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#deferred future #self-satisfied republic #political complacency consequences #national stagnation risks #future challenges postponed

Explore the critical state of a self-satisfied republic facing a deferred future, where political complacency has led to crucial delays in addressing vital challenges. This analysis delves into the future implications and potential national stagnation risks when a nation postpones necessary action, highlighting the perils of inaction for long-term prosperity and stability.

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Vertagte Zukunft

In den Jahren 1989/90 vollzog sich in atemberaubender Dynamik die deutsche Einigung. Über 50 Zeitzeugen, darunter Bürgerrechtler, Botschafter und Diplomaten, Funktionäre und Politiker, Theologen wie auch Akteure aus den Bereichen Banken, Finanzen und Wirtschaft, Gewerkschaften, Industrie, Kommunikation, Medien und Nachrichtendienste, Kulturwissenschaft, Landwirtschaft, Abrüstung, Sicherheit und Verteidigung, Geheimnisträger der Aufklärung, Spionage und Grenzsicherung sowie Oberbürgermeister der großen deutschen Städte und nicht zuletzt Frauen sowohl als Akteurin als auch Betroffene konnten in den letzten fünfzehn Jahren vielfach auf letztmalige Weise eingehend befragt werden. Abschließende Bewertungen durch einen Politikwissenschaftler und Historiker beschließen den Band. Durch gezielte Interviews konnten Lebensläufe der Akteure rekonstruiert. zentrale Ereignisse der deutsch-deutschen Geschichte analysiert sowie über die deutsche Einheit Bilanz gezogen werden. Teils selbstkritisch, teils hautnah berichten die Zeitzeugen über ihre Erlebnisse. Getroffene Entscheidungen und wegweisende Handlungen, aber auch Fehleinschätzungen und Versäumnisse kommen zur Sprache. Die außergewöhnliche, weil in dieser Form einzigartige und auf die relevanten Daten der deutsch-deutschen Nachkriegs-, Teilungs- und Vereinigungsgeschichte eingehende Dokumentation liefert neue Einsichten und weitere Erkenntnisse sowohl über den politischen Umbruch in Ostdeutschland und das Ende der DDR als auch zur Einheit Deutschlands im deutsch-deutschen und europäischen Kontext. Bis heute ist eine weitgehend geteilte Erinnerung an die historischen Geschehnisse aus Ost und West feststellbar, die auf ein gespaltenes deutsches Geschichtsbewusstsein verweist. Die Zeitzeugengespräche führten die Herausgeber mit Egon Bahr, Friedrich Bauer, Wolfgang Berghofer, Sabine Bergmann-Pohl, Burkhard Berndt, Joachim Bitterlich, Klaus Blessing, Norbert Blüm, Hans Otto Bräutigam, Bernhard Brinkmann, Lothar de Maizière, Eberhard Diepgen, Peter-Michael Diestel, Manfred Domagk, Jürgen Engert, Rainer Eppelmann, Wolfgang Gerhardt, Werner Großmann, Gregor Gysi, Walter Hirche, Theodor Hoffmann, Klaus Höpcke, Günther Krause, Egon Krenz, Ingrid Kuschel, Hans-Joachim Lauck, Vera Lengsfeld, Markus Meckel, Hans Modrow, Walter Momper, Helmut Müller-Enbergs, Colin Munro, Fritz Pleitgen, Hermann Rappe, Hans Reckers, Walter Siegert, Günter Schabowski, Herbert Schmalstieg, Friedrich Schorlemmer, Richard Schröder, Christian Schwarz-Schilling, Rudolf Seiters, Michael Sommer, Peer Steinbrück, Eckhard Steinfurth, Eckart Stratenschulte, Klaus Taubert, Horst Teltschik, Ralph Thiele, Wolfgang Thierse, Hans Tietmeyer, Theo Waigel, Hans Watzek und Ralf Wolfensteller.

