culture driving public-sector creativity and innovation. *Rebooting a Nation* is an informative and entertaining masterclass in Estonia's modern history.

Joel Burke is a technologist and Georgetown University alumnus based in Washington D.C. With experience working on four continents, he has advised startups and governments—most notably, leading a team for the Republic of Estonia's e-Residency programme, and advising members of the United States Congress on tech and AI policy.

LEILA SIMONA TALANI &
MATILDE ROSINA

The Migration Question

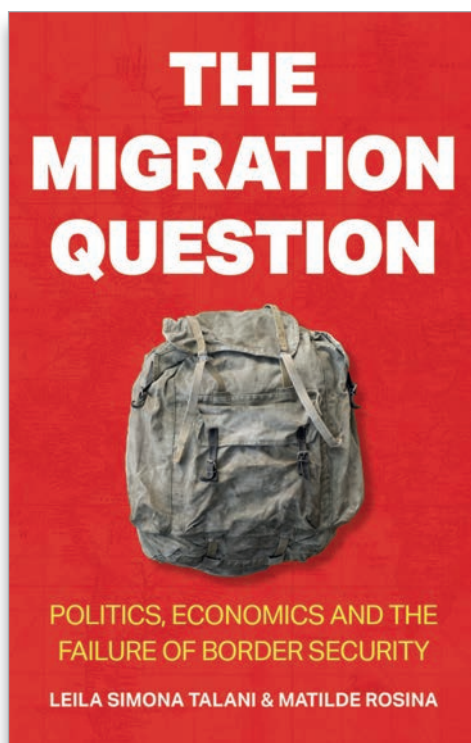
Politics, Economics and the Failure of Border Security

This authoritative book proposes a fresh perspective on international migration, offering decisive answers to the big questions, and dismantling the main myths surrounding one of the most salient issues of today's global politics. Who are these migrants? Do they steal our jobs? Can we help them in their home countries? Do border controls improve security? Are open borders desirable? Leila Simona Talani and Matilde Rosina address these issues and more in their deeply researched study of migration into both Europe and the United States.

Assessing globalisation's impact on international migration, the authors find that it is virtually impossible to stop contemporary flows from the Global South to North. In this context, policies designed to control, limit or deter immigration simply transform some or all regular migrants into irregular ones—exacerbating insecurity for citizens of the receiving state, and criminalising the migrants.

Through empirical research including original surveys and interviews, Talani and Rosina demonstrate conclusively that the only solution to this short-circuit world of securitisation and criminalisation is for the Global North to open its doors to the migrants already, inevitably, coming through—particularly since the evidence shows that regularising migration is a positive-sum game, in economic, social and security terms.

Leila Simona Talani is Professor of International Political Economy in the Department of European and International Studies, King's College London. **Matilde Rosina** PhD is Lecturer in Global Challenges at Brunel University London, and Visiting Fellow at the London School of Economics, specialising in European migration policy and politics.



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JAMES D.J. BROWN

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Richard Sorge is one of history's most famous spies. This hard-drinking, womanising, motorcycle-crashing Soviet officer penetrated the German embassy in Tokyo during the 1930s and gathered intelligence credited with changing the course of the Second World War. It is an intriguing tale; but Sorge's spy ring was just one chapter in a much longer history of Russian and Soviet espionage in and against Japan.

Cracking the Crab tells the extraordinary full story of Russian intrigue targeting Japan, from first encounters in the eighteenth century to the Soviet declaration of war in August 1945. Colourful episodes include Gojong, King of Korea, being smuggled into the Russian legation dressed as a woman in 1896; the 1927 'Tanaka Memorial', an infamous forgery purporting to be Japan's hidden plan for world domination; and the secret intelligence of 'Nero', a Soviet agent supplying invaluable insight into Japanese strategy during the Second World War.

From Russians murdered in broad daylight in Meiji Tokyo to Soviet 'white magic' and honey traps at the Battle of Nomonhan, this is a landmark history of the covert struggle between two great powers of the modern age.

James D.J. Brown is Professor of Political Science at Temple University, Japan. He is a specialist on East Asian politics and a regular media contributor, including for the BBC. His books include *Japan, Russia and their Territorial Dispute*; and *Japan's Foreign Relations in Asia* and *The Abe Legacy* (both co-edited).

BRADLEY JARDINE &
EDWARD LEMON

Backlash

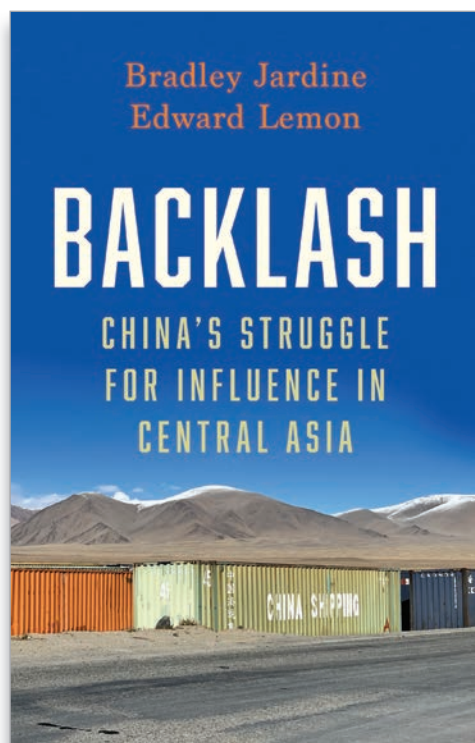
China's Struggle for Influence in Central Asia

Central Asia is at the forefront of China's efforts to assert itself as a major world power. Since 1991, Beijing has emerged as the region's main investor, creditor and trade partner, as well as an increasingly important security provider. But its growing influence has met opposition: in recent years, anti-China protests have erupted across Central Asia, threatening Beijing's shaky regional hegemony.

Bradley Jardine and Edward Lemon examine how Central Asians are pushing back against China's global ambitions, and trace Beijing's attempts to manage its image and secure its interests in response. Drawing on over a decade of fieldwork, *Backlash* reveals the uncertainties of China's rise. Far from being the omnipotent strategist often depicted in international media, Beijing is making significant missteps, alienating local people and becoming entangled in costly interventions to protect its citizens and investments. Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022 undermined Moscow's regional position, creating opportunities for China to expand its role. But to do so, it must contend with the agency of Central Asians themselves: their interests, policies and priorities.

This incisive book exposes the unravelling of China's alternative to the American-led global order, highlighting both elite and grassroots actors forcing Beijing to adapt its approach.

Bradley Jardine is Managing Director of the Oxus Society for Central Asian Affairs. Formerly editor of *The Moscow Times*, he has written for *The Guardian* and others. **Edward Lemon**, President of the Oxus Society, is Research Assistant Professor at the Bush School of Government and Public Service, Texas A&M University.

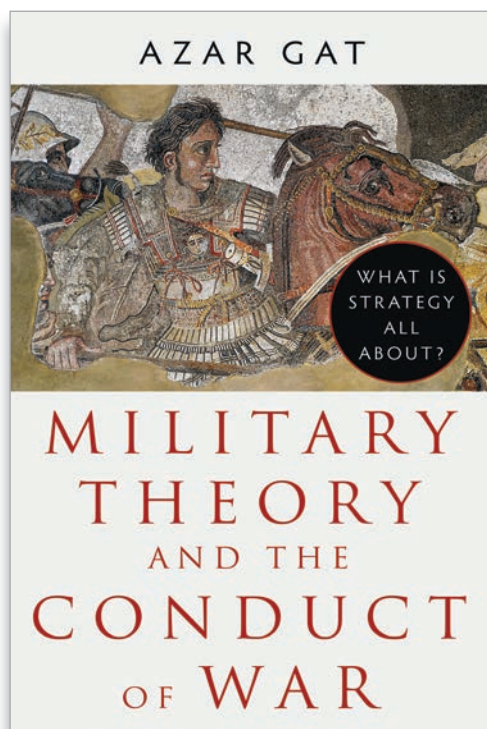


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AZAR GAT

Military Theory and the Conduct of War

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The question of whether there is a general, universal theory for the conduct of war has long preoccupied military thinkers, army personnel and students of conflict. Warfare has been radically transformed throughout history, under the influence of technological change. But is there anything enduring that can be determined about it, taught in military schools and applied in practice?

Azar Gat offers a fresh look at the relationship between politics and war, examining the meanings of 'victory', offence and defence, and the significance and role of concepts like the 'principles of war' and military 'doctrine'. He analyses the successive military innovations of modernity, including the advent of nuclear weapons and the ongoing cyber and robotics revolutions of our own times. He also explains why guerrilla warfare and terrorism have grown increasingly important, and where they are heading.

With China and Russia posing a growing challenge to the global order today, Gat asks if war is truly in our nature—or if it is, in fact, declining. This is a vital text for all students of war, whether in academia, in the military or among the public at large.

Is there a universal theory
 for the conduct of war?

Azar Gat is Ezer Weitzman Chair for National Security at Tel Aviv University, and the author of war and military theory books that have been translated into many languages. His ten volumes include *A History of Military Thought*; *War in Human Civilization*; and *War and Strategy in the Modern World*.

TYCHO VAN DER HOOG

Comrades Beyond the Cold War

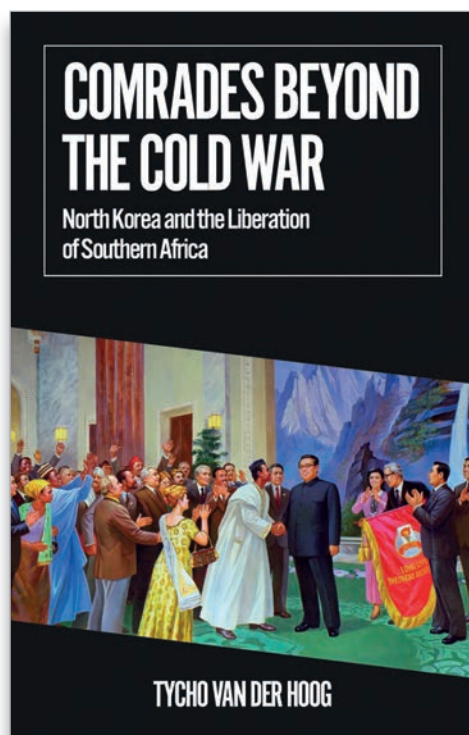
North Korea and the Liberation of Southern Africa

North Korea was an important player in the decolonisation of Africa. Freedom fighters across the continent received vital assistance from Pyongyang, and almost all southern African independence leaders travelled to the North Korean capital at some point, in search of support. This alliance has continued into the twenty-first century, with African postcolonial governments throwing a lifeline to Pyongyang's increasingly isolated economy by hiring North Korean companies, despite United Nations sanctions.

Tycho van der Hoog examines the relations between victorious southern African liberation movements and North Korea, from the 1960s to the present. He explains why African presidents sang and danced at parties in Pyongyang, and why North Korean books were translated into Swahili and Afrikaans. He reveals how African soldiers were trained in guerrilla warfare by North Korean instructors, and how North Korean labourers construct monuments in Africa in the shape of AK-47s. And he explores the question of how revolutionary regimes, motivated by a need for survival, work together to defy the global order.

Based on extensive research across four continents—including recently disclosed African liberation archives and Korean diplomatic cables—this innovative study is the first book on African–North Korean relations.

Tycho van der Hoog is Assistant Professor of International Security Studies at the Netherlands Defence Academy. His work focuses on African international relations. He holds a PhD from the African Studies Centre of Leiden University, and has conducted extensive field research in Africa, Europe, the United States and South Korea.



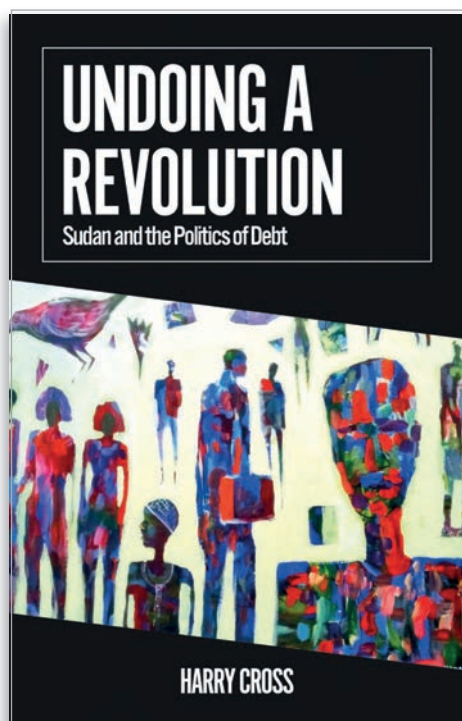
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HARRY CROSS

Undoing a Revolution

Sudan and the Politics of Debt

In 2019, a people's revolution ended the thirty-year reign of Sudan's military president Umar al-Bashir. A transitional government took power, led by esteemed international economist Abdalla Hamdok and promising a return to civilian rule. But Sudan's new government quickly imposed a shock therapy programme of cuts, privatisations and devaluation, following the diktat of foreign lenders. In 2021, as Sudan grew poorer, the army seized on popular discontent to launch a coup, burying hopes for a democratic transition. But why did Sudan's first civilian government in more than a quarter-century bend to the will of creditors at this crucial moment in the country's history? The answer lies in an unwieldy and unpayable debt burden that has long constricted Sudanese politics and society.

Undoing a Revolution narrates the history of sovereign debt in Sudan from independence to the present, revealing the innovative policies adopted by Sudanese governments to manage their place in the global economy. But it also shows how external actors have leveraged the power of debt to impose their will and wreak havoc. With Sudan embroiled in civil war since 2023, Harry Cross explores the political implications of sovereign debt for states and societies across Africa, and around the world.

Harry Cross specialises in the economic and financial systems of contemporary Sudan. He has taught at Prince Mohammad bin Fahd University in Saudi Arabia, and the University of Liverpool. Currently working on the response to Sudan's civil war for the research charity Impact, he holds a doctorate from Durham University.

MICK BROWN

The Nirvana Express

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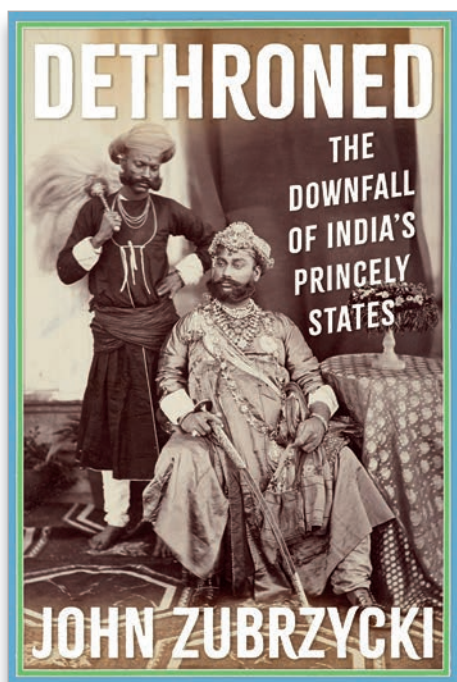
The captivating story of the West's love affair with Indian spirituality—from the orientalism of the British Empire to modern counterculture.



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Mick Brown writes regularly for *The Daily Telegraph*. His books include *The Spiritual Tourist: A Personal Odyssey Through the Outer Reaches of Belief*; *The Dance of 17 Lives: The Incredible True Story of Tibet's 17th*

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John Zubrzycki PhD has worked in India as a foreign correspondent and diplomat. His books with Hurst are *Dethroned*; *The House of Jaipur*; and *Empire of Enchantment*, chosen by William Dalrymple

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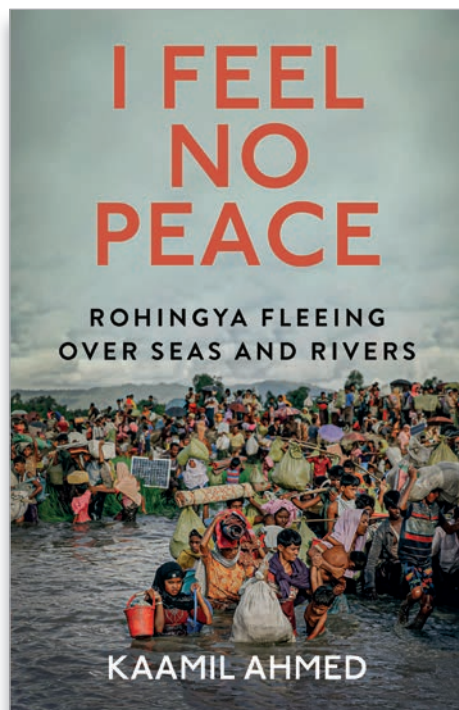
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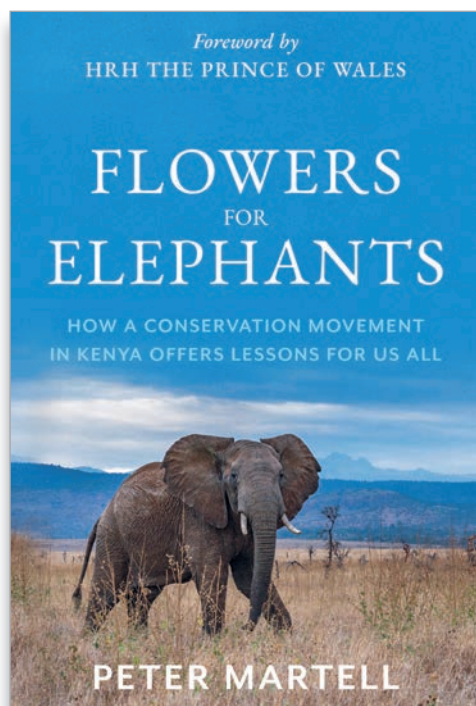
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Kaamil Ahmed is
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development. Born
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previously lived in and
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Kaamil studied at Queen Mary University of
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Peter Martell has reported from across Africa, Asia and the Middle East for two decades. His book on South Sudanese independence, *First Raise A Flag* (also published by Hurst), was an

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HENRIK MEINANDER

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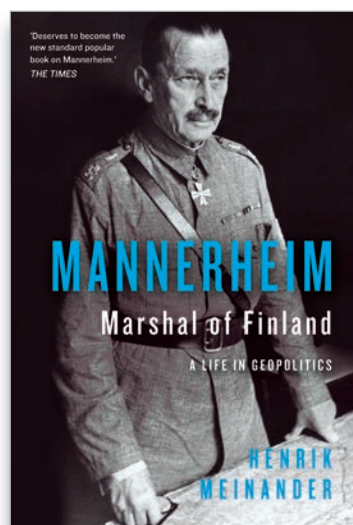
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Henrik Meinander is Professor of History at the University of Helsinki, formerly curator of Helsinki’s Mannerheim Museum and head of the Finnish Institute in Stockholm. His many books on Finnish and Nordic history include *A History of Finland*, also published by Hurst, which has been translated into seventeen languages.



