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**Communism and Its Collapse** - Stephen White - 2002-01-04
Ranging from the Russian revolution of 1917 to the collapse of Eastern Europe in the 1980s this study examines Communist rule. By focusing primarily on the USSR and Eastern Europe, Stephen White covers the major topics and issues affecting these countries, including: **communism as a doctrine** *the evolution of Communist rule* *the challenges to Soviet authority in Hungary and Yugoslavia* *the emerging economic fragility of the 1960s* *the complex process of collapse in the 1980s*. Any student or scholar of European history will find this an essential addition to their reading list.

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**The Collapse of Communism** - Stewart Ross - 2004
Describes the history of communism and its eventual downfall in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

**Why Communism Did Not Collapse** - Martin K. Dimitrov - 2013-07-31
Addresses the durability of communist autocracies in Eastern Europe and Asia, the longest-lasting type of non-democratic regime to emerge after World War I.

**The Walls Came Tumbling Down** - Gale Stokes - 1993-10-07
Gale Stokes' The Walls Came Tumbling Down has been one of the standard interpretations of the East European revolutions of 1989 for many years. It offers a sweeping yet vivid narrative of the two decades of developments that led from the Prague Spring of 1968 to the collapse of communism in 1989. Highlights of that narrative include, among other things, discussions of Solidarity and civil society in Poland, Charter 77 and the Velvet Revolution in Czechoslovakia, and the bizarre regime of Romania's Nicolae Ceausescu and his violent downfall. In this second edition, now appropriately subtitled Collapse and Rebirth in Eastern Europe, Stokes not only has revised these portions of the book in the light of recent scholarship, but has added three new chapters covering the post-communist...
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Why Communism Did Not Collapse - Martin K. Dimitrov - 2013-07-31
This volume brings together a distinguished group of scholars working to address the puzzling durability of communist autocracies in Eastern Europe and Asia, which are the longest-lasting type of non-democratic regime to emerge after World War I. The volume conceptualizes the communist universe as consisting of the ten regimes in Eastern Europe and Mongolia that eventually collapsed in 1989–91, and the five regimes that survived the fall of the Berlin Wall: China, Vietnam, Laos, North Korea and Cuba. The essays offer a theoretical argument that emphasizes the importance of institutional adaptations as a foundation of communist resilience. In particular, the contributors focus on four adaptations: of the economy, of ideology, of the mechanisms for inclusion of potential rivals, and of the institutions of vertical and horizontal accountability. The volume argues that when regimes are no longer able to implement adaptive change, contingent leadership choices and contagion dynamics make collapse more likely.

The Rise and Fall of Communism - Archie Brown - 2011-06-28
From the internationally acclaimed Oxford authority on Communism, a definitive history that examines the origins of the ideology, its development in different nations, its collapse in many of those countries following perestroika, and its current incarnations around the globe. The Rise and Fall of Communism explores how and why Communists came to power; how they were able, in a variety of countries on different continents, to hold on to power for so long; and what brought about the downfall of so many Communist systems. For this comprehensive and illuminating work, Brown draws on more than forty years of research and on a wealth of new sources. Tracing the story of Communism from its nineteenth-century roots, Brown explains both its expansion and its decline in the twentieth century. Even today, although Communism has been widely discredited in the West, more than a fifth of humanity still lives under its rule.
Polish transition—a transition that stripped the communist party of its control of the government, thrust an opposition leader into the premiership, and set off the world-changing series of communist collapses in the Soviet Bloc. At a time when Poland’s economy was deteriorating, the workers were striking, and the Soviets were vacillating, both the Polish communist regime and the Solidarity-led opposition formulated certain expectations and acted upon them. Both sides’ expectations soon turned out to be mistaken, but the resulting choices shaped the course of events in surprising ways. Through elite interviews and archival records, Castle shows how mistaken expectations resulted in a sudden transfer of power away from the communist elite and created a new political arena full of surprises. Drastic changes in the capabilities of key political actors had radically altered the implications of negotiated rules. Yet these rules went on to change the political landscape itself.

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Triggering Communism’s Collapse  
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Why was Poland the first communist regime to collapse? And yet why do many Poles see their peaceful transition away from communist rule as a sham, rather than a victory? To find answers to these questions Triggering Communism’s Collapse examines the political dynamics of the Polish transition—a transition that stripped the communist party of its control of the government, thrust an opposition leader into the premiership, and set off the world-changing series of communist collapses in the Soviet Bloc. At a time when Poland’s economy was deteriorating, the workers were striking, and the Soviets were vacillating, both the Polish communist regime and the Solidarity-led opposition formulated certain expectations and acted upon them. Both sides’ expectations soon turned out to be mistaken, but the resulting choices shaped the course of events in surprising ways. Through elite interviews and archival records, Castle shows how mistaken expectations resulted in a sudden transfer of power away from the communist elite and created a new political arena full of surprises. Drastic changes in the capabilities of key political actors had radically altered the implications of negotiated rules. Yet these rules went on to change the political landscape itself.