Deutsche Einigung 1989/1990

Wirtschaft geht uns alle an: Es soll ein auskömmliches Leben gewährleistet werden, die optimale Aufteilung zwischen Arbeit und Freizeit gefunden, die Familie abgesichert und ein sorgenfreies Leben im Alter vorbereitet werden. Die ökonomische Wissenschaft hat von jeher passend dazu ein rationales Bild des Menschen entworfen: den Homo oeconomicus d. h. den rational, kühl abwägenden Menschen als Konsumenten, der ständig seinen Nutzen maximiert, mit einem knappen Haushaltsbudget auskommen muss und seine Arbeitskraft den Unternehmen meistbietend zur Verfügung stellt, um seinen Lebensunterhalt sicherzustellen. Darüber hinaus verfügt er über eine klare Präferenzordnung und kann sich in jeder Situation des Lebens für die beste Alternative entscheiden. So einleuchtend dieses Bild auch klingen mag, so verkehrt ist es gerade heute. Im Gegenteil: Der Mensch strebte noch nie nur nach persönlicher Nutzenmaximierung, sondern er beweist sich tagtäglich als ein irrationales, höchst komplexes Wesen mit häufig unvorhersehbaren Reaktionen. Der Kerngedanke des irrationalen Wirtschaftsakteurs ist nicht neu. Die bisherige und gegenwärtige ökonomische Theorie muss nicht komplett umgeschrieben werden. Allerdings zwingt der Autor den Leser, eine andere Sicht auf die Ökonomie zu nehmen: Eine Sicht, die den Menschen dabei nicht vergisst und ihn in allen Facetten seines Wesens berücksichtigt. Dabei werden auch die Grenzen des ökonomischen Denkens aufgezeigt. Welche Folgen das für die ökonomische Theorie und Praxis hat, zeigt dieses Buch.

Grenzen des ökonomischen Denkens

Leben wir noch in einer Demokratie? Oder leben wir in einer Zeit, in der eine Transformation der politischen Systeme stattfindet? In der neue Strukturen in der Politik entstehen, die als eine Art Bypass demokratische Strukturen umgehen? Wodurch private Akteure die politische Bühne betreten, Prozesse und Inhalte zu ihren Gunsten beeinflussen und die Politik einer massiven Ökonomisierung aussetzen? Konsequenz dieser Transformation, die gemeinhin als Neoliberalismus beschrieben wird, ist die Entfaltung eines finanzkapitalistischen Repräsentationssystems. In politischen Entscheidungen werden immer häufiger Marktakteure repräsentiert, die zur Finanzierungsgrundlage der Politik geworden sind. Der Wähler dient nur noch als Quelle zum Machterwerb. Für das neue Repräsentationssystem bilden sich neue Institutionen im politischen System, während Parlamente auf Marktkonformität getrimmt werden - oder demokratische Institutionen ganz verschwinden. Durch Freihandelsabkommen sollen diese neuen Strukturen implementiert werden. Dadurch entziehen sich Wirtschaft und Finanzen endgültig einer demokratischen Regulierung. Die Folge ist eine soziale Ungleichheit, die wieder ein Niveau wie zu vordemokratischen Zeiten erreicht. Demokratische Mitbestimmung über die Verteilung des erwirtschafteten Wohlstands droht, eine Besonderheit des 20. Jahrhunderts zu bleiben.

Feindliche Übernahme – Das Ende der Demokratie

Euro-, Finanz-, Griechenland-Krise - und mittendrin die Europäische Zentralbank. Seit EZB-Chef Mario Draghi die Geldpresse zur Rettung des Euros angeworfen hat, drohen neue Gefahren. Denn seine "Politik des billigen Geldes" mag zwar kurzfristig die Märkte beruhigen, verhindert aber langfristig den Schuldenabbau, stimuliert weitere Spekulation und bereitet den nächsten Absturz vor. Noch schlimmer: Zur Sanierung der überschuldeten Euro-Staaten werden auch die deutschen Sparer schleichend enteignet. Dr. Wolfgang Hetzer stellt deshalb die Frage: Will uns die EZB enteignen? Ist ihr Handeln überhaupt verfassungskonform? Und kann eine Währungsunion ohne politische Union überhaupt funktionieren? Eines ist klar: Europa steht in diesen Tagen vor seiner größten Bewährungsprobe.