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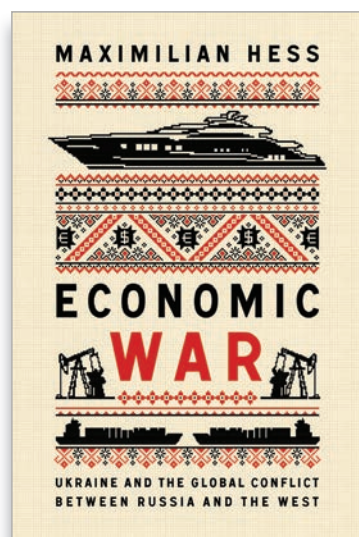
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Maximilian Hess is a writer and the founder of the political risk consultancy Enmetena Advisory. He is also a fellow at the Foreign Policy Research Institute and an associate Russia and Eurasia fellow at the International Institute for Strategic Studies. Max lives in London with his beloved Airedale terrier, Koba.



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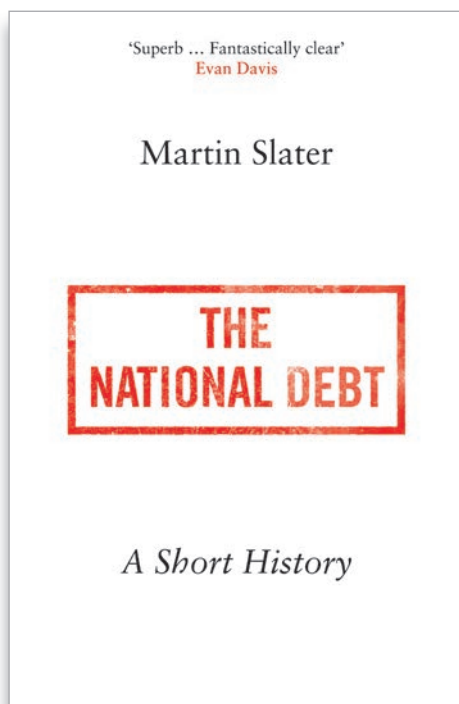
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Martin Slater was an economics fellow at St Edmund Hall, University of Oxford, for over thirty years, retiring in 2013. He also served as Oxford’s economics sub-faculty chair and as a managing editor of *Oxford*

Economic Papers. Principally an industrial economist, he is also interested in the peculiarities of debt.

MARION WALLACE

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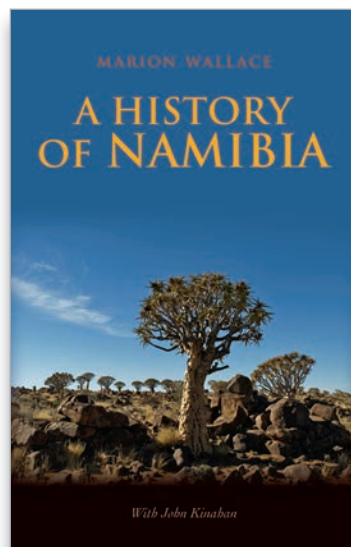
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Marion Wallace is a historian focusing particularly on Namibia, a curator, and a library and archive specialist.



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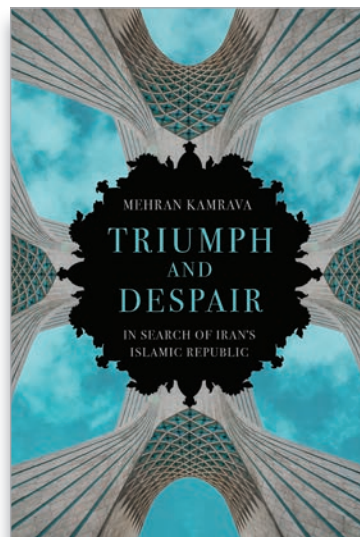
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Mehran Kamrava is Professor of Government at Georgetown University in Qatar, and Director of the Iranian Studies Unit at the Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies. His books on Iranian and Middle Eastern affairs include *Inside the Arab State*, also published by Hurst.



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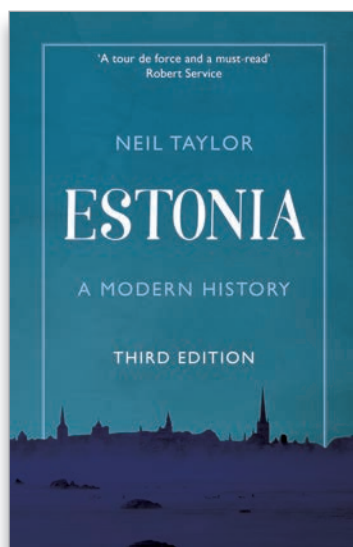
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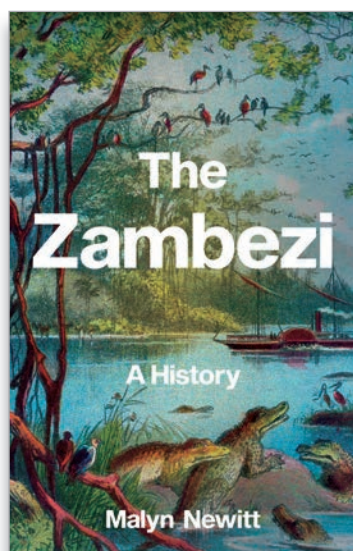
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Neil Taylor’s *Bradt Travel Guide to Estonia* (eighth edition) remains the definitive guidebook to the country. After a lifetime in the travel industry, having pioneered tourism to Estonia in 1992, he received an MBE in 2021 for contributions to UK–Estonia relations. He divides his time between London and Tallinn.

MALYN NEWITT

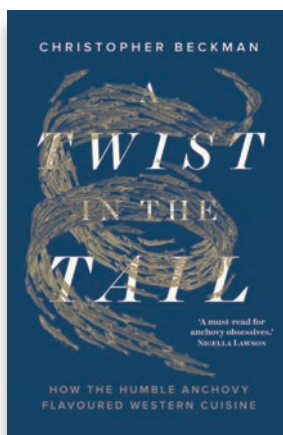
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Malyn Newitt is former deputy vice-chancellor of the University of Exeter, and the first holder of the Charles Boxer Chair, King’s College London. He has authored more than twenty books on Portugal and Portuguese colonial history, including *A Short History of Mozambique* and *Emigration and the Sea*, both published by Hurst.



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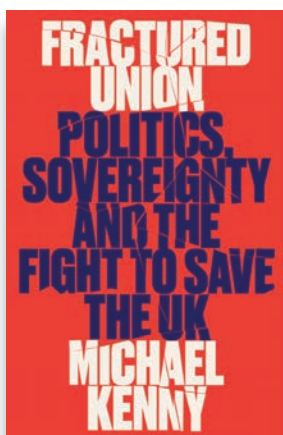
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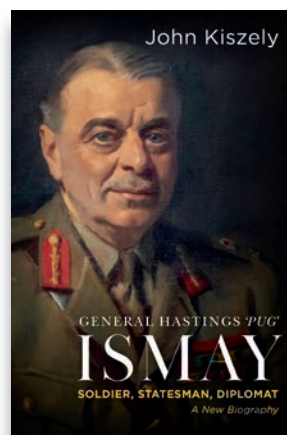
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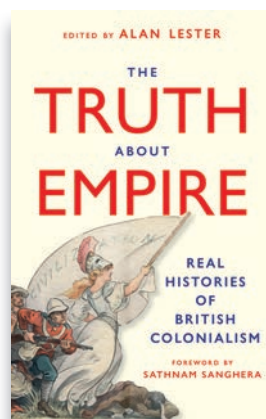
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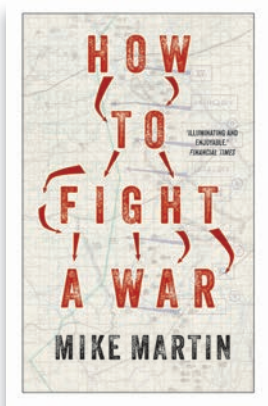
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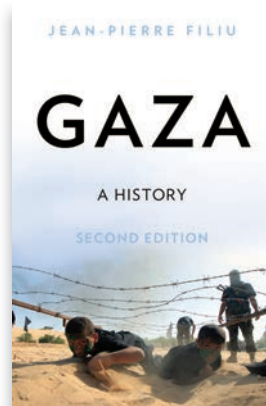
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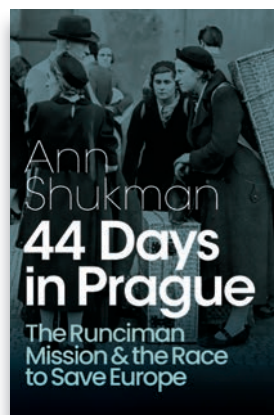
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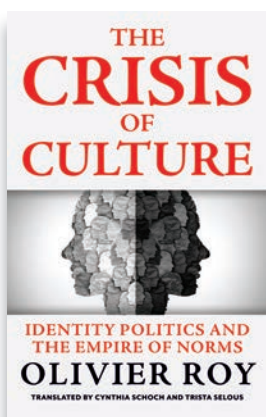
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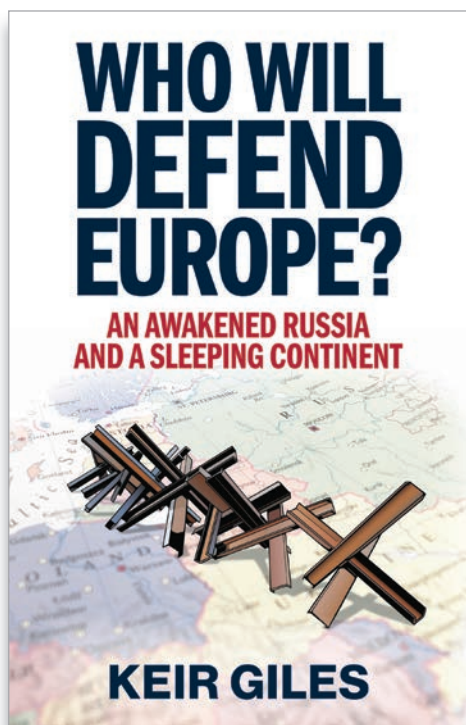
‘Remarkable ... a book on identity politics that neither condemns nor embraces it ... a nuanced cultural dissection.’
— *Financial Times*



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‘A brave book, fluently written.’
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— *Geographical*



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Europe is sleepwalking
into disaster. Who will
rouse it to face the
Russian threat?

KEIR GILES

Who Will Defend Europe?

An Awakened Russia and a Sleeping Continent

Who will defend Europe? The answer should be obvious: Europe should be able to defend itself. Yet, for decades, most of the continent enjoyed a defence holiday, outsourcing protection to the United States while banking an increasingly illusory 'peace dividend'. Now, after three decades of reducing armed forces and drawing down defence industries, Europe finds itself close to unprotected—while Russia is intent on continuing its war of expansion, and the US is distracted and divided.

In this urgent, vital book, Keir Giles lays out the stark choices facing leaders and societies as they confront the return of war in Europe. He explains how the West's unwillingness to confront Russia has nurtured the threat, and that Putin's ambition puts the whole continent at risk. He assesses the role and deficiencies of NATO as a guarantor of hard security, and whether the EU or coalitions of the willing can fill the gap. Above all, Giles emphasises the need for new leadership in defence of the free world after the US has stepped aside—and warns that the UK's brief moment of setting the pace for Europe has already been squandered.



Keir Giles has advised governments worldwide on the Russian threat. A senior fellow with Chatham House's Russia and Eurasia Programme, and Director of the Conflict Studies Research Centre, he is a regular commentator for the BBC and

international media. His prescient books include *What Deters Russia* and *Moscow Rules*.

DIANA DARKE

Stealing from the Saracens

How Islamic Architecture Shaped Europe

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— *Los Angeles Times*

‘Extraordinarily ambitious ... part cri de coeur and part textbook on Islamic architecture and its influence on the West.’ — *The Times Literary Supplement*

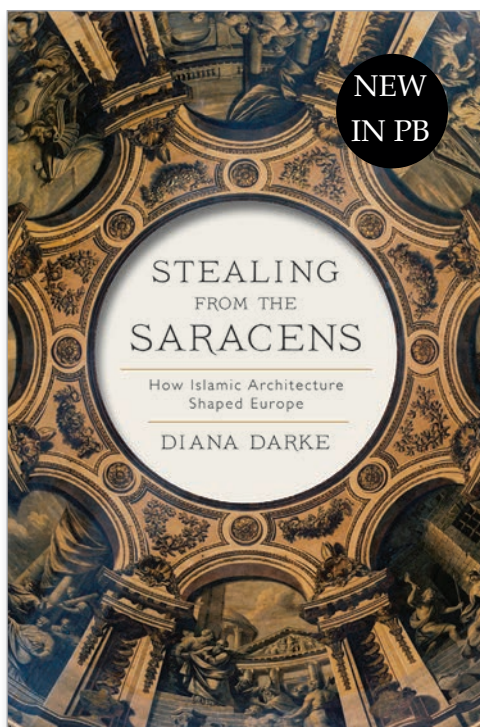
‘Intriguing and eye-opening.’ — *Asian Review of Books*

‘Original and enlightening.’ — Venetia Porter, The British Museum



Diana Darke has spent four decades in the Middle East. Her books include *Islamesque* (forthcoming from Hurst), *My House in Damascus* and *The Ottomans*. A non-resident scholar at Washington DC’s Middle East

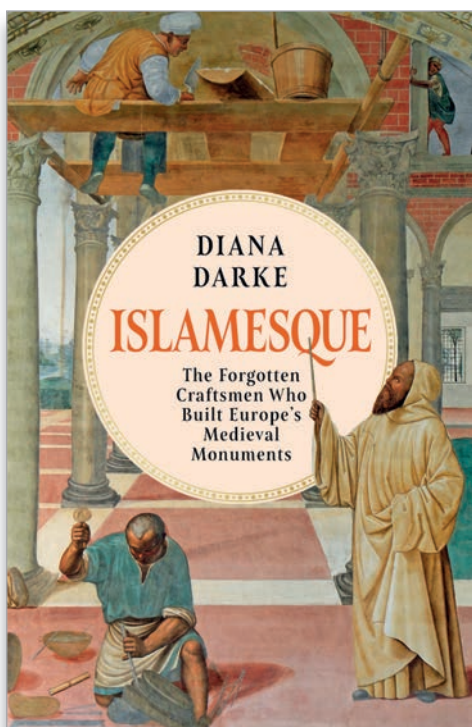
Institute, she holds degrees in Arabic and in Islamic Art and Architecture.



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the Arabic & Turkish languages

A revealing history of Islamic architectural influence on Europe’s cathedrals, palaces and monuments.

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**A fascinating exploration
of Europe's medieval
architectural wonders—
and the Muslim master-
builders behind them.**

DIANA DARKE

Islamesque

The Forgotten Craftsmen Who Built Europe's Medieval Monuments

Who really built Europe's finest Romanesque monuments? Abbots and bishops presiding over holy sites receive mentions aplenty throughout history, while their highly skilled creators remain anonymous. But the buildings speak for themselves.

In this groundbreaking book, Middle East cultural historian Diana Darke explores the evidence embedded in medieval monasteries, churches and castles across Europe, from Mont Saint-Michel and the Leaning Tower of Pisa to Durham Cathedral and the Basilica of Santiago de Compostela. Tracing the origins of key decorative and architectural innovations during this pre-Gothic period—acknowledged as the essential foundation of all future European construction styles—she sheds new light on the mystery masons, carpenters and sculptors behind these masterpieces.

Her discoveries are dramatic. At a time when Christendom lacked such expertise, Muslim craftsmen, with their advanced understanding of geometry and complex ornamentation styles, dominated the high-end construction industry in Islamic Spain, Sicily and North Africa, spreading their knowledge and techniques across Western Europe. Challenging Euro-centric assumptions about the continent's built heritage, Darke uncovers the profound influence of the Islamic world in 'Christian' Europe, and argues that 'Romanesque' architecture, a fiction first invented by nineteenth-century French art historians, should be recognised as what it truly is: Islamesque.

