

## Contents

<i>Notes on contributors</i>	vii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	x
<i>List of abbreviations and glossary of terms</i>	xi
<i>Timeline: Eastern Europe, 1945–91</i>	xiv
<i>Leaders of East European and Soviet communist parties, 1945–91</i>	xvii
<i>East European communist parties and their post-communist successors</i>	xix
1 The collapse of communism in Eastern Europe: origins, processes, outcomes <i>Kevin McDermott and Matthew Stibbe</i>	1
<b>Part I The historical <i>longue durée</i></b>	
2 Echoes and precedents: 1989 in historical perspective <i>Robin Okey</i>	33
<b>Part II The ‘Gorbachev factor’</b>	
3 The multifaceted external Soviet role in processes towards unanticipated revolutions <i>Mary Buckley</i>	55
4 ‘When your neighbour changes his wallpaper’: the ‘Gorbachev factor’ and the collapse of the German Democratic Republic <i>Peter Grieder</i>	73

**Part III The East European revolutions: internal and external perspectives**

- 5 The demise of communism in Poland: a staged evolution or failed revolution? 95  
*Tom Junes*
- 6 The international context of Hungarian transition, 1989: the view from Budapest 113  
*László Borhi*
- 7 The demise of the communist regime in Czechoslovakia, 1987–89: a socio-economic perspective 136  
*Michal Pullmann*
- 8 Discourse and power: the FSN and the mythologisation of the Romanian revolution 154  
*Kevin Adamson and Sergiu Florean*
- 9 A revolution in two stages: the curiosity of the Bulgarian case 174  
*Elena Simeonova*

**Part IV Then and now: continuity and change in the academic and cultural perceptions of the communist era and its aftermath**

- 10 A hopeless case of optimism? Jürgen Kuczynski and the end of the GDR 195  
*Matthew Stibbe*
- 11 Meanings of 1989: right-wing discourses in post-communist Poland 217  
*Artur Lipiński*
- 12 From the 'thirst for change' and 'hunger for truth' to a 'revolution that hardly happened': public protests and reconstructions of the past in Bulgaria in the 1990s 235  
*Nikolai Vukov*
- 13 Afterword: the discursive constitution of revolution and revolution envy 253  
*James Krapfl*
- Select bibliography* 267
- Index* 271