Geldputsch

Die sprachwissenschaftliche Forschung zur Sprache in der Politik ist angetreten, den politischen Sprachgebrauch und varietäten- bzw. registerspezifische Erscheinungsformen der politischen Sprache mit Methoden der deskriptiven Linguistik zu analysieren und zu beschreiben. ODiese Analysen und Beschreibungen fanden erst vor gut 50 Jahren Anerkennung auch als Teilgebiet der Sprachwissenschaft; seit 1996 hat sich in Deutschland der Name Politolingustik dafür eingebürgert. Das vorliegende Handbuch sichtet die Vielzahl der politolinguistischen Ansätze, Methoden und Befunde, ordnet sie in 60 thematischen Beiträgen und bereitet sie für die Lehre sowie für die weitere Forschung auf dem aktuellen Stand auf.

Der Spiegel

Former chancellor of West Germany Helmut Schmidt writes a candid account of his encounters and confrontations with key leaders of the United States, the Soviet Union and China. 32 pages of halftones and 5 maps.

Handbuch Sprache und Politik

Social Innovation is becoming an increasingly important topic in our global society. Those organizations which are able to develop business solutions to the most urgent social and ecological challenges will be the leading companies of tomorrow. Social Innovation not only creates value for society but will be a key driver for business success. Although the concept of Social Innovation is discussed globally the meaning and its impact on the development of new business strategies is still heavily on debate. This publication has the goal to give a comprehensive overview of different concepts in the very innovative field of Social Innovation, from a managerial as well as from a theoretical and social perspective. Over 30 leading thinkers in the field of Innovation, Strategic Management and Organizational Development give a well structured inside on the latest developments and progress in the field of Social Innovation. Thereby the authors not only develop a comprehensive and unique analysis on the state-of-the art of social innovation but also give practical advice and information to business leaders on how to apply the latest management thinking on Social Innovation to daily business decisions. This publication has the intention to become a milestone in the further development of the concept of Social Innovation as well as to further stimulate new business strategies necessary to overcome world most pressing social and ecological challenges.

Nuremberg Diary

This is a timely and important contribution on innovation processes within the public sector. Departing from the myth of private equal to entrepreneurial, public equal to bureaucratic paralysis, it offers precious insights into public sector learning, entrepreneurship, of course inertias, and also the trade-offs involved in different management philosophies and performance evaluation methods. It is a rare example of political economy done right. Giovanni Dosi, Sant Anna School of Advanced Studies, Pisa Innovation and entrepreneurship have become the cornerstones for economic growth, jobs and competitiveness in the global economy. However, the burden for generating an innovative economy has fallen on the private sector. Scholars have been remarkably taciturn concerning the role for innovation and entrepreneurship in the public sector has remained strikingly invisible. No more. In Innovation in Public Sector Services, the authors assemble a team of leading international scholars in a path breaking study to identify the potential for the public sector in contributing to innovation and entrepreneurship. In particular, the volume introduces an insightful new analytical framework that lays the foundations for transforming a sleepy public sector into a dynamic, innovative and highly effective partner for leadership and change in the global era. Scholars, policy makers and business leaders who think that the public sector is condemned to being a hindrance to innovation and entrepreneurship rather than a leader championing change and competitiveness in a global economy would be well advised to read this important new book. David B. Audretsch, Indiana University, Bloomington, US and WHU, Germany This groundbreaking book provides new key insights and opens up an important research agenda. The book develops a new taxonomy of the different types of innovation found in public sector services, and investigates the key features and drivers of public sector entrepreneurship. The book contains new statistical studies and a set of six international case studies in health and social services. The research shows that public sector organisations are important innovators in their own right. Economic growth and social development depend on efficient public sector organisations that deliver high quality services, are effectively organised, and have excellent interactions with the private sector, NGOs and citizens. Public sector innovation is complex, invariably involving changes in services, organisational structures, and managerial practices. Essential to successful innovation are the policy entrepreneurs and service entrepreneurs who develop, organise and manage new innovations. This book provides key lessons for these public sector entrepreneurs. Innovation in Public Sector Services fills a fundamental gap; explaining the dynamics of innovation and entrepreneurship in public sector services and is of great importance for researchers, academics and students interested in innovation, entrepreneurship and strategy management. It provides a stimulating read for anyone working or interested in health and social services.