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KIERAN CONNELL

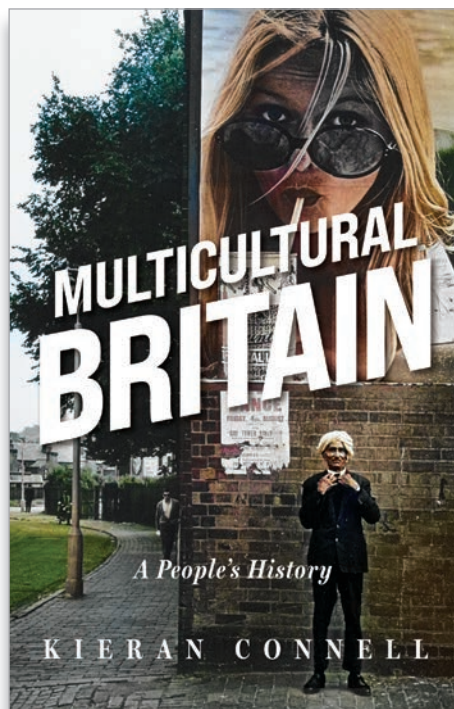
Multicultural Britain

A People's History

Between the end of the Second World War and the first decades of the twenty-first century, Britain became multicultural. This book tells the remarkable story of how that came about. Kieran Connell, an historian of Irish and German heritage who grew up in Balsall Heath, inner-city Birmingham, takes readers into multicultural communities across Britain at key moments in their development. He also shines a light on the shifting nature of British racism, revealing the day-to-day effects it had—and still has—on ethnic minority groups.

Journeying far beyond London, *Multicultural Britain* delves into the messy contradictions at the heart of a country's transition into the diverse society we know today. It highlights the vital role of ordinary people in the making of multicultural Britain, and takes aim at public leaders, from Enoch Powell to Harold Wilson to Margaret Thatcher, who have too often legitimised racism for their own political ends.

In post-Brexit Britain, between Black Lives Matter and anxieties around immigration, how communities and individuals live together remains one of the most urgent issues of our time. Connell offers a fresh perspective on British multiculturalism as a rich and complex lived reality—not simply as a problematic idea.

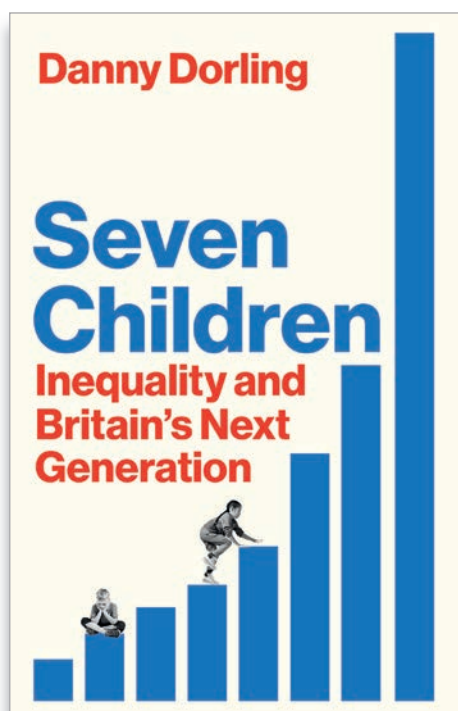


August 2024
 9781911723516
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 Sociology / History
 World rights

A new history of how we became multicultural, revealing the personal and community relationships that underpin Britain's post-imperial transition.



Kieran Connell is a writer and historian based at Queen's University Belfast. His first book, *Black Handsworth: Race in 1980s Britain*, was short-listed for the Whitfield Book Prize.



August 2024

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Current Affairs / Sociology /

Economics

World rights

**We are all getting poorer.
What does that reality
look like for British
children, and for their
future life chances?**

DANNY DORLING

Seven Children

Inequality and Britain's Next Generation

Suppose you chose seven typical children to represent today's UK. Who would they be? What would they reveal?

Seven Children is about hidden realities of injustice and hope. In his highly original, thought-provoking new book, inequality writer Danny Dorling constructs seven 'average' children from millions of statistics—each child symbolising the very middle of a parental income bracket. From the poorest to the wealthiest, Dorling's seven children were born in 2018, when the UK faced its worst inequality since the Great Depression and became Europe's most socially divided nation. They turned 5 in 2023, amid a devastating cost-of-living crisis. Their country has Europe's fastest-rising child poverty rates, and even the best-off of the seven is disadvantaged. Yet aspirations prevail, and change is possible.

Immersive and intimate, this book gets to the heart of post-pandemic Britain's most pressing economic, social and political issues. What do we miss when we focus only on the superrich and the most deprived? What kinds of lives are British children living, between those two extremes? Who are today's real middle class? And what if tomorrow's challenge isn't spiralling inequality, but how to reverse the new trend that leaves *all* children worse off than their parents?



Danny Dorling is a social scientist whose books include *Inequality and the 1%* and *All That Is Solid*. He is the Halford Mackinder Professor of Geography at the University of Oxford,

and a patron of RoadPeace, Comprehensive Future and Heeley City Farm. In his spare time, he makes sandcastles.

GABRIEL GAVIN

Ashes of Our Fathers

Inside the Fall of Nagorno-Karabakh

On 19 September 2023, war broke out once again in Nagorno-Karabakh, a tiny breakaway state nestled in the mountains at the very edge of Europe.

For three decades since the fall of the Soviet Union, this battle-scarred geopolitical hotspot had been fought over in a bloody standoff that left tens of thousands dead and as many as a million people homeless. This time, though, things were different. Within 24 hours, Armenian forces surrendered in the face of an overwhelming Azerbaijani offensive, as Russian peacekeepers abandoned their positions—and the entire local population packed their bags to flee.

Through the eyes of ordinary Armenians and Azerbaijanis, Gabriel Gavin chronicles how Nagorno-Karabakh went from an ancient home shared by both peoples to a land of empty houses and untended graves, as the world looked on.

Ashes of Our Fathers offers unprecedented insight not only into a simmering ethnic conflict inside the Kremlin's self-declared sphere of influence, but into the lives, loyalties and national ideas of the people caught up in the chaos; and into the decisions, from Yerevan and Baku to Moscow and Washington to Tel Aviv and Tehran, that led directly to one of the worst humanitarian catastrophes of the 2020s.



Gabriel Gavin is a journalist and writer from Oxford, England. He has covered the politics and foreign affairs of the former Soviet Union and Turkey as a reporter for *Politico*, as well as for outlets including *Time*, *Foreign Policy* and *The Spectator*. This is his first book.



January 2025

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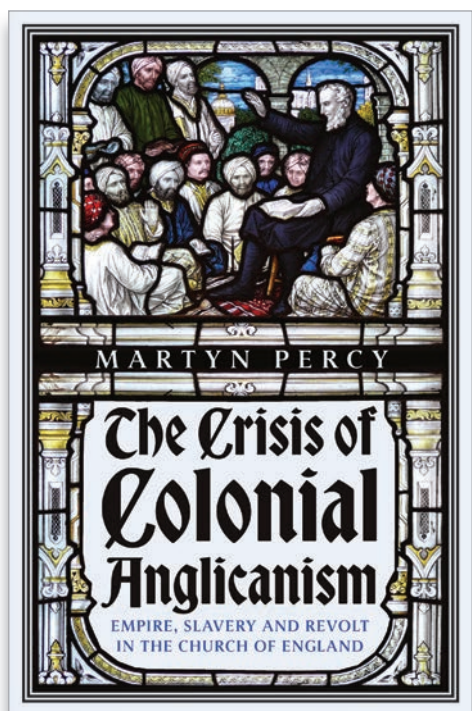
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Current Affairs / Eurasia / Conflict

World rights

Vivid reportage from a war at the edge of Europe, between two ancient peoples caught up in great power interests and clashing narratives of home.



January 2025
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 History
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A hard-hitting critique of the Church of England as a social, spiritual and financial driver and beneficiary of the British Empire.

MARTYN PERCY

The Crisis of Colonial Anglicanism

Empire, Slavery and Revolt in the Church of England

This book offers a fresh, bold and unsettling truth: the British Empire and Great Britain are primarily English constructions; and the Church of England has presumed to act for and benefit from English enterprise and exploitation, serving as the spiritual arm of the imperial project. English Anglicanism has developed itself as the lead character within its own 'serious fiction'—the main religious player in a drama of Church and Empire. Yet, in collusion with colonialism, it is now a prisoner of its own historical amnesia.

Martyn Percy examines the English interests concealed in appeals to Britishness, and shows how slavery, exploitation, classism and racism played their part in the elitist and hierarchical worldviews propagated by the English to bolster both Empire and Church. Yet, by regarding the rest of the world as lesser, both institutions have slowly degenerated in global standing. Now, 'Britain' and the Church of England are no more than minor national players on the world stage.

Religious, social and political imperialism are founded on the deprecation of others. Yet those peoples who were once looked down upon have fought for equality and independence. Today, the worldwide Anglican Communion faces a new era of moral reckoning.



Martyn Percy is Provost-Theologian for Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui; Senior Research Fellow at the James Hutton Institute; and Honorary Fellow at the Universities of Edinburgh, London and Oxford. He has written for *The Guardian* and *The*

Times, and is the only living theologian featured in *The Da Vinci Code*.

CHARLES HECKER

Zero Sum

The Arc of International
Business in Russia

When the hammer and sickle flag came down at the Kremlin at the end of 1991, a feverish new market opened for business: Russia. In 2022, as soon as Putin's troops invaded Ukraine, that market started to collapse, as Western firms fled the skyscrapers of Moscow and beyond.

No other country of this scale has transformed itself so dramatically, so quickly—not just once, but twice. Over three turbulent decades, a wild, proto-capitalist free-for-all came seductively close to becoming a predictable place to do business. And then it all unravelled. Russia's post-Soviet years have seen phenomenal successes, crushing failures, and the creation and destruction of enormous fortunes. How did it all happen?

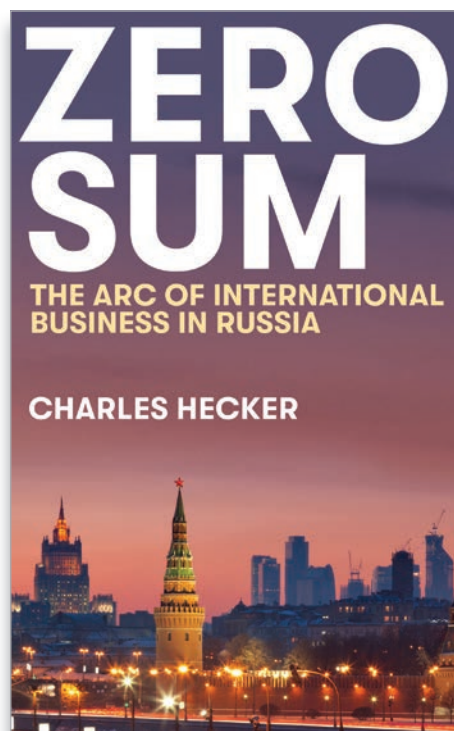
Charles Hecker tells the gripping, three-act story of international business in Russia since the fall of the USSR. What have global companies learnt—or failed to learn—about Russia over the course of this adventure? And beyond Russia, what do we now understand about the way countries and companies interact in the face of relentless change? *Zero Sum* brings to life the complexity, the nuance and the vivid colour of one of the greatest experiments in the history of global commerce.



Photo: Graham Flack

Charles Hecker has spent forty years travelling and working in the Soviet Union and Russia. He has worked as a journalist and a geopolitical risk consultant, and has lived in Miami, Moscow and London.

A fluent Russian speaker, he holds degrees from the University of Pennsylvania and Harvard University.



November 2024

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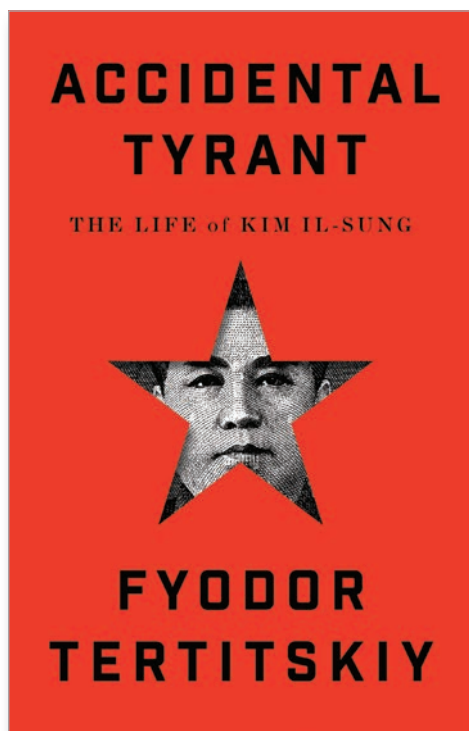
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Edited by Dr Ben Noble



An insider's account of the
rise and fall of Western
business ventures in
post-Soviet Russia.



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Biography / East Asia

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A masterful new
biography of North
Korea's despotic founding
father and his enduring
impact on his country
today.

FYODOR TERTITSKIY

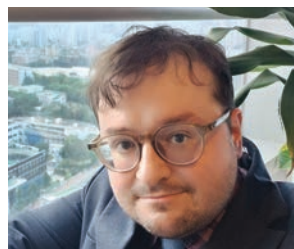
Accidental Tyrant

The Life of Kim Il-sung

Kim Il-sung was the enigmatic architect of North Korea. His life is an extraordinary tale of improbable success: once a barely educated guerrilla fighter, he rose to lead the nation at the young age of 33. Against all odds, he established a horrifyingly stable dictatorial regime, one that still struggles to provide for its people, yet could obliterate Hollywood, Silicon Valley and much of East Asia in nuclear strikes.

Based on extensive new sources in Korean, Russian, Chinese and Japanese, Fyodor Tertitskiy tells the unlikely story of one of the twentieth century's most brutal but little-known dictators, from his early life in Japanese Korea to the lasting repercussions of his autocratic rule today. Tertitskiy showcases Kim's political prowess in gaining autonomy from the USSR; explores how his inept economic policy led to catastrophic famine; and highlights how he implemented a system of hereditary rule, paving the way for today's 'Supreme Leader', Kim Jong-un, to assume power and continue his grandfather's vision.

Accidental Tyrant serves as a stark cautionary tale, underscoring that the triumph of liberty is never guaranteed. Met with insufficient resistance, even the most unlikely leader can build a regime of repression and privation that long outlives its founder.



Fyodor Tertitskiy has been living in South Korea for more than a decade, where he researches North Korean political, social and military history. He has authored several books

in English and Korean, including *Soviet-North Korean Relations During the Cold War* and *The North Korean Army: History, Structure, Daily Life*.

CHRISTOPHER BECKMAN

A Twist in the Tail

How the Humble Anchovy Flavoured Western Cuisine

A Twist in the Tail takes readers on a tantalising voyage through European and American gastronomic history, following the trail of a small but mighty fish: the anchovy.

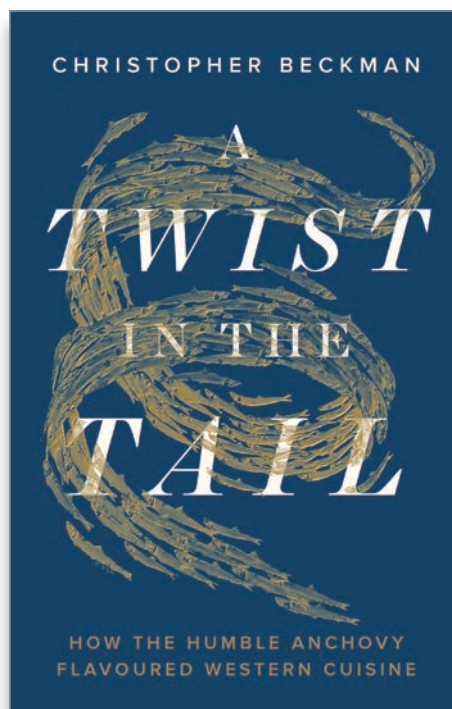
Whether in ubiquitous Roman *garum*, mass-produced British condiments, elaborate French *haute cuisine* or modern Spanish tapas, anchovies have been enhancing the flavour of many dishes for thousands of years. Yet, depending upon the time and place—and who was eating them—they have also been disdained as worthless little fish, deemed too small, bony and inconsequential for popular or elite consumption. From Western Europe to the USA, Christopher Beckman shows how the evolving and ambiguous status of anchovies provides surprising insights into the relationship between food, class and status throughout history.

Drawing on cookbooks, literature and art, this is the hidden story of the diminutive anchovy, and its outsized role in shaping the West's cuisine.



Christopher Beckman was born in San Francisco and has a doctorate in Archaeology. Based in Geneva, his research focuses on the links between material culture and subsistence patterns. He has lived in the Middle East and Africa,

with a stint in Hollywood producing horror films. This is his first book.



July 2024

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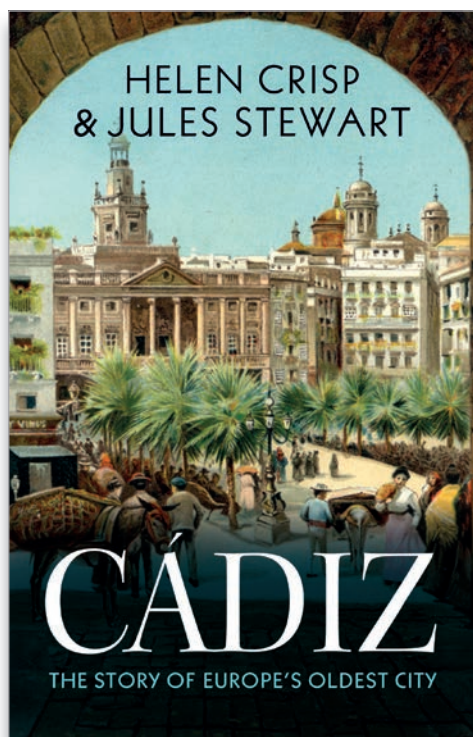
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Food & Drink / History

World rights

A captivating culinary journey through the West's love-hate relationship with anchovies.



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 History / Europe
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A captivating portrait of
 an overlooked
 Andalusian gem.

