

Western Europe Economic And Social Change Since 1945

This book seeks to analyse the development of the European Union (EU), which was founded upon the principle of the free movement of capital, goods, services and people in 1957. Its central thesis is that, from a practical and theoretical point of view, such a basis is fundamentally at odds with the creation of an interventionist regime that the construction of a social Europe would require. The authors argue convincingly that - economically: the EU does not currently possess the budget or the economic tools to pursue such a strategy; politically: close to none of the institutions of the EU have backed such a policy; practically: conservative and neo-liberal forces (among member states and the institutions of the EU) have repeatedly thwarted any moves in this direction. In reality, the Single Internal Market, Economic and Monetary Union, enlargement, the Lisbon Agenda and European Constitution projects all prioritise supply-side measures and expanding the scope of the market rather than the boosting of demand and other economic intervention. Consequently, constructing a social Europe in the face of this would appear problematic. Hence, in both theory and practice, the idea that there can be a social Europe vis-à-vis neoliberalisation is a contradiction in terms. This controversial book will be an educating and refreshing read for advanced students and academics involved with European politics, the European Union, European Economics and Economic institutions.

This major new text offers a clearly structured introduction to the economic and social development of Western Europe since the Second World War. A team of experts explore key aspects of postwar Europe's economy and society in a number of thematic chapters, with a regional and strongly comparative focus and these are followed by specific national studies.

The Belgian historian attempts an international viewpoint in this general history of the social and economic evolution in Western Europe. A textbook on the geography of Western Europe designed for degree-level students and their instructors seeking a thematically organized text that deals with the contemporary issues that confront the continent.

The main purpose of the book is to introduce the work of Alan S. Milward and to acknowledge the full magnitude of his scientific contribution to contemporary British and European history. The book is a collection of essays which provide a better understanding of Alan Milward's extensive intellectual work for future scholars and facilitate the knowledge and transmission of his published work to present and future generations of students, scholars in the various disciplines concerned, and the general public. The series of original contributions which this book contains are related to or reflect critically upon Milward's own contributions to the fields of political, diplomatic, and socio-economic history, political science, economics, international relations, and European Studies in general. This book honors Alan Milward through a better understanding of his many pioneering contributions in the fields of contemporary European history in general, and the history of European integration in particular. Although the volume does not aim to be a substitute for Milward's work itself, it illuminates and assesses his creative process along fifty years of continued and intense work, as well as the impact of his main work, and the continuing relevance of his main theses today.

"The internationalization of the world economy and the economic and political development in Europe are factors that have fostered new interest in the common economic heritage of the European countries. Spanning 500 years, this tale of the economic history of Western Europe seeks to unearth the roots of present day problems."

This book provides a comprehensive survey of the social geography of Western Europe. It begins by outlining the character of the region and

proceeds with an exploration of demographic and cultural features, including migration and ethnic groups. The political organisation of nations and regions are analysed along with regional change and development. The study concludes with a consideration of key issues central to the geography of social well-being such as regional convergence/divergence and the impact of public expenditure patterns.

Western Europe Economic and Social Change Since 1945 Routledge

A Companion to Europe Since 1945 provides a stimulating guide to numerous important developments which have influenced the political, economic, social, and cultural character of Europe during and since the Cold War. Includes 22 original essays by an international team of expert scholars Examines the social, intellectual, economic, cultural, and political changes that took place throughout Europe in the Cold War and Post Cold War periods Discusses a wide range of topics including the Single Market, European-American relations, family life and employment, globalization, consumption, political parties, European decolonization, European identity, security and defence policies, and Europe's fight against international terrorism Presents Europe in a broad geographical conception, to give equal weighting to developments in the Eastern and Western European states

This edition reflects the enormous changes in Western Europe through the 1990s including: The Maastricht Treaty and the single European market, industrial policy and the drive to achieve a more competitive Europe, EU regional policy and the operation of the structural and cohesion funds, reform of the common agricultural policy and the concept of integrated rural development, reunification of Germany and its impact on Europe, environmental policies, transport, including high-speed rail and the Channel Tunnel, fishing policy and the implications for maritime Europe, and the future of the European Union.

Publisher description

Bringing together renowned scholars in the field with younger researchers, this interdisciplinary study of the history of post-war industrial policy in Europe investigates transfers across borders and locates industrial policy in the context of the Cold War from a global perspective.