'Brilliant' Sunday Times How does a truly disastrous leader – a sociopath, a demagogue, a tyrant – come to power? How, and why, does a tyrant hold on to power? And what goes on in the hidden recesses of the tyrant's soul? For help in understanding our most urgent contemporary dilemmas, William Shakespeare has no peer. 'Brilliant, timely' Margaret Atwood, on Twitter 'A scintillating book, uncannily illuminating about current politics, as perceptive about the victims of tyranny as it is about the tyrants themselves' Nicholas Hytner

The Ideological Weapons of Death

Comparative political theory is at best an embryonic and marginalized endeavor. As practiced in most Western universities, the study of political theory generally involves a rehearsal of the canon of Western political thought from Plato to Marx. Only rarely are practitioners of political thought willing (and professionally encouraged) to transgress the canon and thereby the cultural boundaries of North America and Europe in the direction of genuine comparative investigation. Border Crossings presents an effort to remedy this situation, fully launching a new era in political theory. Thirteen scholars from around the world examine the various political traditions of West, South, and East Asia and engage in a reflective cross-cultural discussion that belies the assumptions of an Asian 'essence' and of an unbridgeable gulf between West and non-West. The denial of essential differences does not, however, amount to an endorsement of essential sameness. As viewed and as practiced by contributors to this ground-breaking volume, comparative political theorizing must steer a course between uniformity and radical separation--this is the path of 'border crossings.'

Social Innovation

For decades, neighbourhoods been pivotal sites of social, economic and political exclusion processes, and civil society initiatives, attempting bottom-up strategies of re-development and regeneration. In many cases these efforts resulted in the creation of socially innovative organizations, seeking to satisfy the basic human needs of deprived population groups, to increase their political capabilities and to improve social interaction both internally and between the local communities, the wider urban society and political world. SINGOCOM - Social INnovation GOvernance and COMmunity building - is the acronym of the EU-funded project on which this book is based. Sixteen case studies of socially-innovative initiatives at the neighbourhood level were carried out in nine European cities, of which ten are analysed in depth and presented here. The book compares these efforts and their results, and shows how grass-roots initiatives, alternative local movements and self-organizing urban collectives are reshaping the urban scene in dynamic, creative, innovative and empowering ways. It argues that such grass-roots initiatives are vital for generating a socially cohesive urban condition that exists alongside the official state-organized forms of urban governance. The book is thus a major contribution to socio-political literature, as it seeks to overcome the duality between community-development studies and strategies, and the solidarity-based making of a diverse society based upon the recognising and maintaining of citizenship rights. It will be of particular interest to both students and researchers in the fields of urban studies, social geography and political science.

Christianity and the Social Revolution

This unique book represents the first multi-disciplinary examination of ageing, covering everything from basic cell biology, to social participation in later life, to the representations of old age in the arts and literature. A comprehensive introductory text about the latest scientific evidence on ageing, the book draws on the pioneering New Dynamics of Ageing Programme, the UK's largest research programme in ageing. This programme brought together leading academics from across the arts and humanities, social and biological sciences and fields of engineering and medical research, to study how ageing is changing and the ways in which this process can be made more beneficial to both individuals and society. Comprising individual, local, national and global perspectives, this book will appeal to everyone with an interest in one of the greatest challenges facing the world – our own ageing.

Innovation in Public Sector Services

This 1912 book presents a detailed history of two centuries of the House of Savoy in a broadly chronological fashion.