HELEN CRISP & JULES STEWART

Cádiz

The Story of Europe's Oldest City

This is the tale of Western Europe's oldest continuously inhabited city, a 3,000-year history of war and seafaring, culture and commerce, liberalism and resistance.

Helen Crisp and Jules Stewart offer a vibrant account of Cádiz past and present, from its ancient founding myths to its reinvention as a trendy tourist destination. They illuminate Cádiz's experiences under Roman and Moorish rule; explore its centuries of maritime warfare, from Francis Drake to the Battle of Trafalgar; and probe its role in Spain's 'Golden Age' of empire, when it dominated trade with the New World. As Spain's de facto capital during the Peninsular War, Cádiz also produced Europe's first liberal constitution in 1812. And in 1936, it was the port of entry for Franco's troops, mustered to overthrow the Republic.

Cádiz has excited the passions of travellers for centuries. Lord Byron was enchanted by the ladies of the city, whom he described as 'form'd for all the witching arts of love'. Benjamin Disraeli fell in love with Cádiz in 1830, seeing 'Figaro in every street and Rosita in every balcony'. This beautifully illustrated book, the first to tell the full story of this intriguing and extraordinary city, brings its past to life.

Helen Crisp is fascinated by Spain's history, landscapes and lesser-known museums. She is co-author, with Jules Stewart, of *Madrid: Midnight City* and *Strike Up the Band: New York City in the Roaring Twenties*. **Jules Stewart** is a journalist and author, whose thirteen book topics include the NYPD and Prince Albert.

RICHARD BUTTERWICK

Lithuania

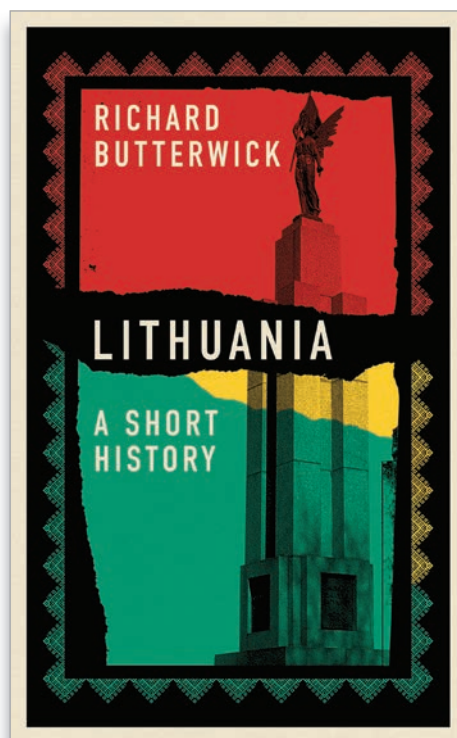
A Short History

Lithuania is often portrayed as a small nation-state that has survived against the odds of history: together with Estonia and Latvia, it won independence at the end of the First World War, lost it to the Soviet Union in 1939–40, regained it in 1990–1, and joined NATO and the EU in 2004, angering the Kremlin. But Lithuania's rich and complex history stretches back much further than these events, and much further than many realise.

In the fourteenth century, Europe's last pagan dynasty ruled a vast empire stretching from forests on the Baltic shores to the steppes north of the Black Sea. Forging a remarkable, liberty-based union with the Kingdom of Poland, for 400 years the Grand Duchy of Lithuania blocked Moscow's pretensions to rule all of Rus', particularly Belarus and Ukraine. Yet it was in competition with Poles, and under Russian imperial rule, that the modern ethnic Lithuanian nation emerged in the nineteenth century.

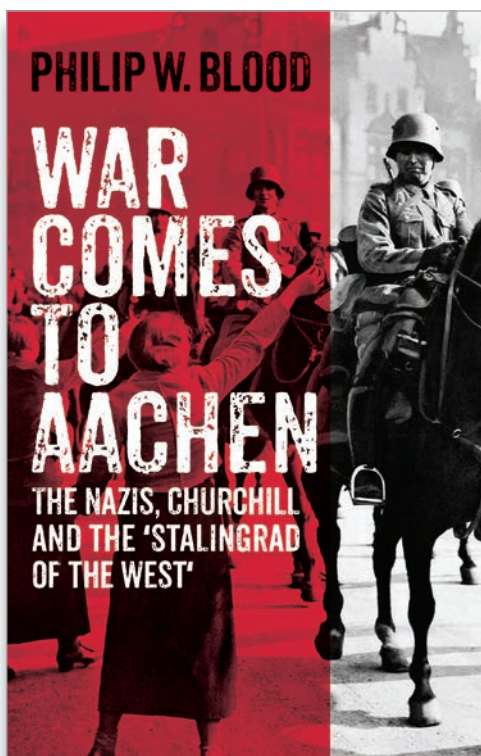
This is a lively and accessible history of a fascinating country that was once much larger than it is today; a land where, for centuries, peoples and communities—including Belarusians, Ukrainians, Germans, Poles, Russians, Jews, Karaites and Tatars—lived together in concord and discord.

Richard Butterwick is Professor of Polish-Lithuanian History at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University College London; Principal Historian of the Polish History Museum; and Chairholder of the European Civilization Chair in the College of Europe in Natolin, Warsaw. His books include the award-winning *The Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, 1733–1795*.



December 2024
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World rights

The first popular history of a small post-Soviet state, and a very old European power.



September 2024
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 History
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A micro-history of
 ‘Charlemagne’s city’ in the
 First and Second World
 Wars, its inhabitants’
 embrace of Nazism, and
 Churchill’s response.

PHILIP W. BLOOD

War Comes to Aachen

The Nazis, Churchill and the ‘Stalingrad of the West’

This book narrates the tumultuous era of total war through the fate of Aachen—Imperial Germany’s seat of power for 600 years, site of Charlemagne’s coronation as Holy Roman Emperor, and a place with greater geopolitical significance for Adolf Hitler in 1944 than Stalingrad in 1943.

This was a stark contrast with the events of the Great War: in 1918, the Imperial German Army had abandoned Aachen in a rout-like flight. In the Nazi period, however, Aachen became a major symbol of Germany’s defiance against the Allies. For Hitler—his mind warped after surviving the Stauffenberg bomb plot—Germany’s westernmost city became pivotal in his last-ditch defence of the ‘thousand-year Reich’.

War Comes to Aachen weaves together the city’s story from 1900, tracing its entrenched Catholic orthodoxy, its growth as an industrial urban centre, the demise of democracy, the rise of Nazism, the two world wars, and the Holocaust. The book surveys Churchill’s wartime leadership and the destruction of pre-war Aachen through the lenses of military history and the anthropology of aerial bombing. Philip W. Blood’s absorbing history concludes with Allied efforts to reshape German society after 1945, and with the use of remembrance as a means of socio-political control.

Philip W. Blood is a British military historian who lives in Aachen. His books include *Birds of Prey: Hitler’s Luftwaffe*, *Ordinary Soldiers*, and *the Holocaust in Poland*.

ANNA BETH KEIM

Heaven Does Not Block All Roads

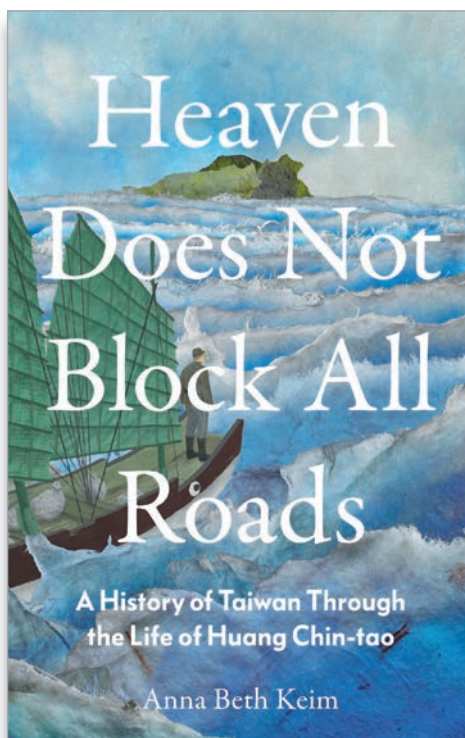
A History of Taiwan Through the Life of Huang Chin-tao

Huang Chin-tao was born in 1926, when Taiwan was still part of the Japanese Empire. By the time he died in 2019, Taiwan was a bustling, high-tech democracy—and Huang had lived through every twist and turn along the way. He served as a Japanese soldier in China during World War II; joined an armed uprising against Taiwan's Chinese Nationalist post-war government; spent twenty-four years imprisoned during the island's decades of martial law; and finally emerged to help lead the pro-democracy movement of the 1980s in his hometown, Nantun.

Drawing upon archives, memoirs, interviews and more, Anna Beth Keim tells the story of Taiwan through the journey of one extraordinary individual. From his childhood scuffling with Japanese children to his transformation into a 'democracy farmer', Huang's life vividly reflects contemporary Taiwanese history, and continues to inspire young Taiwanese today who are fighting to keep their home independent.

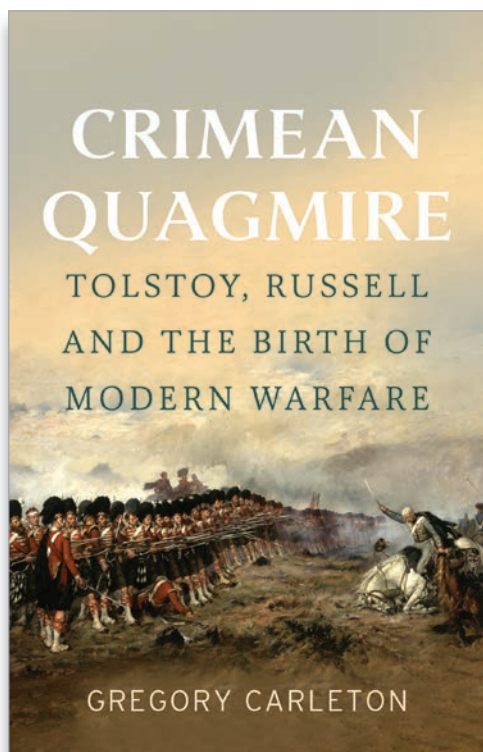
Over roughly a century, the island transitioned from an imperial outpost to an authoritarian state to a democracy—one still at risk of being snuffed out by China. This story is uniquely Taiwanese, yet illuminates experiences shared by countries everywhere: of colonisation and its aftermath, and the ongoing struggle to be free.

Anna Beth Keim is a freelance writer and translator, who has been reporting on Taiwan since 2015. Her work has appeared in *ChinaFile*, *Foreign Policy*, *YaleGlobal* and *The Foreign Service Journal*. This is her first book.



January 2025
9781911723622
216mm x 138mm
352pp
£25.00 Hardback
History / Biography / East Asia
World rights

A hundred-year history of the challenges and triumphs of contemporary Taiwan, through the inspiring true story of one man who lived through it all.



August 2024
 9781911723639
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 264pp
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 History / Media Studies
 World rights

The intriguing story of how two revolutionary writers and their pioneering war reporting changed the way we think about modern conflict.

GREGORY CARLETON

Crimean Quagmire

Tolstoy, Russell and the Birth of Modern Warfare

The Crimean War was the greatest international crisis of the Victorian era. And during this conflict, two embedded writers—the young Russian officer Lev Tolstoy, and William Howard Russell, an Irish correspondent for *The Times*—brought the horrors of modern combat home to the public for the first time.

Long recognised for introducing new technologies like the rifle, railroad and telegraph, the Crimean War also irrevocably changed how we understand warfare. Stripping away the romanticism of the Napoleonic era, Tolstoy and Russell exposed how their governments were using lies and coverups to propel their nations into the first quagmire of our age. Their writing shocked readers, demonstrating that their loved ones were dying needlessly—a revelation confirmed by soldiers' letters and diaries. Never before had the world witnessed such a showdown between the voices of private individuals and those of their governments. Tolstoy and Russell confronted the politically powerful and paid dearly for their honesty, but their legacy remains almost unparalleled.

Crimean Quagmire is the first book to tell the full story of both writers and their impact on modern warfare and reporting. As quagmires have increasingly come to define contemporary conflict, the Crimean War has never been more relevant.

Gregory Carleton is Professor of Russian Studies at Tufts University. He has devoted his career to engaging students and readers with the challenges and mysteries of Russia's culture, history, literature and people, publishing extensively on these topics. *Crimean Quagmire* is his fourth book.

MICHAEL A. HOROWITZ

Hope and Despair

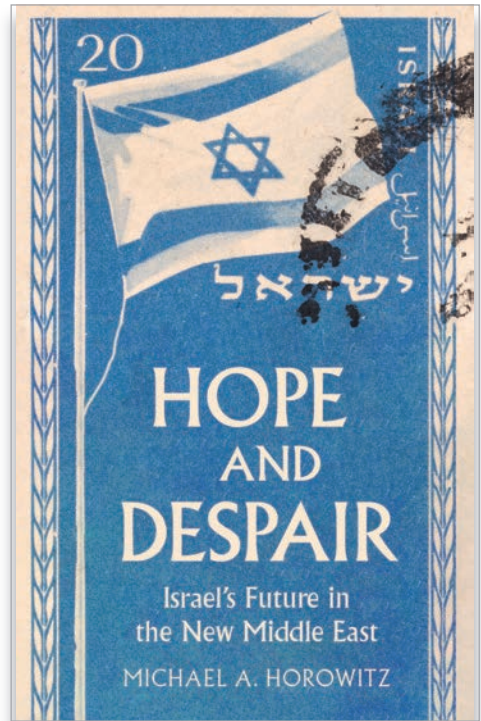
Israel's Future in the New Middle East

Days before his country signed a deal to normalise ties with Israel, the Emirati Ambassador to the US penned an article in Hebrew, directly addressing Israelis. Israel, he argued, faced a choice between engagement with the rest of the region, or isolation. His words struck a chord then, and will continue to ring true in the decades to come.

Michael A. Horowitz tells the unfolding story of this decision: of tension between the hope ushered in by the normalisation agreements, and the enduring despair both Israelis and Palestinians feel about the waning prospects of peace. Rather than examining the past, Horowitz looks to Israel's future—one marked by new opportunities, but also tremendous challenges, as the country tries to find its place in a region trying to find itself.

Israel is a ship in a storm, navigating a 'new' Middle East where unfinished revolutions, regional competition, perceived US disengagement and an unstable but menacing Iran all warrant caution. In the 'promised land' itself, existing gaps are widening, and the space for optimism is shrinking. *Hope and Despair* is a brutally honest exploration of what lies ahead for Israel: the waves, the winds, and the ray of light above the clouds.

Michael A. Horowitz is a renowned geopolitical expert, focussing on the Middle East. After serving in the IDF, he has held positions in consultancies in Israel and the Gulf, advising local and foreign governments, NGOs and global corporations. He writes commentary and analysis for both regional and international media.



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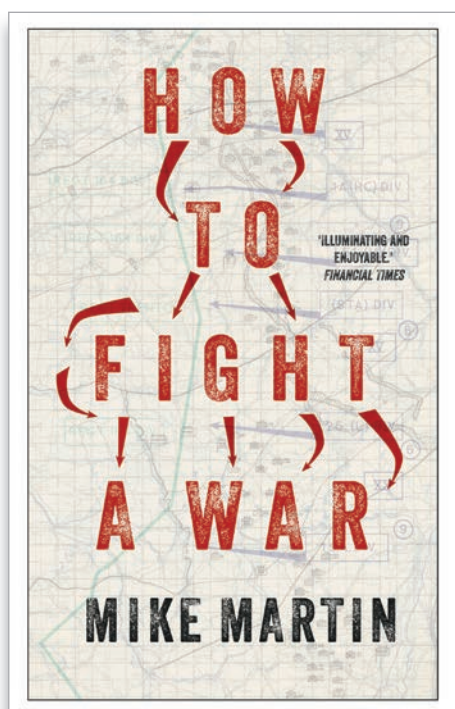
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Mike Martin is Senior Visiting Research Fellow in the Department of War Studies at King's College London, where he speaks and writes on conflict. His previous books, also published by Hurst, are *An Intimate War*; *Crossing the*

Congo; and *Why We Fight*. He tweets about conflict and geopolitics as @ThreshedThought.

OLÚFÉMI TÁÍWÒ

Against Decolonisation

Taking African Agency Seriously

Decolonisation has lost its way. Originally conceived as a struggle to escape the West's direct political and economic control, it has become a catch-all idea, often used to perform contemporary 'morality' or 'authenticity'. In the process, it suffocates African thought, and denies African agency.

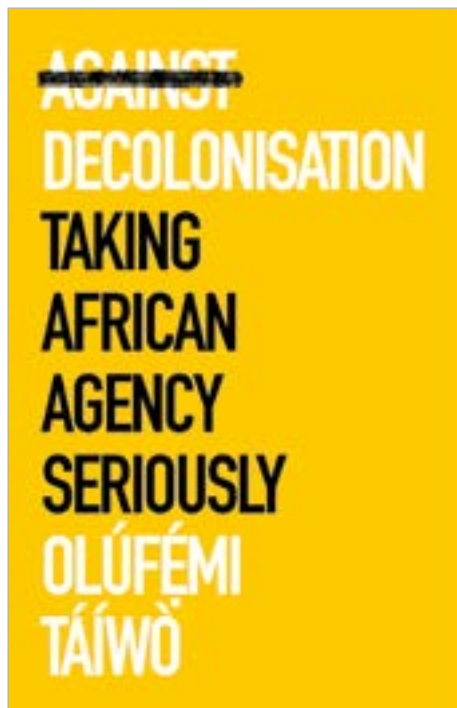
Olúfẹmi Táíwò fiercely rejects the indiscriminate application of 'decolonisation' to everything from literature, language and philosophy to sociology, psychology and medicine. He argues that the decolonisation industry, obsessed with exposing slights and cataloguing wrongs, is seriously harming scholarship on and in Africa. He finds decolonisation as applied to culture intellectually unsound and wholly unrealistic, conflating modernity with coloniality, and groundlessly advocating an open-ended undoing of global society's foundations. Worst of all, today's movement attacks its own proclaimed cause: 'decolonisers' themselves are disregarding, infantilising and imposing values on contemporary African thinkers.

