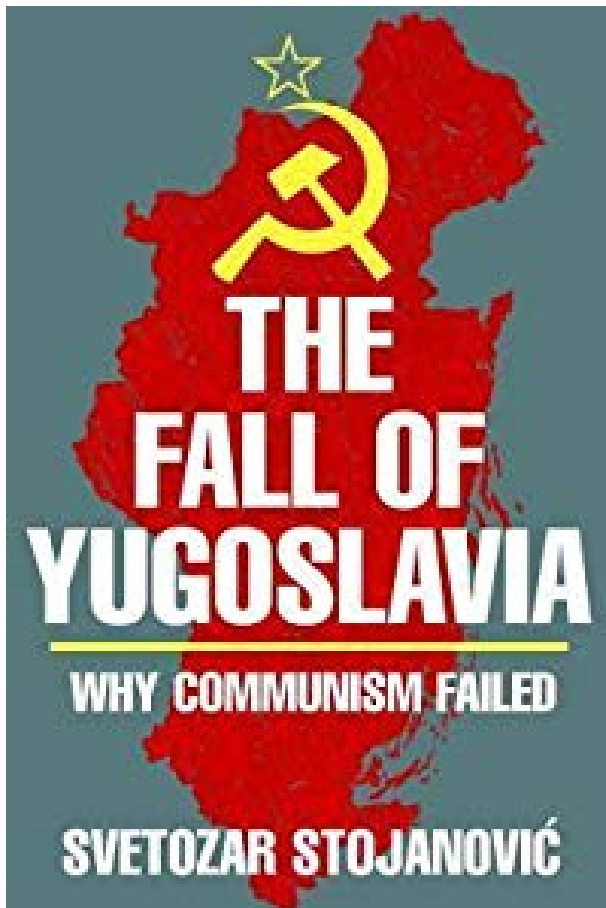


The Fall of Yugoslavia: Why Communism Failed



ISBN10:	1573921467
Author:	Svetozar Stojanovic
Language	English
Genre:	Uncategorized
Published:	June 1st 1997 by Prometheus Books
Goodreads Rating:	4.00
ISBN13:	9781573921466
Pages:	341

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A leading Yugoslav dissident offers valuable insights into the demise of communism and the bloody mayhem that followed in its wake. The collapse of communism in Europe liberated Yugoslavia only to see it plunge into a brutal civil war between religious, ethnic, and nationalist factions. Why did communism's nonviolent end ignite a nationalist war that has exacted such a high price in human suffering? International affairs scholar Svetozar Stojanović, a member of the famous Praxis group that resisted the communists, has studied the developments in his war-torn homeland. He examines the internal and external factors that forced the transition from communist rule to democracy and a free-market economy. His insider's, behind-the-scenes look at the internal power struggles that pull factions in various directions, examines the cultural weaknesses of communism, the "capitalist encirclement" of Marxist-socialist economies, communism's ideological decay, and the roles played by Gorbachev and Yeltsin. The Fall of Yugoslavia also examines the international reaction to these historic developments. Stojanović urges the West not to fall victim to a "triumphalistic temptation," with as yet unforeseen consequences, but to anticipate and face the problems in this volatile Yugoslav region.