Franken, Alemannen, Bayern und Burgunder in Oberitalien, 774-962

Chapter nine 1204: the failure of alternatives -- chapter ten Defining society: gender and community in late medieval Europe -- chapter eleven Money, war and death, 1350-1500 -- chapter twelve Rethinking politics, 1350-1500 -- chapter thirteen Conclusion -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index

Tyrant

In December 1945 Thomas Mann wrote a famous letter to Adorno in which he formulated the principle of montage adopted in his novel Doctor Faustus. The writer expressly invited the philosopher to consider, with me, how such a work and I mean Leverkhns work could more or less be practically realized. Their close collaboration on questions concerning the character of the fictional composers putatively late works (Adorno produced specific sketches which are included as an appendix to the present volume) effectively laid the basis for a further exchange of letters. The ensuing correspondence between the two men documents a rare encounter of creative tension between literary tradition and aesthetic modernism which would be sustained right up until the novelists death in 1955. In the letters, Thomas Mann openly acknowledged his fascinated reading of Adornos Minima Moralia and commented in detail on the Essay on Wagner, which he was as eager to read as the one in the Book of Revelation consumes a book which tastes as sweet as honey. Adorno in turn offered detailed observations upon and frequently enthusiastic commendations of Manns later writings, such as The Holy Sinner, The Betrayed One and The Confessions of Felix Krull. Their correspondence also touches upon issues of great personal significance, notably the sensitive discussion of the problems of returning from exile to postwar Germany. The letters are extensively annotated and offer the reader detailed notes concerning the writings, events and personalities referred or alluded to in the correspondence.

Border Crossings

2,000 years of history in one riveting afternoon A country both admired and feared, Germany has been the epicenter of world events time and again: the Reformation, both World Wars, the fall of the Berlin Wall. It did not emerge as a modern nation until 1871—yet today, Germany is the world's fourth-largest economy and a standard-bearer of liberal democracy. "There's no point studying the past unless it sheds some light on the present," writes James Hawes in this brilliantly concise history that has already captivated hundreds of thousands of readers. "It is time, now more than ever, for us all to understand the real history of Germany."

Can Neighbourhoods Save the City?

Muhammad Yunus, the practical visionary who pioneered microcredit and, with his Grameen Bank, won the 2006 Nobel Peace Prize, has developed a visionary new dimension for capitalism which he calls "social business." By harnessing the energy of profit-making to the objective of fulfilling human needs, social business creates self-supporting, viable commercial enterprises that generate economic growth even as they produce goods and services that make the world a better place. In this book, Yunus shows how social business has gone from being a theory to an inspiring practice, adopted by leading corporations, entrepreneurs, and social activists across Asia, South America, Europe and the US. He demonstrates how social business transforms lives; offers practical guidance for those who want to create social businesses of their own; explains how public and corporate policies must adapt to make room for the social business model; and shows why social business holds the potential to redeem the failed promise of free-market enterprise.

The New Science of Ageing

In The Zero Marginal Cost Society, New York Times bestselling author Jeremy Rifkin describes how the emerging Internet of Things is speeding us to an era of nearly free goods and services, precipitating the meteoric rise of a global Collaborative Commons and the eclipse of capitalism. Rifkin uncovers a paradox at the heart of capitalism that has propelled it to greatness but is now taking it to its death—the inherent entrepreneurial dynamism of competitive markets that drives productivity up and marginal costs down, enabling businesses to reduce the price of their goods and services in order to win over consumers and market share. (Marginal cost is the cost of producing additional units of a good or service, if fixed costs are not counted.) While economists have always welcomed a reduction in marginal cost, they never anticipated the possibility of a technological revolution that might bring marginal costs to near zero, making goods and services priceless, nearly free, and abundant, and no longer subject to market forces. Now, a formidable new technology infrastructure—the Internet of things (IoT)—is emerging with the potential of pushing large segments of economic life to near zero