This powerful, much-needed intervention questions whether today's 'decolonisation' truly serves African empowerment. Táíwò's is a bold challenge to all concerned for Africa's future: to resist sweeping moralities, and grant the respect due to African intellectuals as innovative adaptors, appropriators and synthesisers of ideas they have always seen as universally relevant. It's time to reclaim decolonisation, within the constraints of what is measurable, achievable and desirable.



Olúfẹmi Táíwò is Professor of African Political Thought and current Chair at the Africana Studies and Research Center, Cornell University. His writings have been translated into French, Italian, German and Portuguese. He

has taught at universities in Canada, Nigeria, Germany, South Korea and Jamaica.



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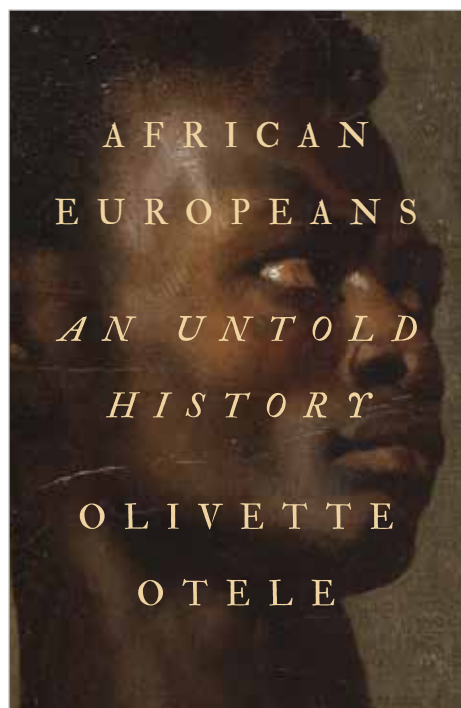
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A leading African political philosopher offers his searing intellectual and moral critique of the 'expanded' decolonisation movement.

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OLIVETTE OTELE

African Europeans

An Untold History

Africans and African Europeans are widely believed to be only a recent presence in Europe, a feature of our 'modern' society. But as early as the third century, St Maurice – an Egyptian – became the leader of a legendary Roman legion. Ever since, there have been richly varied encounters between those defined as 'Africans' and those called 'Europeans', right up to the stories of present-day migrants to European cities. Though at times a privileged group that facilitated exchanges between continents, African Europeans have also had to navigate the hardships of slavery, colonialism and their legacies.

Olivette Otele uncovers the long history of Europeans of African descent, tracing an old and diverse African heritage in Europe through the lives of individuals both ordinary and extraordinary. This hidden history explores a number of questions very much alive today. How much have Afro-European identities been shaped by life in Europe, or in Africa? How are African Europeans' stories marked by the economics, politics and culture of the societies they live in? And how have race and gender affected those born in Europe, but always seen as Africans?

African Europeans is a landmark celebration of this integral, vibrantly complex slice of European history.



©IMK

Olivette Otele is Professor of the History of Slavery at Bristol University and Vice-President of the Royal Historical Society. She is an expert on the history of people of African descent

and the links between memory, geopolitics and legacies of French and British colonialism.

LUKASZ BEDNARSKI

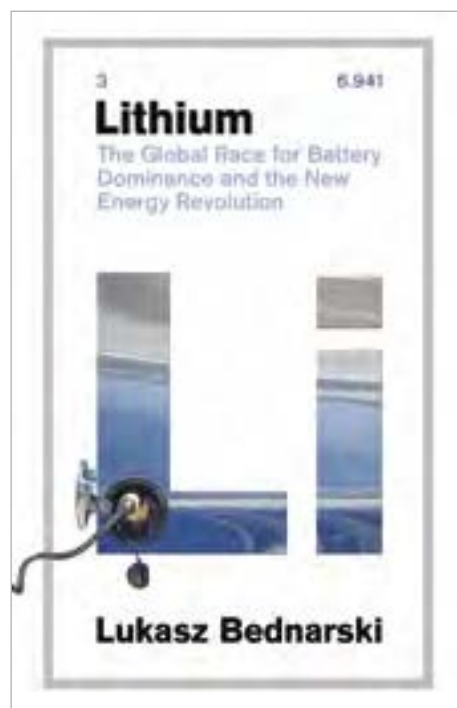
Lithium

The Global Race for Battery Dominance and the New Energy Revolution

A global energy revolution is unfolding before our eyes: ever-growing numbers of electric vehicles on our roads, laptops that last all day on a single charge, and solar panels on our roofs, all reliant on lithium-ion batteries. This revolution is happening at breath-taking speed, with the potential to completely transform key industries and the way we live.

For the first time in history, we can now actually store this green energy we talk so much about. Often referred to as ‘the new oil’, lithium allows large amounts of energy to be squeezed into a very small space. Demand is soaring, and the lithium business is full of drama: bitter rivalries, shady deals and exceptionally talented visionaries such as Elon Musk, who is building lithium battery giga-factories across the world.

This book travels from the salt lakes of the Tibetan plateau, where Chinese government-linked companies extract lithium, to Argentina, Chile and Bolivia, which hold the world’s biggest resources of the mineral. It reveals superpowers’ struggles to secure strategic supplies, and the astonishing efforts of lone-wolf inventors and entrepreneurs. *Lithium* also explores the environmental impact of lithium extraction, the limits to battery electrification, and lithium battery recycling as the way forward.



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Lukasz Bednarski is Senior Battery Materials Analyst at IHS Markit, founder of the lithium industry portal Lithium Today and a former commodity trader.



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BLEDDYN E. BOWEN

Original Sin

Power, Technology and War in Outer Space

Space technology's 'original sin' is its militaristic heritage: Earth orbit was first exploited to enhance the killing power of the state. In Bleddyn E. Bowen's vivid retelling, the Moon landings and the launch of the Space Shuttle were mere sideshows, drawing public attention away from the real objectives of this technology: gaining military and economic power for terrestrial purposes.

Today, there are thousands of active satellites in space, working silently in the background to provide essential military, intelligence and economic capabilities. No major power can do without them. Beyond Washington, Moscow and Beijing, Bowen's story of 'space-power' charts the evolution of truly global technologies—from the ground floor of the nuclear missile revolution, to today's orbital battlefield shaping the wars to come, as world powers including India, Japan and Europe fully realise the strategic benefits of commanding Earth's 'cosmic coastline'.

Yet, as new entrants gradually but methodically spend more on outer space, as a stage for war, development or prestige, there is scope for cautious optimism about the future of the Space Age—if we can recognise, rather than hide, its original sin.



Bleddyn E. Bowen is Associate Professor of International Relations at the University of Leicester, specialising in space policy and military uses of outer space. The internationally

recognised author of *War in Space*, he consults on space policy for institutions including the UK Parliament, the European Space Agency, and the Pentagon.

STEFAN DERCON

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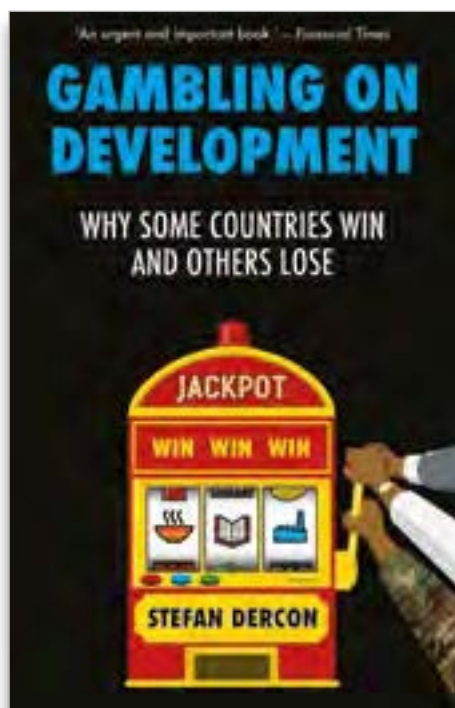
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‘A challenging, informed and insightful book. Dercon brings expertise, humility and humanity to the vital question of what makes countries poor and what can help them prosper.’ — David Miliband, President and CEO, International Rescue Committee, and former UK Foreign Secretary



Stefan Dercon is Professor of Economic Policy and Director of the Centre for the Study of African Economies at the University of Oxford. Combining an academic career with long experience in

international development policy, he is a former DFID chief economist and policy advisor to the UK Foreign Secretary.



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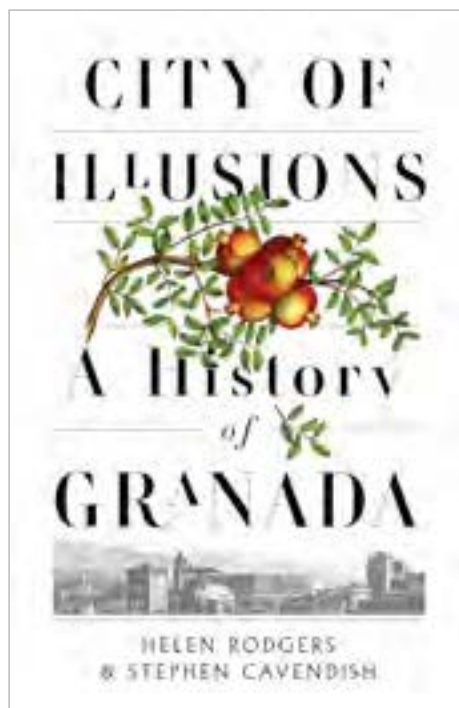
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City of Illusions

A History of Granada

Granada is a deceptive city, concealing a layered past and a complex character. The last Muslim capital in Western Europe, over the centuries it has captured the hearts and imagination of its inhabitants, and featured in countless myths and legends. Yet historical evidence reveals real tales from Granada that are even more fascinating: a romantic epic of secrets and follies, victory and failure, poetry and art.

City of Illusions brings together Granada's many stories—the archaeological forger, the renegade French general, the garrotted liberal heroine, and the Jewish poet and right hand of two Muslim rulers. From the founding dynasty to the building of the Alhambra, to the Reconquista, French occupation and Spanish Civil War, this is the history of Granada from its eleventh-century origins to the present day.

Granada's historical narrative has long been fought over, recreated, idealised or buried. Elegant and deeply researched, this book sets the record straight, delving into the true story of a beautiful city, with all its quirks, mysteries, intrigues and triumphs.

Helen Rodgers is an Arabist, whose fascination for the history of the Arab world has led to over two decades of historical research across the Mediterranean region. **Stephen Cavendish** is a writer, editor and historian with a passion for the medieval and modern history of Europe and the Middle East.

OLGA ONUCH & HENRY E. HALE

The Zelensky Effect

With Russian shells raining on Kyiv and tanks closing in, American forces prepared to evacuate Ukraine's leader. Just three years earlier, his apparent main qualification had been playing a president on TV. But Volodymyr Zelensky reportedly retorted, 'I need ammunition, not a ride.' Ukrainian forces won the battle for Kyiv, ensuring their country's independence even as a longer war began for the southeast.

You cannot understand the historic events of 2022 without understanding Zelensky. But the Zelensky effect is less about the man himself than about the civic nation he embodies: what makes Zelensky most extraordinary in war is his very ordinariness as a Ukrainian.

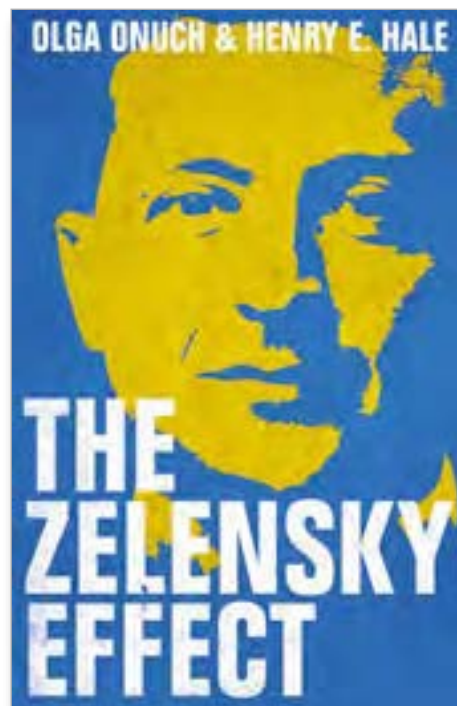
The Zelensky Effect explains this paradox, exploring Ukraine's national history to show how its now-iconic president reflects the hopes and frustrations of the country's first 'independence generation'. Interweaving social and political background with compelling episodes from Zelensky's life and career, this is the story of Ukraine told through the journey of one man who has come to symbolise his country.



Olga Onuch is Senior Lecturer in Politics at the University of Manchester.



Henry E. Hale is Professor of Political Science and International Affairs at George Washington University.



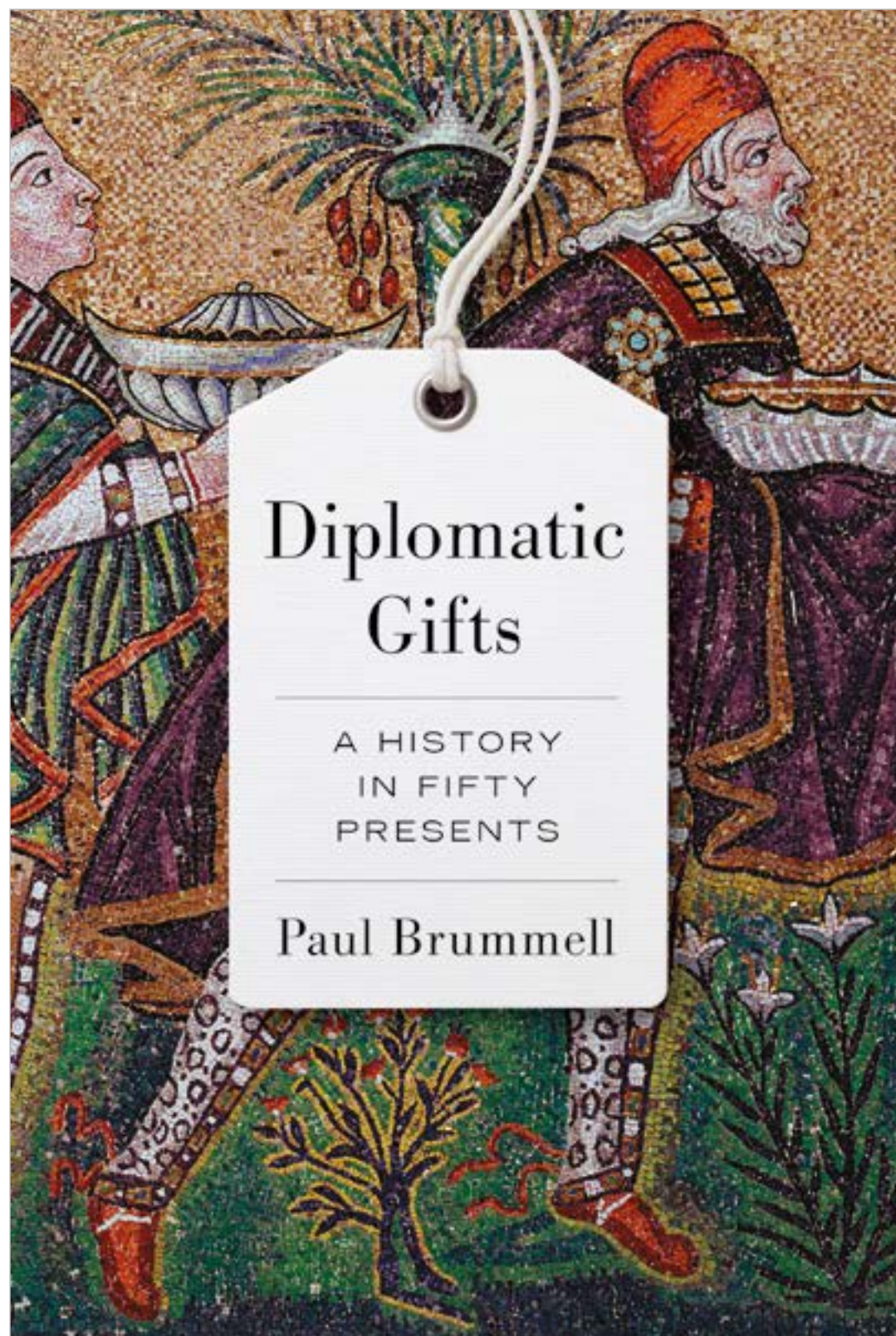
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PAUL BRUMMELL

Diplomatic Gifts

A History in Fifty Presents

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 History
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Gifts have been part of international relations since ancient times. They can serve as tokens of friendship, apology or authority; as taunts, bribes, boasts or tricks. They can also go wrong: Mali's 2013 gift of a camel to French President François Hollande was reported to have ended up in a tagine.

Exploring fifty diplomatic gifts given through the ages, Brummell explains the great complexity of this political art—an exercise in brand-building for the giver, via an item that must suit the recipient's own interests and character. Byzantine emperors sent fragments of the True Cross to fellow Christian rulers around Europe; Kings Louis XV and XVI of France used Sèvres porcelain, while the Ottoman sultans favoured robes of honour. In some cases, recipients have made no secret of the gift they would want. The Amarna Letters, dating to around 1350 BCE, record a communication from Hittite Prince Zita to the Egyptian Pharaoh, offering sixteen men—and hinting rather heavily that he would like some gold in return.