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The Coming Collapse of China - Gordon G. Chang - 2001-09-15

China is hot. The world sees a glorious future for this sleeping giant, three times larger than the United States, predicting it will blossom into the world's biggest economy by 2010. According to Chang, however, a Chinese-American lawyer and China specialist, the People's Republic is a paper dragon. Peer beneath the veneer of modernization since Mao's death, and the symptoms of decay are everywhere: Deflation grips the economy, state-owned enterprises are failing, banks are hopelessly insolvent, foreign investment continues to decline, and Communist party corruption eats away at the fabric of society. Beijing's cautious reforms have left the country stuck midway between communism and capitalism, Chang writes. With its impending World Trade Organization membership, for the first time China will be forced to open itself to foreign competition, which will shake the country to its foundations. Economic failure will be followed by government collapse. Covering subjects from party politics to the Falun Gong to the government's insupportable position on Taiwan, Chang presents a thorough and very chilling overview of China's present and not-so-distant future.

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Archie Brown provides a comprehensive history relax its stranglehold and will continue to dominate Eastern Europe's cultural, social, and economic policies. It assesses the contemporary state of affairs in Eastern Europe from an historical perspective.

**A Documentary History of Communism and the World** - Robert Vincent Daniels - 1994
The final edition of a valuable reference work documenting the story of Communism from its beginnings to its amazing collapse.

**The Rise and Fall of Communism** - Archie Brown - 2009-10-13
Published to coincide with the twentieth anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall — a definitive and ground-breaking account of the revolutionary ideology that changed the modern world. The inexorable rise of Communism was the most momentous political phenomenon of the first half of the twentieth century. Its demise in Europe and its decline elsewhere have produced the most profound political changes of the last few decades. In this illuminating book, based on forty years of study and a wealth of new sources, Archie Brown provides a comprehensive history as well as an original and highly readable analysis of an ideology that has shaped the world and still rules over a fifth of humanity. A compelling new work from an internationally renowned specialist, The Rise and Fall of Communism promises to be the definitive study of the most remarkable political and human story of our times.

**Comrades!** - Robert Service - 2010-05-01
Traces the history of communism from its earliest origins to the present day, profiling the key individuals and events that shaped communism, describing the contributions of Marx and Engels, the Russian and Chinese Revolutions, the rise of the Soviet bloc, the spread of communism, its ideology and organization, and its collapse in Eastern Europe and the USSR.

**The Collapse of Communism in the USSR** - Doug Lorimer - 1997

**Rethinking the Soviet Collapse** - Michael Cox - 1998
This text is informed by the view that part of the answer to the conundrum - Did we fail to anticipate the end of the Cold War? - lies in a dissection of the ways in which the USSR was theorized by its leading practitioners in the West.

**The Rise and Fall of Communism in Russia** - Robert V. Daniels - 2008-10-01
Distinguished historian of the Soviet period
communism-and-its-collapse

Robert V. Daniels offers a penetrating survey of the evolution of the Soviet system and its ideology. In a tightly woven series of analyses written during his career-long inquiry into the Soviet Union, Daniels explores the Soviet experience from Karl Marx to Boris Yeltsin and shows how key ideological notions were altered as Soviet history unfolded. The book exposes a long history of American misunderstanding of the Soviet Union, leading up to the "grand surprise" of its collapse in 1991. Daniels's perspective is always original, and his assessments, some worked out years ago, are strikingly prescient in the light of post-1991 archival revelations. Soviet Communism evolved and decayed over the decades, Daniels argues, through a prolonged revolutionary process, combined with the challenges of modernization and the personal struggles between ideologues and power-grabbers.

