Eastern European Capitalism in the Making

This book examines the relationship between governments, labor, and business in Central and Eastern Europe as capitalism develops. The tripartite forums for social dialogue in Bulgaria and Poland are described as “tripartism,” a new postcommunist species of state-society interaction and a brand of capitalism distinct from American neoliberalism, Western European neocorporatism, and Japanese statism. These forums are understood as institutionalizing of conflict among postcommunist social actors in the industrial arena and consist of three specific elements: political negotiations, civic participation, and multilevel bargaining. The emergence and development of postcommunist tripartism are significantly shaped by the twin domestic necessities to preserve social peace and legitimate and consolidate the social actors. The book explains variations in the establishment and functioning of tripartite institutions across Central and Eastern European countries, industries, and regions, with corporatist legacies and legacies of extrication paths from state socialism, on the one hand, and, on the other, with social partners’ strategic commitment to concerted action. Integration into the international economy and polity, especially European integration, has somewhat diminished differences and, in the long run, is helping to preserve and maintain social dialogue structures in the Central and Eastern European region.

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For my parents
Nadka and Atanas

and to the memory of my grandparents
Elena and Teofil, Riska and Dimiter

with gratitude and love
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Elena Iankova
Abbreviations

AWS Solidarity Electoral Action
BIA Bulgarian Industrial Association
BIBA Bulgarian International Business Association
BSP Bulgarian Socialist Party
BTC Bulgarian Telecommunications Company
CEE Central and Eastern Europe
CESA Council for Economic and Social Agreement
CITUB Confederation of Independent Trade Unions in Bulgaria
(Podkrepa) CL Confederation of Labor
CMEA Council for Mutual Economic Assistance
CMKOS Czech Trade Union Confederation
DDR German Democratic Republic
EBRD European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
ELPEM Sofia-based company, producer of electrical equipment
EMU Economic and Monetary Union
ESC Economic and Social Committee
ETUC European Trade Union Confederation
EU European Union
GDP Gross domestic product
GDR German Democratic Republic
GWTU General Workers’ Trade Union
HAIC Hungarian Association of International Companies
ICFTU International Confederation of Free Trade Unions
ILO International Labor Organization
IMF International Monetary Fund
INTEX Lodz-based company, producer of cloth
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
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<tr>
<td>JCC</td>
<td>Joint Consultative Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>KCZZ</td>
<td>Central Trade Union Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>KLD</td>
<td>Liberal Democratic Congress</td>
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<tr>
<td>KOR-KSS</td>
<td>Committee for Social Self-Defense</td>
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<tr>
<td>KPN</td>
<td>Confederation of Independent Poland</td>
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<tr>
<td>KPP</td>
<td>Confederation of Polish Employers</td>
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<tr>
<td>KPPP</td>
<td>Confederation of Polish Private Employers</td>
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<tr>
<td>KSR</td>
<td>Conference of Workers’ Self-Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAOSZ</td>
<td>National Association of Hungarian Employers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MRF</td>
<td>Movement for Rights and Freedoms</td>
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<tr>
<td>MSZOSZ</td>
<td>National Confederation of Hungarian Trade Unions</td>
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<tr>
<td>NCCI</td>
<td>National Commission for Coordination of Interests</td>
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<tr>
<td>NCTC</td>
<td>National Council for Tripartite Cooperation</td>
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<tr>
<td>NEP</td>
<td>New Economic Policy</td>
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<td>NGO</td>
<td>Nongovernmental organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>NTU</td>
<td>National Trade Union</td>
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<tr>
<td>NUEM</td>
<td>National Union of Economic Managers</td>
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<tr>
<td>ODS</td>
<td>Civic Democratic Party</td>
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<tr>
<td>OECD</td>
<td>Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPZZZ</td>
<td>All-Poland Trade Union Alliance</td>
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<tr>
<td>OSSOB</td>
<td>Alliance of Free Trade Union Organizations in Bulgaria</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC</td>
<td>Center Civic Alliance</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHARE</td>
<td>Poland-Hungary Assistance for Economic Restructuring</td>
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<tr>
<td>PKWN</td>
<td>Committee of National Liberation</td>
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<tr>
<td>PPR</td>
<td>Polish Workers’ Party</td>
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<td>PPS</td>
<td>Polish Socialist Party</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSL</td>
<td>Polish Peasant Party</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROPCiO</td>
<td>Movement for the Defense of Human and Civil Rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>SLD</td>
<td>Democratic Left Alliance</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPD</td>
<td>Social Democratic Party</td>
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<tr>
<td>UDF</td>
<td>Union of Democratic Forces</td>
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<td>UP</td>
<td>Labor Union</td>
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<td>UW</td>
<td>Freedom Union</td>
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<tr>
<td>VSNKH or Vesenka</td>
<td>Supreme Economic Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZChN</td>
<td>National and Christian Union</td>
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<tr>
<td>ZPGWK</td>
<td>Association of Stone Coal Mining Employers</td>
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