From the Trojan Horse to Cleopatra's Needle to the Statue of Liberty, this rich history offers a new take on both the curious detail and the grand spectacle of global politics.

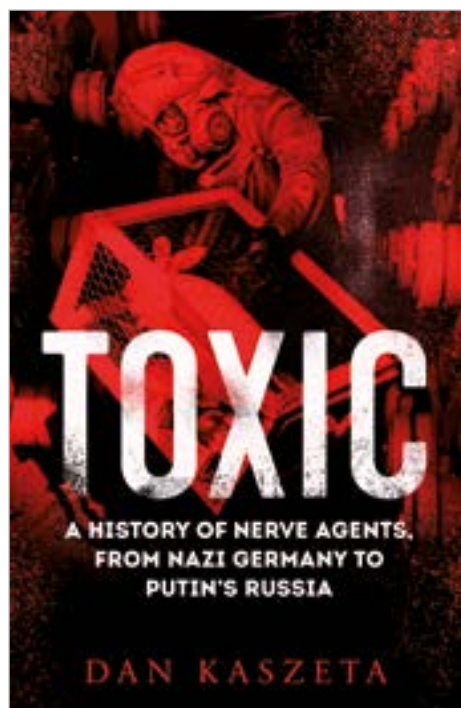
A lavishly illustrated history of diplomatic gifts, from the infamous Trojan Horse to the much-loved Christmas tree at Trafalgar Square.

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Paul Brummell is a British career diplomat and currently the UK Ambassador to Latvia. His previous ambassadorial postings were to Romania; Turkmenistan; and Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. He has also served as the UK's high commissioner to Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean.





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Dan Kaszeta runs a specialist consulting firm in London. He has decades of experience protecting against chemical and biological weapons. An associate fellow at the Royal United Services Institute, he has held positions in the US Army, the White House Military Office, the US Secret Service, and private industry.

RAMON PACHECO PARDO

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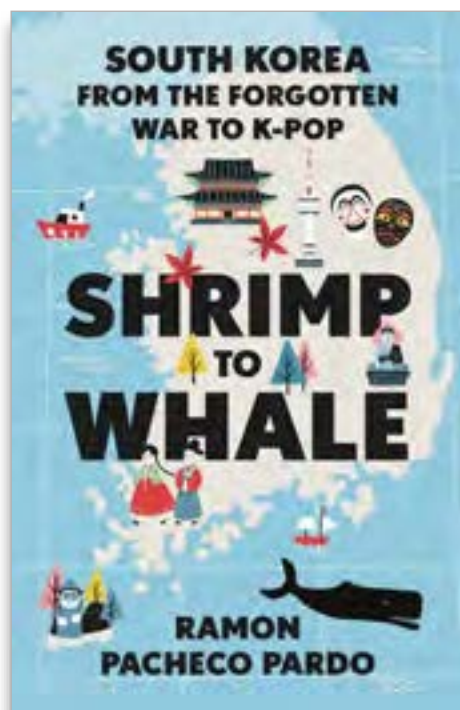
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Ramon Pacheco Pardo is Professor of International Relations at King’s College London, and KF-VUB Korea Chair at the Brussels School of Governance. He has lived twice in South

Korea, and remains a regular visitor there for both work and leisure. He regularly teaches and provides media commentary about the country.



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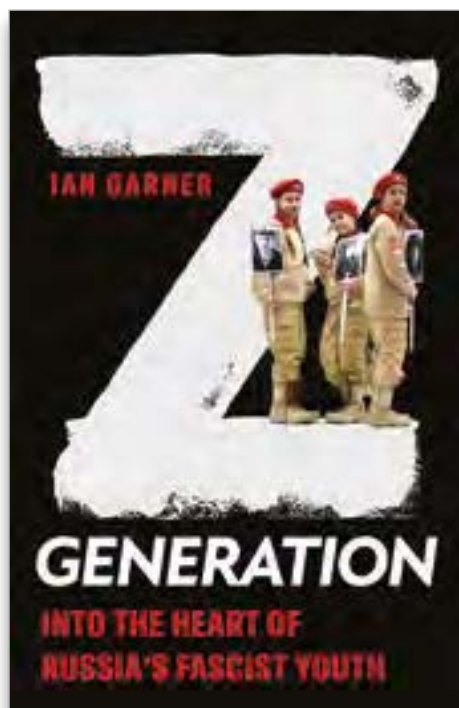
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Z Generation

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How did Vladimir Putin galvanise the Russian people to back his genocidal war in Ukraine and why are so many of them willing to embrace fascism? This vivid, on-the-ground narrative reveals how Russia's fascist generation came into being—and the dark future that awaits the country if that hold cannot be broken.

Wartime Russia is drowning in fascist symbols. Zealous patriots attack journalists, opposition activists, and anyone suspected of betraying the motherland. Russians are urged to join the cause by hordes of online trolls and sleek videos of angry young men bellowing patriotic slogans. State television terrifies viewers with trumped up tales of anti-Russian conspiracies and genocidal yearnings. Child soldiers proudly parade across Red Square. This is Russia in the 2020s: a land of performative rage and nationalist untruth, where play-acting, pretence and broken promises are a way of life. But in a world where pretence has become the norm, a terrifying, apocalyptic mindset is seizing the Russians of tomorrow.

As enrapturing as it is terrifying, *Z Generation* reveals how Russia ended up where it is today, and where its young people are headed: a fascist generation more zealous, violent and ideological than anything the country has seen before.



Ian Garner's research focuses on Soviet and Russian war propaganda. The author of *Stalingrad Lives: Stories of Combat and Survival*, he studied at the Universities of Bristol and Toronto, and at the St. Petersburg State Conservatory.

BRUNO MAÇÃES

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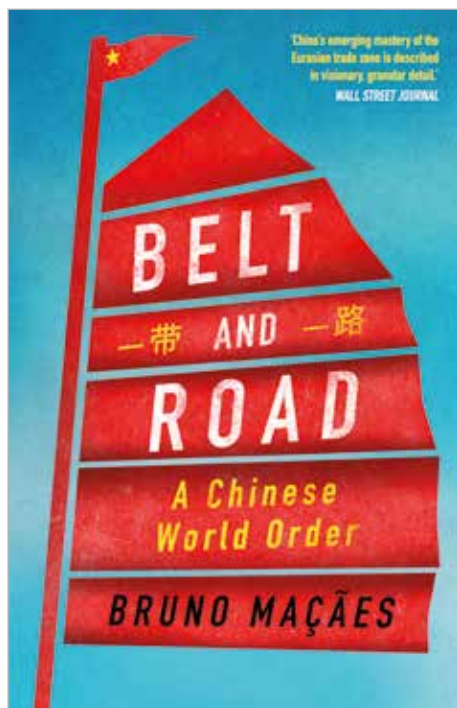
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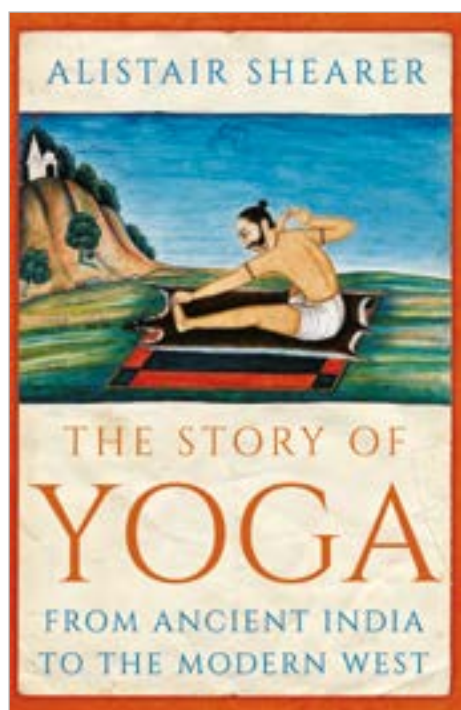


Bruno Maçães is a non-resident senior fellow at the Hudson Institute and Portugal’s former Europe minister (2013–15). He has been a regular commentator for CNN, the BBC, Al Jazeera, the *Financial Times*, *The*

Guardian and *Foreign Affairs*. He is the author of *History Has Begun*; and *The Dawn of Eurasia*.

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Alistair Shearer is a cultural historian specialising in the art and architecture of the Indian subcontinent; a former lecturer at SOAS University of London; and a teacher of meditation and

the psychology of yoga. He has had a dozen books published, including a widely acclaimed translation of the *Yoga Sutras*.

NANCY LINDISFARNE &
JONATHAN NEALE

Why Men?

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In this fascinating, fun and important book, two anthropologists tell the real story of humanity, from early behaviours to contemporary cultures. From bonobo sex and prehistoric childcare to human sacrifice, Joan of Arc, Darwinism and Abu Ghraib, they reveal humankind's evolutionary predisposition to both equality and inequality. Very old ideas of difference, invented by the earliest class societies, have hidden this truth, causing much female, queer and minority suffering. But there is hope.

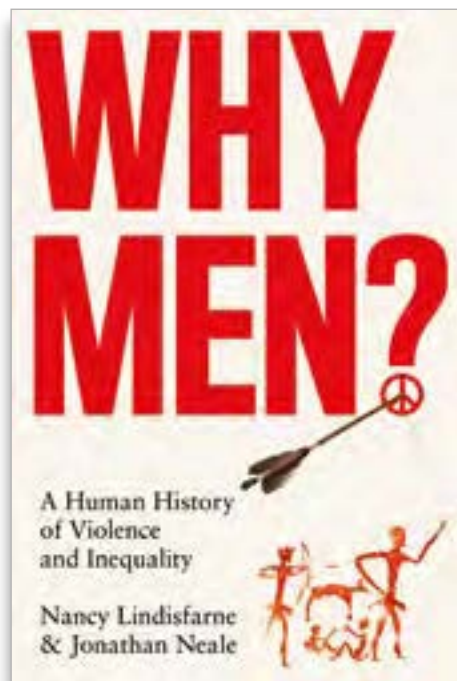
Why Men? is not a book about what men and women are or do. It's about what privileges humans claim, how they rationalise them, and how we unpick those ideas about our roots. It will change how you see the nature of injustice, violence and even yourself.



Nancy Lindisfarne is an anthropologist who previously studied and taught at SOAS University of London. Her most recent book, written with Richard Tapper, is *Afghan Village Voices*.



Jonathan Neale is an historian and professional writer. His most recent book is *Fight the Fire: Green New Deals and Global Climate Jobs*.



September 2023

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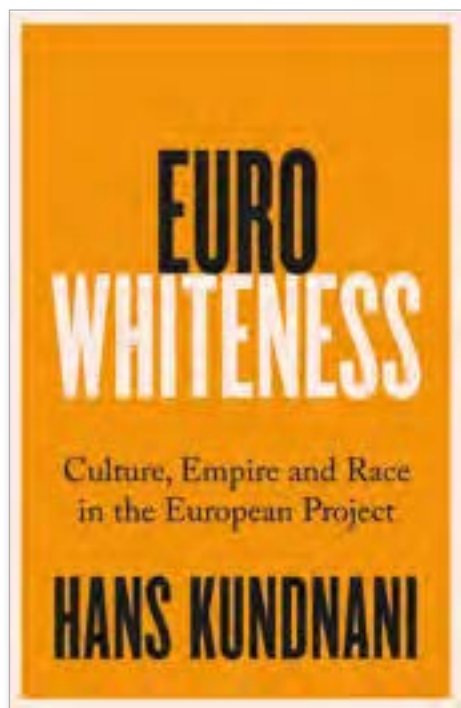
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Are war and inequality inevitable, because evolution made men competitive and dominant? Think again with this entertaining yet powerful new history of 'true' human nature.



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European Union

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A revelatory account of
the EU as a project driven
by racialised thinking.

HANS KUNDNANI

Eurowhiteness

Culture, Empire and Race in the European Project

The European Union's supporters claim it is a unique expression of cosmopolitanism and rejection of racism—after all, the 'European project' was meant to overcome virulent nationalism. Advocates equate the far right with Euroscepticism, even as far-right ideas increasingly influence the EU itself. Yet the 'idea of Europe' has a long, problematic history—in the medieval era, it was synonymous with Christianity; more recently, it accompanied the emergence of 'whiteness' in the context of European colonialism.

Hans Kundnani offers an alternative reading of the EU as a vehicle for imperial amnesia. He reveals European integration's origins as a colonial project, a fact conveniently overlooked in favour of the internal lessons of European history (the Holocaust and Cold War), rather than external lessons around empire. In reality, Kundnani argues, the EU is more about power than peace, eliding civic ideas of Europe with an ethnic and cultural identity.

After the Cold War, the EU's eastern borders softened, but its southern ones hardened. Since the 2015 refugee crisis, notions of whiteness have become more central to European identity—a troubling new turn in Europe's long civilisational project. It is time to confront the relationship between ideas of Europe and ideas of race.



Hans Kundnani is an associate fellow and former Europe programme director at Chatham House, and the author of *Utopia or Auschwitz* and *The Paradox of German Power*, both published by Hurst. Hans writes

regularly for *The Observer*, *The Guardian*, *The New Statesman* and *Foreign Affairs*, among others.

KENNETH PAYNE

I, Warbot

The Dawn of Artificially Intelligent Conflict

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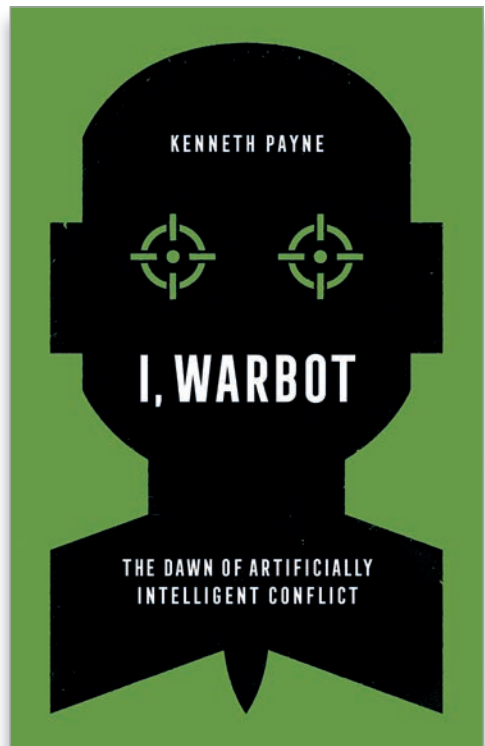
‘Exceptionally timely [and] clear-sighted.’
— *Financial Times*

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‘An engaging and accessible guide to the development of artificial intelligence as applied to war.’ — *Foreign Affairs*

‘An important reminder that military AI is not purely a technological feat, but also a ground for reckonings on the ethics of warfare and creative strategy. In advocating thoughtful regulation of autonomous systems, Payne offers his counterpoint to the Asimov-esque robot overlords of science fiction: “War will remain something that is done by, and to, humans.”’
— *International Affairs*

‘A brilliant and gripping treatise on war in the age of intelligent machines.’ — Theo Farrell, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, University of Wollongong Australia

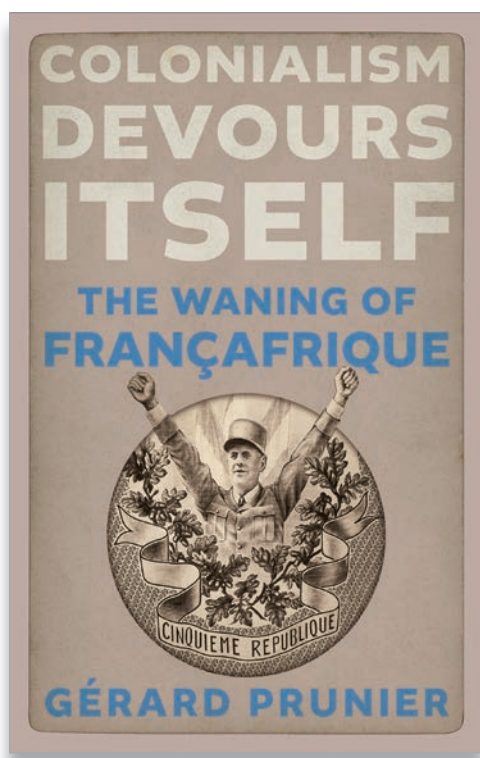


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A historically grounded account, from de Gaulle onwards, of how France’s neocolonial influence crumbled in Africa, with devastating and unforeseen consequences.



Kenneth Payne is a reader in International Relations at King’s College London. A former BBC journalist, he is the author of many articles and books, including *The Psychology of Strategy: Exploring Rationality in the Vietnam War*, also published by Hurst.



July 2024
 9781911723653
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 History / Colonialism
 World rights

A historically grounded account, from de Gaulle onwards, of how France's neocolonial influence crumbled in Africa, with devastating and unforeseen consequences.

GÉRARD PRUNIER

Colonialism Devours Itself

The Waning of Françafrique

France is the only country that never decolonised its colonies, emotionally, financially or strategically. In the aftermath of losing the Second World War, notwithstanding de Gaulle's attempts to convince his people otherwise, the French knew the game was up. (The Resistance fighters were heroes; but heroes are lonely.) For France, after 1945, the Second World War blended into the early Cold War, which Paris jumped into the day before it began. It fought in Indochina, and lost again. The independence war dragged on in Algeria. Then France lost there, too—painfully, with millions of its ordinary citizens expelled to a homeland that many of them hardly knew.

But Sub-Saharan Africa was still there. France produced a postcolonial antidote: *Françafrique*, France's sphere of influence (or 'backyard') over its former West and Central African colonies. France loved Africa. Some Frenchmen died for *Françafrique*; others made millions from it.