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Collapse of an Empire - Yegor Gaidar - 2010-01-01
"My goal is to show the reader that the Soviet political and economic system was unstable by its very nature. It was just a question of when and how it would collapse." —From the Introduction to Collapse of an Empire The Soviet Union was an empire in many senses of the word—a vast mix of far-flung regions and accidental citizens by way of conquest or annexation. Typical of such empires, it was built on shaky foundations. That instability made its demise inevitable, asserts Yegor Gaidar, former prime minister of Russia and architect of the "shock therapy" economic reforms of the 1990s. Yet a growing desire to return to the glory days of empire is pushing today's Russia backward into many of the same traps that made the Soviet Union untenable. In this important new book, Gaidar clearly illustrates why Russian nostalgia for empire is dangerous and ill-fated: "Dreams of returning to another era are illusory. Attempts to do so will lead to defeat." Gaidar uses world history, the Soviet experience, and economic analysis to demonstrate why swimming against this tide of history would be a huge mistake. The USSR sowed the seeds of its own economic destruction, and Gaidar worries that Russia is repeating some of those mistakes. Once again, for example, the nation is putting too many eggs into one basket, leaving the nation vulnerable to fluctuations in the energy market. The Soviets had used revenues from energy sales to prop up struggling sectors such as agriculture, which was so thoroughly ravaged by hyperindustrialization that the Soviet Union became a net importer of food. When oil prices dropped in the 1980s, that revenue stream diminished, and dependent sectors suffered heavily. Although strategies requiring austerity or sacrifice can be politically difficult, Russia needs to prepare for such downturns and restrain spending during prosperous times. Collapse of an Empire shows why it is imperative to fix the roof before it starts to rain, and why sometimes the past should be left in the past.

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Communism - Richard Pipes - 2003-08-05
With astonishing authority and clarity, Richard
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hopeful birth as a theory to its miserable death
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Ethnic Politics After Communism - Zoltan
Barany - 2005
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Remembering Communism - Maria N.
Todorova - 2014-10-01
Remembering Communism examines the
formation and transformation of the memory of
communism in the post-communist period. The
majority of the articles focus on memory
practices in the post-Stalinist era in Bulgaria and
Romania, with occasional references to the cases
of Poland and the GDR. Based on an
interdisciplinary approach, including history,
anthropology, cultural studies and sociology, the
volume examines the mechanisms and processes
that influence, determine and mint the private
and public memory of communism in the
post-1989 era. The common denominator to all
essays is the emphasis on the process of
remembering in the present, and the modalities
by means of which the present perspective
shapes processes of remembering, including
practices of commemoration and representation
of the past. The volume deals with eight major
thematic blocks revisiting specific practices in
communism such as popular culture and
everyday life, childhood, labor, the secret police,
and the perception of “the system”.

Remembering Communism - Maria N.
Todorova - 2014-10-01
Remembering Communism examines the formation and transformation of the memory of communism in the post-communist period. The majority of the articles focus on memory practices in the post-Stalinist era in Bulgaria and Romania, with occasional references to the cases of Poland and the GDR. Based on an interdisciplinary approach, including history, anthropology, cultural studies and sociology, the volume examines the mechanisms and processes that influence, determine and mint the private and public memory of communism in the post-1989 era. The common denominator to all essays is the emphasis on the process of remembering in the present, and the modalities by means of which the present perspective shapes processes of remembering, including practices of commemoration and representation of the past. The volume deals with eight major thematic blocks revisiting specific practices in communism such as popular culture and everyday life, childhood, labor, the secret police, and the perception of “the system”.

**The Red Atlantis** - J. Hoberman - 1998
For most of the twentieth century, American and European intellectual life was defined by its fascination with a particular utopian vision. Both the artistic and political vanguards were spellbound by the Communist promise of a new human era—so much so that its political terrors were rationalized as a form of applied evolution and its collapse hailed as the end of history. The Red Atlantis argues that Communism produced a complex culture with a dialectical relation to both modernism and itself. Offering examples ranging from the Stalinist show trial to Franz Kafka's posthumous career as a dissident writer And The work of filmmakers, painters, and writers, which can be understood only as criticism of existing socialism made from within, The Red Atlantissuggests that Communism was an aesthetic project—perhaps the aesthetic project of the twentieth century. Author note: J. Hoberman, staff writer for the Village Voice, writes on film and culture for the Voice, the Voice Literary Supplement, Artforum, and other publications. His books include Bridge of Light: Yiddish Film Between Two Worlds (Temple, 1995) and Vulgar Modernism: Writing on Movies and Other Media (Temple, 1991), which was nominated For The National Book Critics Circle award in criticism. He is an Adjunct Professor of Cinema at the Cooper Union.