This volume charts the cultural, political, and social changes which took place in Western Europe during the first thirteen years after the Second World War. It brings together seventeen essays by experts from Britain, France, Germany, Italy, and the USA. Western European nations faced many challenges during this period: the psychological and material aftermath of the war; the need for economic and social restructuring; and the impact of the Cold War on domestic political, social, and cultural developments. To explore the responses to these challenges, transnational and national perspectives need to be combined. Thus the first two sections compare key developmental processes in Britain, France, West Germany, and Italy. They ask how these nations came to terms with their most recent history, and how they addressed the problems of economic and social restructuring. A solely comparative approach along national lines, however, does not do justice to the historical reality of these societies. After all, they were not hermetically sealed national units, but connected by individual and institutional contacts and the transfer of goods and ideas. The third section examines the area in which these links had become most obvious after 1945—the debates about the beginnings of European integration. The fourth section focuses on the influence of the USA on the social and cultural re-organization of Western Europe. It abandons national subdivisions altogether and examines some agents of American influence in

Western Europe.

This is the first available introductory, comparative account of the rise of giant business corporations in America and Europe in the century before WW2. The book discusses the evolution of firms like Ford, Exxon, Unilever and Siemens.

Nine essays examine and evaluate, in relationship with current political and economic conditions, the events, processes, preconditions, and developments between 1500 and 1900 which brought about the establishment of powerful nation-states. This made Europe's failure to use its land intensively much less of a problem, while allowing growth in energy-intensive industries. Another crucial difference that he notes has to do with trade. Fortuitous global conjunctures made the Americas a greater source of needed primary products for Europe than any Asian periphery. This allowed Northwest Europe to grow dramatically in population, specialize further in manufactures, and remove labor from the land, using increased imports rather than maximizing yields. Together, coal and the New World allowed Europe to grow along resource-intensive, labor-saving paths. Meanwhile, Asia hit a cul-de-sac. Although the East Asian hinterlands boomed after 1750, both in population and in manufacturing, this growth prevented these peripheral regions from exporting vital resources to the cloth-producing Yangzi Delta.

This introduction to modern Europe traces the development of European economy from the early moves towards European integration after 1945 to the contentious issue of monetary union in the 1990s. The text considers the longterm forces of economic and social change.

This book, originally published in 1987, presents a broad overview of the spatial organization of the European economy, providing a valuable synthesis of recently published material by geographers and other social scientists. A major theme is the interdependence of economic development at various scales. The three main sections look at international and European economic context; detailed changes in particular sectors; specific types of regional economic formations. Case studies are used and reference made to historical processes.

Collected together, and in many cases translated, for the first time, this volume contains the key essays of Marian Malowist. Social pacts – policy agreements between governments, labor unions and sometimes employer organizations – began to emerge in many countries in the 1980s. The most common explanations for social pacts tend to focus on economic factors, influenced by industrial relations institutions such as highly coordinated collective bargaining. This book presents, and tests, an alternative and complementary explanation highlighting the electoral calculations made by political parties in choosing pacts. Using a dataset covering 16 European countries for the years 1980-2006, as well as eight in-depth country case studies, the authors argue that governments' choice of social pacts or legislation is less influenced by economic problems, but is strongly influenced by electoral competition. Social pacts will be attractive when party leaders perceive them to be helpful in reducing the potential electoral costs of economic adjustment and wage restraint policies. Alternatively, parties may forgo negotiations with social partners and seek to impose such policies unilaterally if they believe that approach will yield electoral gain or minimize electoral costs. By combining the separate literatures on political economy and party politics, the book sheds new light on the dynamics of social pacts in Western

Europe. This book will be of interest to students and scholars of political science, economics, political economy, European Studies and comparative politics.

This is the ideal companion text to *A Political History of Western Europe Since 1945*. It is an introductory survey which explains how western Europe built up its postwar prosperity and is moving towards continental integration. Themes treated include: the origins of the EC; consumerism; youth culture and protest; immigration; the oil crisis and its aftermath; and the contrasting experience and expectations of the Nordic world and the Mediterranean south. The book ends with the consequences of Soviet collapse. Designed for general history students, it assumes no formal knowledge of economics, and is notably accessible and user-friendly in its approach.

Developments in West European Politics brings together specially commissioned chapters by leading authorities to provide a tightly integrated assessment of politics, government and policy set in a broad economic and social context. It focuses throughout on the impact of globalisation, West European integration and intra-European relations and the extent to which a new system of multi-level governance is emerging. Like other *Developments* titles it will be essential reading for students and specialists alike. Contributors include: Colin Crouch, Renaud Dehousse, Piero Ignazi, Herbert Kitschelt, Joni Lovenduski, Yves Meny, and Loukas Tsoukalis.

The industrial age has proved to be a formative period for Europe and has led to the emergence of differently structured regions. Some of these regions took a leading role in the process of industrialization, while others developed at a slower pace, started later or differed in the extent of their industrial development; our industrial heritage bears witness to the individual paths of development that have taken place since the late 18th century. The contributions to this volume take a regional perspective and focus on different stages of industrialization. Hence this volume not only allows comparisons to be drawn between different paths of industrial development, but also gives an overview of the different concepts of regions used among economic, social and cultural historians.

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