marginal cost in the years ahead. Rifkin describes how the Communication Internet is converging with a nascent Energy Internet and Logistics Internet to create a new technology platform that connects everything and everyone. Billions of sensors are being attached to natural resources, production lines, the electricity grid, logistics networks, recycling flows, and implanted in homes, offices, stores, vehicles, and even human beings, feeding Big Data into an IoT global neural network. Prosumers can connect to the network and use Big Data, analytics, and algorithms to accelerate efficiency, dramatically increase productivity, and lower the marginal cost of producing and sharing a wide range of products and services to near zero, just like they now do with information goods. The plummeting of marginal costs is spawning a hybrid economy—part capitalist market and part Collaborative Commons—with far reaching implications for society, according to Rifkin. Hundreds of millions of people are already transferring parts of their economic lives to the global Collaborative Commons. Prosumers are plugging into the fledgling IoT and making and sharing their own information, entertainment, green energy, and 3D-printed products at near zero marginal cost. They are also sharing cars, homes, clothes and other items via social media sites, rentals, redistribution clubs, and cooperatives at low or near zero marginal cost. Students are enrolling in free massive open online courses (MOOCs) that operate at near zero marginal cost. Social entrepreneurs are even bypassing the banking establishment and using crowdfunding to finance startup businesses as well as creating alternative currencies in the fledgling sharing economy. In this new world, social capital is as important as financial capital, access trumps ownership, sustainability supersedes consumerism, cooperation ousts competition, and "exchange value" in the capitalist marketplace is increasingly replaced by "sharable value" on the Collaborative Commons. Rifkin concludes that capitalism will remain with us, albeit in an increasingly streamlined role, primarily as an aggregator of network services and solutions, allowing it to flourish as a powerful niche player in the coming era. We are, however, says Rifkin, entering a world beyond markets where we are learning how to live together in an increasingly interdependent global Collaborative Commons.

The Early History of the House of Savoy

As ethnic tensions escalate into war, Marija returns in confusion to her native Croatia - call it a mid-life crisis. She soon takes up with a young soldier, but her age does not give her the least power over him. On the other side of the world, her estranged father is gearing up to enter the fray, raising the cash to raise an army. Exiled to Argentina, he has been waiting for this moment since 1945. But war is a young man's game, and even his closest comrades cannot be trusted. If the Old Man is to meet his daughter again it will be in a world altered beyond his understanding, where the only soldiers he commands are in his head.

Medieval Europe

Every time that something happened in Austria after 1918, the country was under observation: as German-Austria, the First Republic, the Corporative State, the Alpine and Danubian Gaue of the Greater German Reich, the Second Republic - right up to the present day. People looked, heard and generally did not keep silent, and this has not changed. As though Austria were still the same testing ground for the end of the world that Karl Kraus described it as. A gripping and varied overview of Austrian history over the last 100 years.

Correspondence 1943-1955

The "German question" haunts the modern world: How could so civilized a nation be responsible for the greatest horror in Western history? In this unusual fusion of personal memoir and history, the celebrated scholar Fritz Stern refracts the question through the prism of his own life. Born in the Weimar Republic, exposed to five years of National Socialism before being forced into exile in 1938 in America, he became a world-renowned historian whose work opened new perspectives on the German past. Stern brings to life the five Germanys he has experienced: Weimar, the Third Reich, postwar West and East Germanys, and the unified country after 1990. Through his engagement with the nation from which he and his family fled, he shows that the tumultuous history of Germany, alternately the strength and the scourge of Europe, offers political lessons for citizens everywhere—especially those facing or escaping from tyranny. In this wise, tough-minded, and subtle book, Stern, himself a passionately engaged citizen, looks beyond Germany to issues of political responsibility that concern everyone. Five Germanys I Have Known vindicates his belief that, at its best, history is our most dramatic introduction to a moral civic life.

The Shortest History of Germany

The author of the best-selling Terror and Liberalism on the rise to power of the generation of 1968. The student uprisings of 1968 erupted not only in America but also across Europe, expressing a distinct generational attitude about politics, the corrupt nature of democratic capitalism, and the evil of military interventions. Yet, thirty-five years later, many in that radical generation had come into conventional positions of power: among them Bill Clinton (who reportedly stayed up all night reading this book) and Joschka Fischer, foreign minister of Germany. During a 1970s street protest, Fischer was photographed beating a cop to the ground; during the 1990s, he was supporting Clinton in a NATO-led military intervention in the Balkans. Here Paul Berman, "one of America's best exponents of recent intellectual history" (The Economist), masterfully traces the intellectual and moral evolution of an impassioned generation—and gives an acute analysis of what it means to go to war in the name of democracy and human rights.

