

gets the most space in this longish survey, but the fact-seeking reader will also find all the information he may want to absorb about the economic history and geography of Albania, which was formally ousted from Comecon in October 1961, as well as China, North Korea, and North Vietnam, which never really belonged to the community and have kept aloof from it for nearly a decade.

Political developments in Eastern Europe since 1945, particularly the events which led to the gradual establishment of the Soviet economic dominance over this area, are discussed at length. The reader is also given a fair and intelligible account of the main differences in the development patterns between the European Economic Community and Comecon. In contrast, even the most essential issues in Comecon's attempt at economic integration of the Soviet bloc—such as the still unsolved controversy over mutual trade prices, the major dispute about the establishment of supranational institutions, the perennial clash between national and community interests, the problem of the majority vote, or the thorny issue of regional specialization, to name only a few—are dealt with in a couple of sentences or, at best, in a short paragraph.

This obvious lack of balance between the plethora of facts and information in the sphere of economic geography and political and economic history and the paucity of bona fide economic analysis of the very real problems of this institution, which, after all, was created primarily as an instrument for the economic integration of the Soviet bloc, might—of course—be quite deliberate. One could well argue that all the issues I have just mentioned are far too complex and technical to be of interest to the general reader or average businessman. I do not agree with such an approach, but this might be a *déformation professionnelle* on my part. I would also say that the author dwells too much on the past at the expense of recent developments.

Yet despite its definite geographical bias, Mellor's book contains quite a lot of information, which could be of interest not only to a general reader or businessman but also to more serious students of economic relations in Eastern Europe.

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THE COMMUNIST STATES IN DISARRAY, 1965–1971. Edited by *Adam Bromke* and *Teresa Rakowska-Harmstone*. The Carleton Series in Soviet and East European Studies. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1972. ix, 363 pp. \$13.50, cloth. \$4.95, paper.

The focus of this work is not entirely clear. Formally it is devoted to the impact of the Sino-Soviet conflict on the world community of socialist states, together with the spread of nationalism and polycentrism. But the major concentration is on Eastern Europe—of the sixteen chapters, eight of the eleven on countries are devoted to particular East European countries and three of the other five concern the overall problems of this area. Within this framework a general accounting of developments since the fall of Khrushchev is undertaken. The work is one in a series on Soviet and East European affairs produced by Carleton University, which perhaps explains the omission of a separate contribution on the USSR in the Sino-Soviet dispute.

The principal weakness of the volume as a general survey of developments in

Eastern Europe from 1965 to 1971 is its failure to give adequate attention to the economic sources of political instability. Only one of the sixteen chapters, an essay on Comecon, is devoted to economic matters; and though many of the country chapters advert to the universal problem of economic reform, they fail in general to spell out either the destabilizing effects of relative factor inefficiency or to analyze the politically erosive import of reform efforts.

Nevertheless, the book is among collective works (of which there is a plethora) considerably above average in its contribution to the analysis of developments in contemporary Eastern Europe. No doubt we should have expected as much from such well-known scholars as Adam Bromke, John C. Campbell, Melvin Croan, Andrew Gyorgy, and Gordon Skilling. Croan, for example, grapples directly with the revisionist thesis, argued by Hans Apel, Jean Edward Smith, and Welles Hagen, to the effect that the German Democratic Republic is, in the eyes of its own population, far along the road to legitimation and therefore to the achievement of political stability and permanence.

Three contributions by younger scholars are worth special note. In his account of the Albanian version of the cultural revolution, Peter R. Prifti not only provides us with much difficult-to-find information on a badly neglected country but also touches on the delicate relation between ideological extremism and Albanian nationalism. Gabriel Fischer, formerly with the Institute of International Relations in Bucharest, describes with the voice of an insider the political and national philosophy of the Ceaușescu leadership. I have not seen this material elsewhere. Finally, V. C. Chrypinski has produced a stimulating example of political sociology, moving from such forces as the demographic pressures which plague Poland to factional conflicts within the party and the recent change in leadership.

A product of Canadian inspiration, *The Communist States in Disarray* will no doubt be well received by specialists and librarians alike.

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EASTERN EUROPE AND EUROPEAN SECURITY. By *William R. Kintner* and *Wolfgang Klaiber*. Foreword by *William E. Griffith*. A Foreign Policy Research Institute Book. New York: Dunellen Company, 1971. xix, 393 pp. \$15.00, cloth. \$5.95, paper.

This book is useful more for its application of comparative and quantitative methods to two central post-1956 East European developments than for its treatment of "European security." Based on data contained in a three-volume study issued in 1967 by the Foreign Policy Research Institute, the book's reach is broad: to present a partial explanation of East European politics through the testing of hypotheses in a historical context. Its intended audience is equally broad: laymen, political scientists, policy-makers.

A historical review of the pre-1956 period serves as an adequate (if necessarily sketchy) prologue to the examination in part 2 of the relation between economic reform and political development in Eastern Europe. The authors present case studies of economic reform in Bulgaria, Hungary, and East Germany between 1956 and 1967. The cases are highly condensed, but a fuller synthesis of the genesis and implementation of economic reform in each of the three countries is available else-