**Lenin's Tomb** - David Remnick - 2014-04-02
Winner of the Pulitzer Prize One of the Best Books of the Year: The New York Times From the editor of The New Yorker: a riveting account of the collapse of the Soviet Union, which has become the standard book on the subject. Lenin's Tomb combines the global vision of the best historical scholarship with the immediacy of eyewitness journalism. Remnick takes us through the tumultuous 75-year period of Communist rule leading up to the collapse and gives us the voices of those who lived through it, from democratic activists to Party members, from anti-Semites to Holocaust survivors, from Gorbachev to Yeltsin to Sakharov. An extraordinary history of an empire undone, Lenin's Tomb stands as essential reading for our times.
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Albert - 1999
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Sung’s Korea, Vietnam under "Uncle Ho," and
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**The Fall** - Steven Saxonberg - 2017-07-05
With a foreword by Seymour Lipset, Hoover
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This major study explains why the impetus for
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New to this edition is a chapter on Albania. For students and specialists alike, this book will be an invaluable resource on the newly democratizing states of Europe.

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From the CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES series, illustrated with colour and black and white photographs and artwork, a look at the events leading up to the collapse of communism, the reasons for its failure, the era of glasnost and perestroika, and looking at the realities of the post-Cold War world.

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It has long been assumed that the historical legacy of Soviet Communism would have an important effect on post-communist states. However, prior research has focused primarily on the institutional legacy of communism. Communism's Shadow instead turns the focus to the individuals who inhabit post-communist countries, presenting a rigorous assessment of the legacy of communism on political attitudes. Post-communist citizens hold political, economic,
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Eleches and Joshua Tucker introduce two distinct frameworks to explain these differences, the first of which focuses on the effects of living in a post-
communist country, and the second on living through communism. Drawing on large-scale research encompassing post-communist states and other countries around the globe, the authors demonstrate that living through communism has a clear, consistent influence on why citizens in post-communist countries are, on average, less supportive of democracy and markets and more supportive of state-provided social welfare. The longer citizens have lived through communism, especially as adults, the greater their support for beliefs associated with communist ideology—the one exception being opinions regarding gender equality. A thorough and nuanced examination of communist legacies' lasting influence on public opinion, Communism's Shadow highlights the ways in which political beliefs can outlast institutional regimes.

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**Dissolution** - Charles S. Maier - 1999-03-01

Against the backdrop of one of the great transformations of our century, the sudden and unexpected fall of communism as a ruling system, Charles Maier recounts the history and demise of East Germany. Dissolution is his poignant, analytically provocative account of the decline and fall of the late German Democratic Republic. This book explains the powerful causes for the disintegration of German communism as it constructs the complex history of the GDR. Maier looks at the turning points in East Germany's forty-year history and at the mix of coercion and consent by which the regime functioned. He analyzes the GDR as it evolved from the purges of the 1950s to the peace movements and emerging youth culture of the 1980s, and then turns his attention to charges of Stasi collaboration that surfaced after 1989. In the context of describing the larger collapse of communism, Maier analyzes German elements that had counterparts throughout the Soviet bloc, including its systemic and eventually terminal economic crisis, corruption and privilege in the SED, the influence of the Stasi and the plight of intellectuals and writers, and the slow loss of confidence on the part of the ruling elite. He then discusses the mass protests and proliferation of dissident groups in 1989, the collapse of the ruling party, and the troubled aftermath of unification. Dissolution is the first book that spans the communist collapse and the ensuing process of unification, and that draws on newly available archival documents from the last phases of the GDR, including Stasi reports, transcripts of Politburo and Central Committee debates, and papers from the Economic Planning Commission, the Council of Ministers, and the office files of key party officials. This book is further bolstered by Maier's extensive knowledge of European history and the Cold War, his personal observations and conversations with East Germans during the country's dramatic transition, and memoirs and other eyewitness accounts published during the four-decade history of the GDR.