The entire toxic edifice is now crumbling away. Young Africans are happy about this—but not so many of their parents, who often live in France. In his inimitable style, Gérard Prunier recounts a tragic transcultural saga, with one leg in the past and one in the future: the end of *Françafrique*.

Gérard Prunier is a renowned historian of contemporary Africa, author of, *inter alia*, the acclaimed *The Rwanda Crisis: History of a Genocide* and of *The Country That Does Not Exist: A History of Somaliland*, both published by Hurst.

BERTIL LINTNER

The Golden Land Ablaze

Coups, Insurgents and the State in Myanmar

Myanmar's generals didn't expect the nation to rise up against the coup they staged in February 2021. But after decades of stifling, direct military rule, the Burmese people had become used to another way of life during the relative openness of 2011–21. The army has been unable to suppress anti-coup protests as it did in 1962 and 1988; and, three years after sending tanks into Yangon, Naypyitaw and other cities, the army has yet to establish a functioning administration.

For the first time since the 1970s, armed resistance is not confined to traditionally strife-torn frontier areas, where ethnic insurgents like the Karen National Union and Kachin Independence Army have been active for decades—it has spread to the majority-Burmese heartland, in the shape of the People's Defence Forces. But the anti-junta forces are insufficiently well-equipped to defeat the much more heavily armed Myanmar army, which itself is stretched too thin, on several fronts, to crush the resistance. And, despite foreign observers' assurances, there is no unity, common command or synchronised strategy among the various ethnic-minority and ethnic-Burmese resistance groups.

This is a war that neither side can win. Caught in the middle, and bound to suffer most, are civilians.

Bertil Lintner is an acclaimed journalist and expert on contemporary South-East Asia, especially Myanmar. Formerly the *Far Eastern Economic Review's* Burma correspondent, and Asia correspondent for the Swedish daily *Svenska Dagbladet*, he is the author of, among others, *The Costliest Pearl: China's Struggle for India's Ocean* (also published by Hurst).



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A world-leading expert on Myanmar assesses the ongoing popular uprising against the military junta that deposed Aung San Suu Kyi.

THE RETREAT FROM STRATEGY

BRITAIN'S DANGEROUS CONFUSION
OF INTERESTS WITH VALUES



DAVID RICHARDS &
JULIAN LINDLEY-FRENCH

November 2024

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War Studies / Politics

World rights

A frank assessment of what kind of strategic power Britain aspires to be, given its dwindling armed forces and growing threats from Russia and other actors.

DAVID RICHARDS &
JULIAN LINDLEY-FRENCH

The Retreat from Strategy

Britain's Dangerous Confusion of Interests with Values

Britain is sleepwalking to disaster, because London has abandoned all forms of proper strategy. That is the sobering message of this powerful analysis exposing the great failings of British security and defence policy.

Britain long ago abandoned the art and science of grand strategy, even though this is crucial for establishing the country's direction of travel. Without grand strategy, national strategy has been reduced to little more than a political game of how much threat Britain can afford, and who gets what from an ever-shrinking resource pot. However, it is Britain's defence policy where the contradictions and self-delusion of abandoned strategy are most apparent, and which explains why the balance between ends, ways and means—as sound strategy would demand—has become not just elusive, but nigh on impossible.

This essential, incisive book offers Britain a pathway back to strategic realism, by ending the profound confusion of interests with values that has done so much damage to Britain and its vital place in the world of the twenty-first century.

General **David Richards** (Baron Richards of Herstmonceux) commanded British troops in East Timor, Sierra Leone and Afghanistan, then served as Chief of the Defence Staff and a National Security Council member. Professor **Julian Lindley-French** is Chairman of The Alphen Group, and author of *Future War and the Defence of Europe*.

KRISTIAN COATES ULRICHSEN

Kingdom of Football

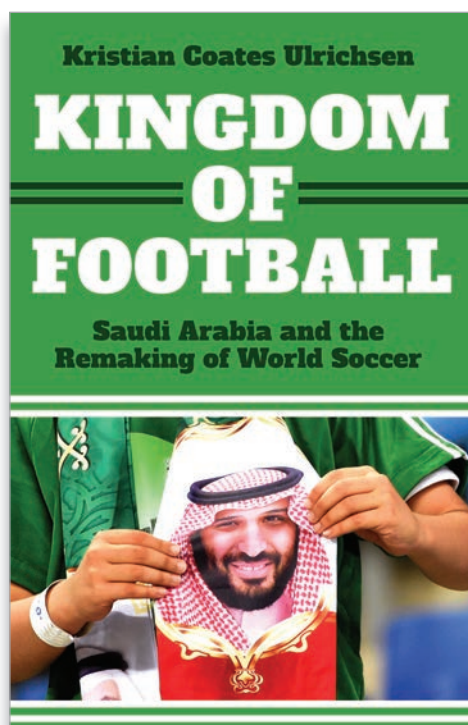
Saudi Arabia and the Remaking of World Soccer

Kingdom of Football explores how and why Saudi Arabia burst onto the landscape of world football in 2023, and examines what the speed and scale of Saudi engagement—as investor, owner, sponsor, host and competitor—might mean for the Kingdom and for football.

Writing as both a football fan and a Gulf specialist, Kristian Coates Ulrichsen offers historical and comparative contexts for Saudi Arabia's startling emergence as a world football hub in the 2020s, exploring both previous Saudi investment in the game, in the 1970s, and national attempts elsewhere to kickstart the sport, as in the United States, Japan and China.

Going beyond popular media labels such as 'sportswashing', this fascinating book examines what drives Saudi policymaking, connecting the move into football with domestic economic and social developments, as well as external and foreign policy considerations. It also examines how Riyadh's foray into world football both builds upon and yet differs from the approaches taken by other Gulf States, such as Qatar and the United Arab Emirates. Finally, Coates Ulrichsen assesses the sustainability and durability of the Kingdom's engagement with the sport in the decade-long countdown to the 2034 FIFA World Cup, which Saudi Arabia is set to host.

Kristian Coates Ulrichsen is Fellow for the Middle East at Rice University's Baker Institute for Public Policy, and an associate fellow of Chatham House's Middle East and North Africa Programme. His books with Hurst include *Insecure Gulf* and *Centers of Power in the Arab Gulf States*. He supports West Ham.



December 2024

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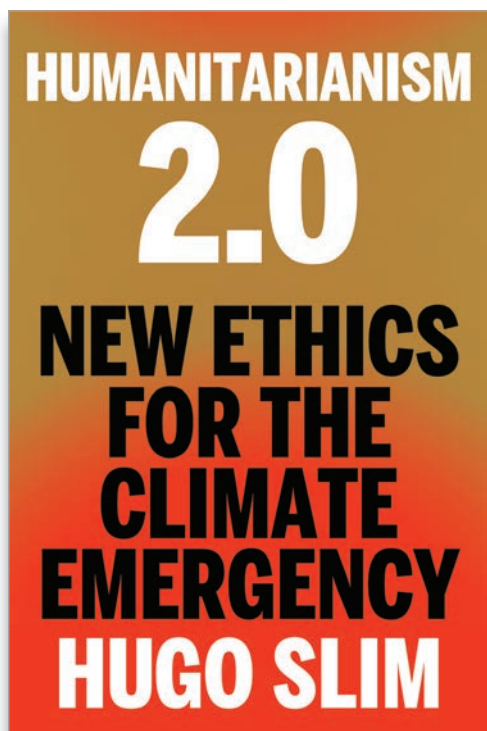
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Middle East Studies / Sport

World rights

**A fascinating account
of how Saudi Arabia
leveraged its massive oil
wealth to alter the balance
of power in world football.**



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Ethics / Development Studies /
Environment
World rights

A radical call for aid workers to rethink their practical roles and guiding principles, as people around the world face environmental catastrophe.

HUGO SLIM

Humanitarianism 2.0

New Ethics for the Climate Emergency

This book spells out a new framework for humanitarian aid in the long emergency of climate change. Looking ahead to the massive needs of the late 2020s and the 2030s, Hugo Slim shows how current ethics and action in the sector are necessary, but not sufficient, for the new moral and operational challenges of our planetary crisis.

Humanitarianism 2.0 offers a series of practical ethical pathways for aid workers and organisations to reimagine and redesign their purpose in the increasing number of climate-related disasters around the world. Slim expands the fundamental principle of humanity to include the protection of nature in humanitarian ethics, and also faces up to the hard challenge of impartiality and prioritisation in a universal emergency. He then recognises anticipation, adaptation, mitigation and locally led aid as humanitarian obligations in climate-related disasters.

Like everything else in the climate and nature crisis, humanitarian ethics need adaptation. Slim's bold, smart and much-needed proposals show the way.

Hugo Slim is a senior research fellow at the Las Casas Institute for Social Justice at Blackfriars Hall, University of Oxford, and at the Oxford Institute for Ethics, Law and Armed Conflict at the Blavatnik School of Government.

PETER SUTORIS & UMA PRADHAN

Development Reimagined

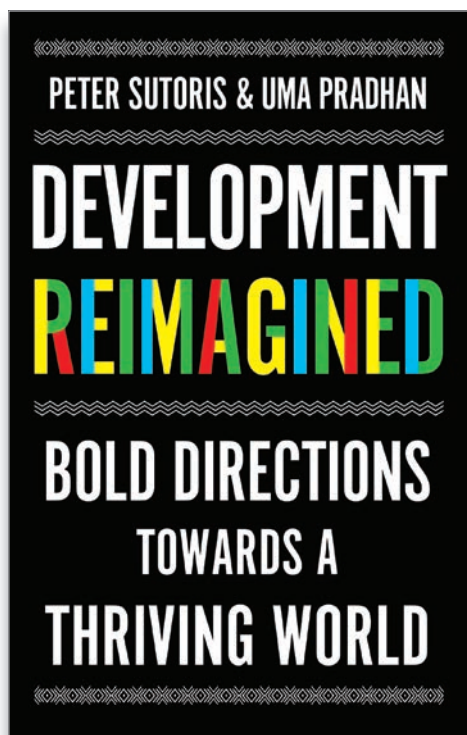
Bold Directions Towards a Thriving World

Imagining a better future is at the heart of development. But mainstream development models are driven by a very narrow, Western-centric set of ideas about what it means to be human. What could be possible if we let ourselves imagine differently?

As our world continues to evolve at breakneck speed and faces unprecedented crises—from the decaying environment to cascading inequality—the need for bold new directions for development has never been greater. Peter Sutoris and Uma Pradhan put a spotlight on the thought-provoking visions of leading theorists, activists and practitioners for rethinking development as a political project towards more equitable futures. Questioning top-down economic frameworks, they explore transformative ideas—from degrowth to indigenous knowledge—that may enable us to address the complexities of our rapidly changing global landscape. They consider how the world can chart a path towards reconciling the moral case for eradicating poverty with these critical perspectives to advance a more ethical approach, one that is sensitive to history, diversity, and the challenges and opportunities of this moment.

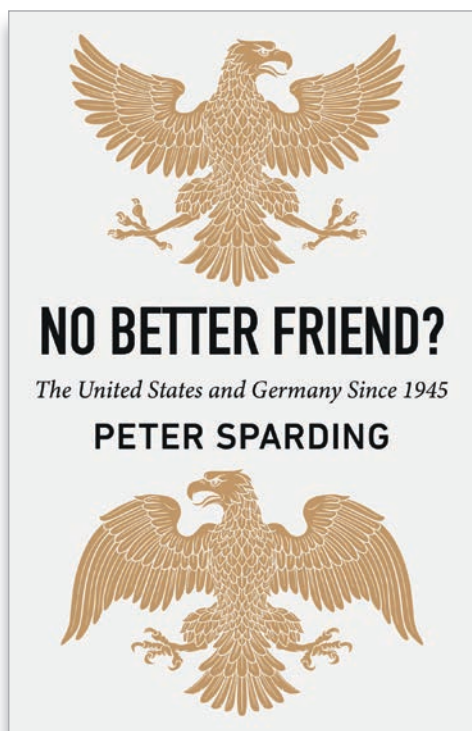
If development is to remain relevant today, it must reinvent itself—and finally listen to voices on the ground.

Peter Sutoris is Lecturer in Climate and Development at the University of Leeds, and the author of *Visions of Development* and *Educating for the Anthropocene*. **Uma Pradhan** is Lecturer in Education and International Development at University College London, and the author of *Simultaneous Identities: Language, Education and the Nepali Nation*.



January 2025
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Development / Sociology
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Can development remake itself for today's world? To do so, it must shed its colonial baggage, embrace diverse voices and prioritise genuine sustainability.



October 2024

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History / International Relations / Geopolitics

World rights

An incisive study of
one of the world's
most important, and
rapidly complexifying,
international partnerships.

PETER SPARDING

No Better Friend?

The United States and Germany Since 1945

The German-American relationship is the decisive transatlantic dynamic of our time. Long seen as one of the most stable connections between Europe and America thanks to its well-defined Cold War structure and hierarchy, relations between Washington and Berlin have become much more volatile in the twenty-first century—and are playing an increasingly pivotal role in determining the degree to which Europe and the United States will be able to shape a rapidly changing world order.

Stabilising this uniquely complicated relationship will be no easy feat. At times more closely aligned politically, and more intertwined economically, than any other transatlantic pair, since the end of the Cold War these republics have seen their relations characterised by frequent diplomatic, cultural and philosophical clashes and misunderstandings, and a trail of disappointed expectations.

Peter Sparding examines the long history between the two countries and their peoples; the narratives and perceptions harboured by each nation concerning the other; and the evolution of diplomatic, economic and security ties. Appraising the complicated interplay between Germany and the United States vis-à-vis a rising China, and the domestic challenges facing both countries, his book offers an outlook on how this all-important relationship might function going forward.

Peter Sparding has written about and analysed U.S.–Germany relations and transatlantic economic and foreign policy ties for two decades. He has been a fellow with the German Marshall Fund of the United States and has lived, worked and studied in Washington D.C., Berlin, Copenhagen and Kansas City.

SAMUEL RAMANI

Rudderless Superpower

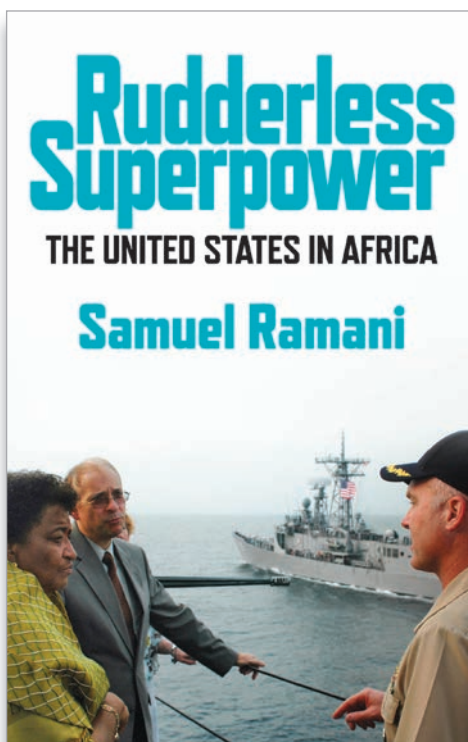
The United States in Africa

When President George H.W. Bush and General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev convened in Malta in December 1989, superpower contestation gave way to a new era of US unipolarity. In Africa, the Cold War had already ended. The Soviet Union had abandoned its Marxist-Leninist client states, and Cuban forces were leaving Angola. Yet, just five years later, Washington's hegemonic aspirations in Africa seemed quixotic at best and delusional at worst.

US military defeat in Somalia and the 1994 Rwandan Genocide both highlighted the absence of American grand strategy. Over the next quarter-century, the US ceded its economic primacy in Africa to China and was relegated to a spectator role in key security crises. Could the US have forestalled the continent's embrace of multipolarity through consistent engagement and a firm break from Cold War thinking? And is the crumbling of US power there reversible?

Rudderless Superpower addresses these questions through a meticulous chronological examination of US policy in Africa since the 1990s. In a break from traditional accounts revolving around crisis moments and leadership at the White House, Ramani contends that the perpetuation of Cold War-era mistakes and diplomatic failures placed US influence in Africa on a path of inexorable decline.

Samuel Ramani is Associate Fellow at London's Royal United Services Institute. The author of *Putin's War on Ukraine* and *Russia in Africa* (both published by Hurst), Samuel regularly advises the US and UK governments on security issues relating to Africa, and contributes to *Foreign Policy*, CNN and the BBC.



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An authoritative appraisal of US policy in Africa since the end of the Cold War, highlighting ill-fated interventions and a damaging withdrawal from strategic vision.



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NEW PERSPECTIVES ON
EASTERN EUROPE & EURASIA

Edited by Dr Ben Noble



**Charts the evolution
of the Russia–Iran
relationship in the
twenty-first century, from
tenuous alignment to
robust partnership.**

NICOLE GRAJEWSKI

Russia and Iran

Partners in Defiance from Syria to Ukraine

Vladimir Putin's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022 has cast a spotlight on Russia's newly sturdy partnership with Iran. Moscow looked to Tehran for drones and ammunition to fuel its so-called 'special military operation', and Iran's support for Russia's war reflects a decade-long strengthening of Russo-Iranian ties, beginning with the 2011 outbreak of the Syrian Civil War.

Despite a relationship historically marred by mistrust and unmet expectations, the two regimes have worked together to promote their common interests in Syria, where battlefield coordination soon developed into much deeper political alignment. Drawing on extensive Russian and Persian primary sources, and interviews with elites from both countries, Nicole Grajewski uncovers the drivers of ever-closer cooperation between the Kremlin and the Islamic Republic. Detailing the internal structures, shared anxieties and broader ambitions underpinning this alignment, she explores the genesis of Russia and Iran's mutual antagonism towards the Western-led global order; the impact of deep-seated leadership concerns over regime security and domestic protests; and the future trajectory of the partnership within the larger world order.