Building Social Business

Andrew Rawnsley's bestselling book lifts the lid on the second half of New Labour's spell in office, with riveting inside accounts of all the key events from 9/11 and the Iraq War to the financial crisis and the parliamentary expenses scandal; and entertaining portraits of the main players as Rawnsley takes us through the triumphs and tribulations of New Labour as well as the astonishing feuds and reconciliations between Tony Blair, Gordon Brown and Peter Mandelson. This paperback edition contains two revealing new chapters on the extraordinary events surrounding the 2010 General Election and its aftermath.

The Zero Marginal Cost Society

The story of modernist architects in East Central Europe The first half of the twentieth century witnessed the rise of modernist architects. Brokers of Modernity reveals how East Central Europe turned into one of the pre-eminent testing grounds of the new belief system of modernism. By combining the internationalism of the CIAM organization and the modernising aspirations of the new states built after 1918, the reach of modernist architects extended far beyond their established fields. Yet, these architects paid a price when Europe's age of extremes intensified. Mainly drawing on Polish, but also wider Central and Eastern European cases, this book delivers a pioneering study of the dynamics of modernist architects as a group, including how they became qualified, how they organized, communicated and attempted to live the modernist lifestyle themselves. In doing so, Brokers of Modernity raises questions concerning collective work in general and also invites us to examine the social role of architects today. Ebook available in Open Access. This publication is GPRC-labeled (Guaranteed Peer-Reviewed Content).

Winters in the South

Tells the heart-wrenching story of a family torn between emigration and immigration and paints evocative portraits of the former Yugoslavia and modern-day Switzerland. In this novel, Melinda Nadj Abonji interweaves two narrative strands, recounting the history of three generations of the Kocsis family and chronicling their hard-won assimilation. Originally part of Serbia's Hungarian-speaking minority in the Vojvodina, the Kocsis family immigrates to Switzerland in the early 1970s when their hometown is still part of the Yugoslav republic. Parents Miklos and Rosza land in Switzerland knowing just one word--"work." And after three years of backbreaking, menial work, both legal and illegal, they are finally able to obtain visas for their two young daughters, Ildiko and Nomi, who safely join them. However, for all their efforts to adapt and assimilate they still must endure insults and prejudice from members of their new community and helplessly stand by as the friends and family members they left behind suffer the maelstrom of the Balkan War. With tough-minded nostalgia and compassionate realism, Fly Away, Pigeon illustrates how much pain and loss even the most successful immigrant stories contain. It is a work that is intensely local, while grounded in the histories and cultures of two distinct communities. Its emotions and struggles are as universal as the human dilemmas it portrays.

Under Observation

The Mediterranean has been for millennia one of the global cockpits of human endeavour. World-class interpretations exist of its Classical and subsequent history, but there has been remarkably little holistic exploration of how its societies, culture and economies first came into being, despite the fact that almost all the fundamental developments originated well before 500 bc. This book is the first full, interpretive synthesis for a generation on the rise of the Mediterranean world from its beginning,

before the emergence of our own species, up to the threshold of Classical times. Extensively illustrated and ranging across disciplines, subject matter and chronology from early humans and the origins of farming and metallurgy to the rise of civilizations - Egyptian, Levantine, Hispanic, Minoan, Mycenaean, Phoenician, Etruscan, early Greek - the book is a masterpiece of archaeological and historical writing.

Social Inventions

Clelia, a successful couturier, arrives in Turin after the end of the Second World War to supervise the opening of a salon in the city where she spent her youth in poverty. Drawn into a circle of young people who try to escape the futility and boredom of their lives in a mindless search for pleasure, she encounters Rosetta, whose suicide tragically foreshadows that of the author just a few months after completing this highly acclaimed contemporary classic.

