The Stalinist Era

Placing Stalinism in its international context, David L. Hoffmann presents a new interpretation of Soviet state intervention and violence. Many “Stalinist” practices – the state-run economy, surveillance, propaganda campaigns, and the use of concentration camps – did not originate with Stalin or even in Russia, but were instead tools of governance that became widespread throughout Europe during World War I. The Soviet system was formed at this moment of total war, and wartime practices of mobilization and state violence became building blocks of the new political order. Communist Party leaders in turn used these practices ruthlessly to pursue their ideological agenda of economic and social transformation. Synthesizing new research on Stalinist collectivization, industrialization, cultural affairs, gender roles, nationality policies, World War II, and the Cold War, Hoffmann provides a succinct account of this pivotal period in world history.

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The Stalinist Era

David L. Hoffmann

The Ohio State University
To my sisters Jill and Karen
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# Abbreviations

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<th>Full Name</th>
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<td>GARF</td>
<td>Gosudarstvennyi Arkhiv Rossiiskoi Federatsii (State Archive of the Russian Federation)</td>
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<td>RGAE</td>
<td>Rossiiskii Gosudarstvennyi Arkhiv Ekonomiki (Russian State Archive of Economics)</td>
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<tr>
<td>RGASPI</td>
<td>Rossiiskii Gosudarstvennyi Arkhiv Sotsial’noi i Politicheskoi Istorii (Russian State Archive of Social and Political History)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TsMAM</td>
<td>Tsentral’nyi Munitsipal’nyi Arkhiv Moskvy (Central Municipal Archive of Moscow)</td>
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