Examining both military dynamics and economic endeavours, as well as elaborate sanctions evasion schemes and collaboration within international organisations, this is the definitive account of contemporary Russia–Iran relations.

Nicole Grajewski is Fellow in the Nuclear Policy Program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, and Associate Researcher with the Belfer Center's Project on Managing the Atom, Harvard Kennedy School of Government. She received her PhD and MPhil from the University of Oxford. She speaks Russian, Persian and French.

TOM THEUNS

Protecting Democracy in Europe

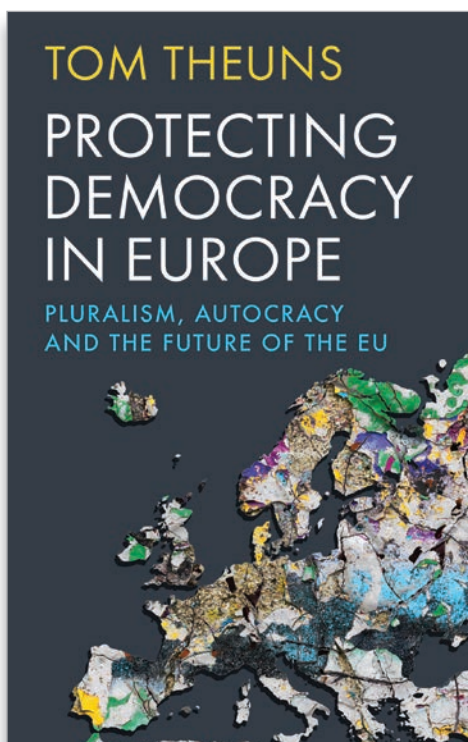
Pluralism, Autocracy and the Future of the EU

The future of Europe as a community of democratic states is deeply uncertain. The European Union, founded to promote ‘ever closer’ integration, aims nominally for peaceful, prosperous cooperation. But this ideal has been battered by a series of bruising crises, and now by war.

Protecting Democracy in Europe examines how, in this brave new world, the EU can and must safeguard democratic governance within its member states. Reviewing the Union’s past responses, Tom Theuns demonstrates that its existing laws and policies are normatively and expressively incoherent. Its failure to defend democratic values is unsurprising: the EU’s existing toolbox is based on an impoverished conception of democracy, and runs counter to its fundamental principles. Close attention to speeches by European Commissioners shows that they see democracy in a technical and legalistic way. This perspective—‘democracy without politics’—is easy for would-be autocrats to exploit.

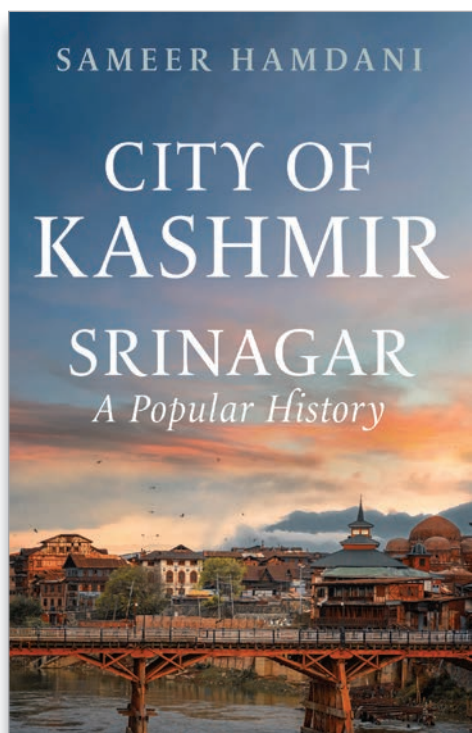
To protect democracy in Europe, Theuns argues, the EU must urgently correct policies that make it complicit in democratic backsliding. It must contain autocratic influences (within the strict limits of its political authority). And it must cultivate pluralist democracy within its constituent countries. But where this fails, he concludes, autocratic members should be expelled.

Tom Theuns is Senior Assistant Professor of Political Theory and European Politics at Leiden University’s Institute of Political Science, and Associate Researcher at Sciences Po in Paris. He has published widely, including in *American Political Science Review*, the *Journal of Common Market Studies* and the *Journal of European Integration*.



November 2024
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Politics / Europe
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Why has the European Union failed to combat rising authoritarianism within its own ranks? And how can it defend democratic governance inside member countries?



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History

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A vibrant tapestry of
Srinagar's rich historical
and cultural heritage.

SAMEER HAMDANI

City of Kashmir

Srinagar, A Popular History

City of Kashmir offers readers a journey into the 2,000-year history of Srinagar, exploring its written history, legends and oral traditions to take a living pulse. In exploring the city's geography, it maps the daily rituals of life and the accompanying material culture, as well as the crafts for which Srinagar is justly famed worldwide. Based on twenty years' research in Srinagar as a heritage consultant, Sameer Hamdani's narrative is shaped and populated by glimpses of the historical built environment and other rich personal reflections, as well as selected translations of Sanskrit, Persian and Kashmiri poetry from the medieval and early modern periods.

Hamdani provides a detailed overview of the origin and development of Srinagar on a scale never previously attempted, covering the entirety of the pre-Muslim and Muslim eras in medieval Kashmir, with a focus on the cultural life of the city. Richly illustrated with drawings, sketches and other images, this inviting book will be a timely addition to our expanding knowledge of regional cultures across South Asia, especially as witnessed through their material production and legacies.

Sameer Hamdani is an architectural historian and conservation specialist for the Aga Khan Foundation, Srinagar. His previous books include *Shi'ism in Kashmir: A History of Sunni-Shia Rivalry and Reconciliation* and *The Syncretic Traditions of Islamic Religious Architecture of Kashmir*.

DOMINIQUE MÉGRET &
JAMES MAWSON

The Innovation Paradox

Venture Capital, Global Partnerships and the Struggle for Technological Sovereignty

In a struggle between David and Goliath, the giant is always predicted to win. But the Biblical story's power comes from the reverse outcome: the smaller man triumphs. Over the past fifty years, the same has been true in business.

Large companies, with their existing customers, weighty war chests, powerful R&D programmes and formidable acquisitions teams, have been expected to develop original ideas—or buy them from competitors. Instead, start-ups, funded by venture capital, have unsettled the incumbents and transformed the world. From Tesla in cars to SpaceX in rockets; from TikTok in social media to Google in search engines; and from Amazon in retail to Uber in transportation, almost all of the innovative products and services now dominating our lives came from entrepreneurs with bold ideas, allied with investors who believed in them.

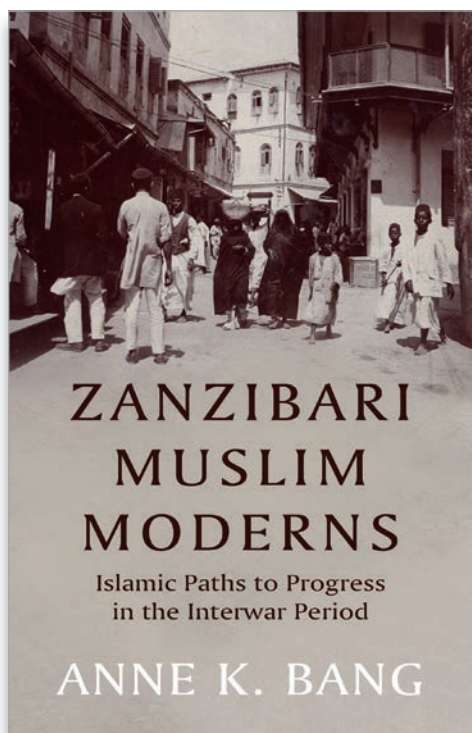
The last half-century may have been an adversarial battle between David and Goliath, but the next will be increasingly about their partnership. *The Innovation Paradox* reveals that the winners in the global economy—whether states, companies or individuals—will be those who can navigate the liminal space between the corporation, with its power for incremental change, and the capital-infused start-up, able to disrupt the status quo.

Dominique Mégret is Head of Swisscom Ventures and a board member of Ecorobotix, having spent over a decade as a venture capitalist. He is the author of *Deeptech Nation*. **James Mawson** was editor of *Private Equity News*, before launching Global Corporate Venturing in 2010 and Global University Venturing in 2012.



October 2024
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Business
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Explains how, against the odds, pioneering start-ups have taken on established firms and revolutionised global commerce—with huge implications for the future of business.



September 2024

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Islamic Studies / Africa

World rights

Reveals how a generation
of Muslim scholars,
intellectuals and civil
servants adapted
and adopted ideas of
modernity in colonial
interwar Zanzibar.

ANNE K. BANG

Zanzibari Muslim Moderns

Islamic Paths to Progress in the Interwar Period

Zanzibari Muslim Moderns is a historical study of Zanzibar during the interwar years. This was a period marked by rapid intellectual and social change in the Muslim world, when ideas of Islamic progress and development were hotly debated. How did this process play out in Zanzibar?

Based on a wide range of sources—Islamic and colonial, private and public—Anne K. Bang examines how these concepts were received and promoted on the island, arguing that a new ideal emerged in its intellectual arena: the Muslim modern. Tracing the influences that shaped the outlook of this new figure, Bang draws lines to Islamic modernists in the Middle East, to local Sufi teachings, and to the recently founded state of Saudi Arabia. She presents the activities of the Muslim modern in the colonial employment system, as a contributor to international debates, as an activist in the community, and more. She also explores the formation of numerous faith-based associations during this period, as well as the views of the Muslim modern on everything from funerary practices and Mawlid celebrations to reading habits. A recurring theme throughout is the question with which many Muslim moderns were confronted: who should implement development? And for whom?

Anne K. Bang is Professor of African Islamic History at the University of Bergen. She has published widely on Islamic intellectual exchanges in the Indian Ocean, and particularly on East Africa. She has also led several projects to bring the scriptural sources of this history to wider attention.

STEPHANIE WILLIAMS

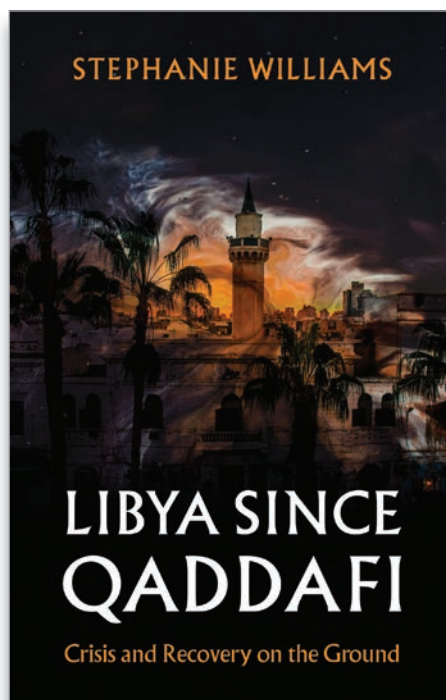
Libya Since Qaddafi

Crisis and Recovery on the Ground

Drawing on her experience as a United Nations mediator and a senior American diplomat, Stephanie Williams provides a first-hand examination of post-Qaddafi Libya. Using concrete examples from her experience in the country, Williams analyses the underlying drivers of the Libyan conflict, as well as the motivations of the international actors and the various Libyan protagonists. She bears witness to the horrific effect of General Haftar's attack on Tripoli in 2019, how it tore apart a UN peace process, and how she worked alongside UN envoy Ghassan Salamé to reassemble some semblance of an international consensus under the Berlin Process and accompanying intra-Libyan tracks: military, economic and political.

Williams recounts her leadership of the UN mediation during the Covid pandemic, adopting new technologies and blending hybrid and physical meetings to produce the October 2020 ceasefire agreement, as well as progress on the economic track and an inclusive political agreement. She also lays out the pernicious effect of new media on peacemaking, and how disinformation and hate speech have exacerbated Libya's fragmentation. Finally, Williams offers ideas on how to break Libya's cycle of division and dysfunction to meet the longstanding aspirations of the people to live in peace and dignity.

Stephanie Williams is an experienced international mediator serving with the UN in Libya, where she produced a nation-wide ceasefire agreement and a political agreement, using hybrid technologies to build a more inclusive process. A former US diplomat, Williams has an extensive background in the Middle East and North Africa region.



January 2025

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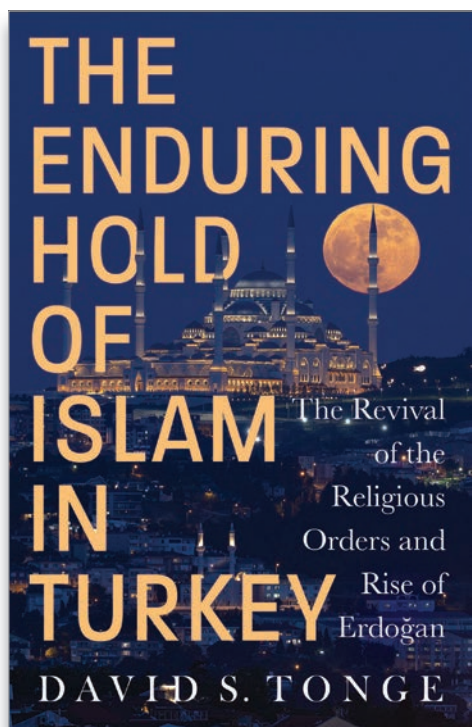
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David S. Tonge has lived half of his life in Turkey. A scholar of Magdalene College, University of Cambridge, he reported from Ankara and Athens for the BBC, *Guardian* and *Observer*, then from London as the *Financial Times*' diplomatic correspondent. The author of *The Kremlin's Confidant*, he grows citrus and olives.

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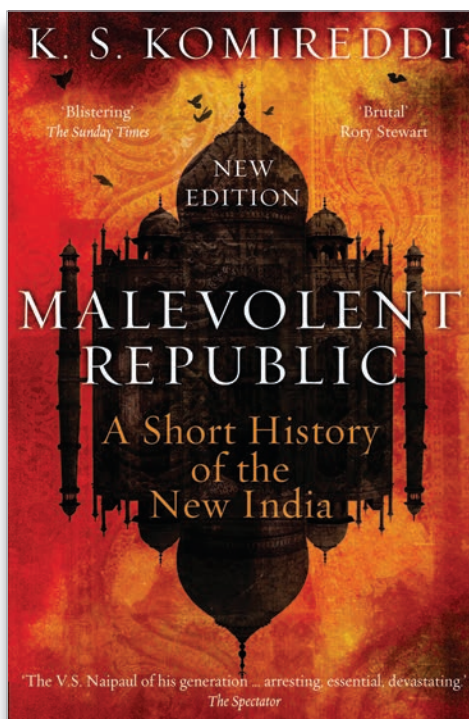
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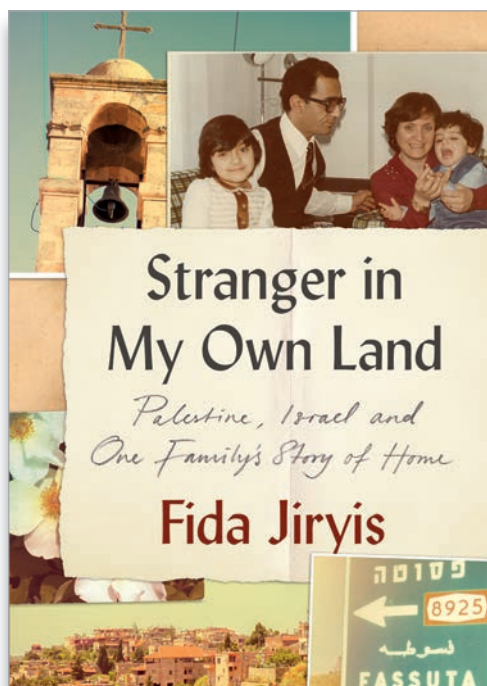
K. S. Komireddi, an essayist, international journalist and public speaker, has contributed to the BBC, CNN, *The New York Times*, *The Guardian*, *The Washington Post*, the *Daily Mail*, *The*

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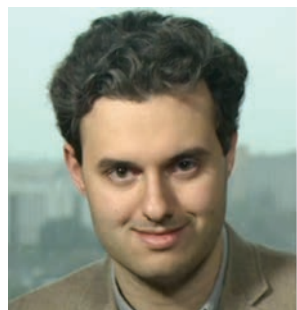
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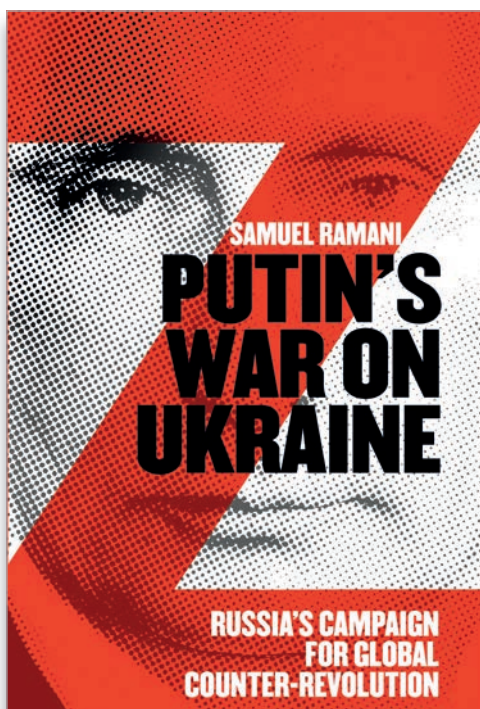
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Samuel Ramani is Associate Fellow at London's Royal United Services Institute. The author of *Russia in Africa* and *Rudderless Superpower* (both published by Hurst), Samuel regularly advises the US and UK governments on international security issues, and contributes to Foreign Policy, CNN and the BBC.



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