Five Germanys I Have Known

Within the span of a generation, Nazi Germany's former capital, Berlin, found a new role as a symbol of freedom and resilient democracy in the Cold War. This book unearths how this remarkable transformation resulted from a network of liberal American occupation officials, and returned émigrés, or remigrés, of the Marxist Social Democratic Party (SPD). This network derived from lengthy physical and political journeys. After fleeing Hitler, German-speaking self-professed "revolutionary socialists" emphasized "anti-totalitarianism" in New Deal America and contributed to its intelligence apparatus. These experiences made these remigrés especially adept at cultural translation in postwar Berlin against Stalinism. This book provides a new explanation for the alignment of Germany's principal left-wing party with the Western camp. While the Cold War has traditionally been analyzed from the perspective of decision makers in Moscow or Washington, this study demonstrates the agency of hitherto marginalized on the conflict's first battlefield. Examining local political culture and social networks underscores how both Berliners and émigrés understood the East-West competition over the rubble that the Nazis left behind as a chance to reinvent themselves as democrats and cultural mediators, respectively. As this network popularized an anti-Communist, pro-Western Left, this book identifies how often ostracized émigrés made a crucial contribution to the Federal Republic of Germany's democratization.

Power and the Idealists: Or, the Passion of Joschka Fischer and Its Aftermath

Through robust theoretical and in-depth empirical studies, this book offers the first opportunity to English-language readers to learn about the Québec experience of a social economy system.

The End of the Party

A death-row inmate gives her confession—a hair-raising tale of sex, drugs and murder across Oklahoma—in this "vividly realized" novel (The New York Times Book Review). Marjorie Standiford has quite a story to tell. And on the eve of her execution for a sensational murder spree, she's giving every detail, just as she remembers them, to the famous novelist who has come to record it all. Of course, Marjorie contends that she didn't do any killing. That was all Lamont, her boyfriend, and Natalie, their girlfriend, while Marjorie got high and took care of the baby. But she was in it just the same, careening across the desert plains of Oklahoma, fueled by lust, crime, cars, drugs—speed in all its forms. The Speed Queen is the story of a terrifying voyage into the dark soul of America's Heartland. From acclaimed author Stewart O'Nan—selected by Granta as one of the Best Young American Novelists—this is "classic American noir" in the tradition of James M. Cain (San Francisco Chronicle).

Brokers of Modernity

The narrator of Anna Kim's novel Frozen Time is a relatively inexperienced researcher working for the Red Cross agency that assists people from the former Yugoslavia in their search for lost relatives. As she helps a man from Kosovo whose wife disappeared during the war there, she is confronted with the gruesome results of the work of forensic archaeologists, medics and anthropologists. She is gradually drawn into the fate of her client on a more personal level and eventually accompanies him to Kosovo, where she sees the results of the conflict at first hand. But the documentary aspect is merely the surface of the novel. Beneath it Kim explores, through her narrator, the devastating effect of loss on those left behind, their helplessness as their lives continue in 'frozen time'. The language of the novel moves from the precise, distancing objectivity of the 'ante-mortem questionnaire' ('avoid feelings, look

for facts'), to a powerful and often poetic language reflecting the narrator's struggles to come to terms with her increasing personal involvement, to comprehend an experience which is so far beyond that of everyday life. In fact Kim's language often seems to be asking 'how can this be expressed in words'. This combination of fact and intense feeling makes Frozen Time a moving exploration of loss, of the search for closure.

Fly Away, Pigeon

Beyond Empire looks at three decades of British colonial administration to assess the capacity of the independent governments of Africa to achieve independence. A wealth of archival material and a unique review of British press over those decades brings to life the dynamic and the tension of the process of decolonisation. Addressing a wide range of issues, from education, constitutional change and economic relations, Beyond Empire sheds new light on aspects of colonial history at the country level, with the focus on the African administrations themselves as agents in the decolonisation process.

The Making of the Middle Sea

The Ship

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