
In Chapter 3 from the anthology *Democracy and Authoritarianism in the Postcommunist World*, edited by Valerie Bunce, Michael McFaul and Kathryn Stoner-Weiss and published by the Cambridge University Press, Alina Mungiu-Pippidi authors an article in Part II of the book (“Encouraging Democracy: The Role of the European Union”), titled “When Europeanization Meets Transformation: Lessons from the Unfinished Eastern European Revolutions”.

The article argues that the EU’s smart power (defined by the EU enlargement commissioner Oli Rehn as a combination of hard and soft power, the use of “the whole spectrum of our policy instruments and economic resources”) is an extremely complex process, and according to domestic and/or European circumstances, one or the other of its mechanisms is activated. However, because the mechanisms are not equally effectively, one cannot expect smart power to work similarly everywhere, particularly because countries with difficult transitions are left behind and accumulate over time. The focus of the article is on difficult Eastern European transitions (the so-called Southeastern European countries, namely Romania, Albania, Bulgaria, and the former Yugoslavia) and on making a comparison between these and other transitions made under relatively similar circumstances in terms of European proximity. The article proposes a model of the Southeastern European transition, reviews the evidence of the EU’s impact in crucial areas for this model (nation- and state-building) and finally proposes a more developmental approach to understanding when and how EU smart power works.
"Democracy and Authoritarianism in the Postcommunist World surveys the waves of democratizing movements across the postcommunist region subsequent to the 1989–91 period to raise critical questions about the sources of regime change, among them popular protest and mobilization, opposition cohesiveness, the diffusion of organizational tactics, and the influence of external actors. The book considers both blocked and successful democratization movements. Several of the chapters are likely to stand as authoritative analyses of the outcomes of the electoral revolutions in particular countries. This is a significant volume of broad ambition."

— Thomas F. Remington, Goodrich C. White Professor of Political Science, Emory University

"necessary reading for all who seek to understand what has happened to democracy in the 25 postcommunist states. These exceptional essays by leading experts balance nuanced interpretations of the particularities of individual regimes with comparative insights that speak to all students of regime dynamics—particularly on the complexity, diversity, and instability of mixed or hybrid regimes and the decisive role that local democrats or authoritarians can play when they can draw on the resources offered by regional and global allies."

— Philip G. Roeder, University of California, San Diego

Valerie Bunce is the Aaron Binenkorb Professor of International Studies and Professor of Government at Cornell University. Bunce is the author, most recently, of Subversive Institutions: The Design and the Collapse of Socialism and the State (Cambridge University Press, 1999), and her articles have appeared in the American Political Science Review, Comparative Politics, Comparative Political Studies, Politics and Society, and International Organization, together with a variety of area-based journals and edited volumes.

Michael McFaul is the Peter and Helen Bing Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institution and Professor of Political Science at Stanford University. He is also a nonresident Senior Associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. His contributions to this book were made before joining the U.S. government as Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director for Russia and Eurasian Affairs at the National Security Council in the administration of President Barack Obama in January 2009. The views reflected in this publication are his alone and in no way represent or reflect U.S. government policy. He is the author and editor of several monographs, most recently Revolution in Orange: The Origins of Ukraine's Democratic Breakthrough (with Anders Åslund, 2009), Between Dictatorship and Democracy: Russian Postcommunist Political Reform (with Nikolai Petrov and Andrei Ryabov, 2004), and After the Collapse of Communism: Comparative Lessons of Transitions (with Kathryn Stoner-Weiss, 2004).

Kathryn Stoner-Weiss is Deputy Director and Senior Research Scholar at the Center on Democracy, Development, and the Rule of Law, at the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies at Stanford University. She is the author of Resisting the State: Reform and Retrenchment in Post-Soviet Russia (Cambridge University Press, 2006) and Local Heroes: The Political Economy of Russian Regional Governance (1999). She is also coeditor of After the Collapse of Communism: Comparative Lessons of Transitions (with Michael McFaul, Cambridge University Press, 2004). Her articles on contemporary Russia have appeared most recently in Foreign Affairs, Pueblis, Current History, Journal of Democracy, and Politics and Society.
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