**Russian Cultural Anthropology After the Collapse of Communism** - A. K. Baĭburin - 2012

In Soviet times, anthropologists in the Soviet Union were closely involved in the state's work of nation building. They helped define official nationalities, and gathered material about traditional customs and suitably heroic folklore, whilst at the same time refraining from work on transformations of our century, the sudden and unexpected fall of communism as a ruling system, Charles Maier recounts the history and demise of East Germany. Dissolution is his poignant, analytically provocative account of the decline and fall of the late German Democratic Republic. This book explains the powerful causes for the disintegration of German communism as it constructs the complex history of the GDR. Maier looks at the turning points in East Germany's forty-year history and at the mix of coercion and consent by which the regime functioned. He analyzes the GDR as it evolved from the purges of the 1950s to the peace movements and emerging youth culture of the 1980s, and then turns his attention to charges of Stasi collaboration that surfaced after 1989. In the context of describing the larger collapse of communism, Maier analyzes German elements that had counterparts throughout the Soviet bloc, including its systemic and eventually terminal economic crisis, corruption and privilege in the SED, the influence of the Stasi and the plight of intellectuals and writers, and the slow loss of confidence on the part of the ruling elite. He then discusses the mass protests and proliferation of dissident groups in 1989, the collapse of the ruling party, and the troubled aftermath of unification. Dissolution is the first book that spans the communist collapse and the ensuing process of unification, and that draws on newly available archival documents from the last phases of the GDR, including Stasi reports, transcripts of Politburo and Central Committee debates, and papers from the Economic Planning Commission, the Council of Ministers, and the office files of key party officials. This book is further bolstered by Maier's extensive knowledge of European history and the Cold War, his personal observations and conversations with East Germans during the country's dramatic transition, and memoirs and other eyewitness accounts published during the four-decade history of the GDR.
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The Last Empire - Serhii Plokhy - 2015-09-08
Bush addressed the nation to declare an
American victory in the Cold War: earlier that
day Mikhail Gorbachev had resigned as the first
and last Soviet president. The enshrining of that
narrative, one in which the end of the Cold War
Union and the triumph of democratic values over
communism, took center stage in American
public discourse immediately after Bush’s speech
and has persisted for decades -- with disastrous
consequences for American standing in the
world. As prize-winning historian Serhii Plokhy
reveals in The Last Empire, the collapse of the
Soviet Union was anything but the handiwork of
the United States. On the contrary, American
leaders dreaded the possibility that the Soviet
Union -- weakened by infighting and economic
turmoil -- might suddenly crumble, throwing all
of Eurasia into chaos. Bush was firmly committed
to supporting his ally and personal friend
Gorbachev, and remained wary of nationalist or
radical leaders such as recently elected Russian
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happen to the large Soviet nuclear arsenal in the
event of the union’s collapse, Bush stood by
Gorbachev as he resisted the growing
independence movements in Ukraine, Moldova,
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authoritative account shows that it was only after
the movement for independence of the republics
had gained undeniable momentum on the eve of
the Ukrainian vote for independence that fall that
Bush finally abandoned Gorbachev to his fate.
Drawing on recently declassified documents and
original interviews with key participants, Plokhy
presents a bold new interpretation of the Soviet
Union’s final months and argues that the key to
the Soviet collapse was the inability of the two
largest Soviet republics, Russia and Ukraine, to
agree on the continuing existence of a unified
state. By attributing the Soviet collapse to the
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Communism's Collapse, Democracy's Demise? - L. McFalls - 1994-11-21
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planned practice: manure pollution, animal disease, and rolling food shortages. The pig is an incredibly adaptive animal, and historian Thomas Fleischman uncovers three types of pig that played roles in this history: the industrial pig, remade to suit the conditions of factory farming; the wild boar, whose overpopulation was a side effect of agricultural development rather than a conservation success story; and the garden pig, reflective of the regime’s growing acceptance of private, small-scale farming within the planned economy. Fleischman chronicles East Germany’s journey from family farms to factory farms, explaining how communist principles shaped the adoption of industrial agriculture practices. More broadly, Fleischman argues that agriculture under communism came to reflect standard practices of capitalist agriculture, and that the pork industry provides a clear illustration of this convergence. His analysis sheds light on the causes of the country’s environmental and political collapse in 1989 and offers a warning about the high cost of cheap food in the present and future.

The Oxford Handbook of the History of Communism - S. A. Smith - 2014-01-09

The impact of Communism on the twentieth century was massive, equal to that of the two world wars. Until the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991, historians knew relatively little about the secretive world of communist states and parties. Since then, the opening of state, party, and diplomatic archives of the former Eastern Bloc has released a flood of new documentation. The thirty-five essays in this Handbook, written by an international team of scholars, draw on this new material to offer a global history of communism in the twentieth century. In contrast to many histories that concentrate on the Soviet Union, The Oxford Handbook of the History of Communism is genuinely global in its coverage, paying particular attention to the Chinese Revolution. It is ‘global’, too, in the sense that the essays seek to integrate history ‘from above’ and ‘from below’, to trace the complex mediations between state and society, and to explore the social and cultural as well as the political and economic realities that shaped the lives of citizens fated to live under communist rule. The essays reflect on the similarities and differences between communist states in order to situate them in their socio-political and cultural contexts and to capture their changing nature over time.
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The collapse of communism was one of the most defining moments of the twentieth century. This Very Short Introduction examines the history behind the political, economic, and social structures of communism as an ideology.

Leslie Holmes - 2009-08-27
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