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Nota di contenuto	Contents; Acknowledgments; Introduction; I: Central Europe and the Onset of the Iron Curtain; Chapter One: Stalin, Soviet Policy, and the Establishment of a Communist Bloc in Eastern Europe, 1941-1949; Chapter Two: The United States and Eastern Europe, 1943-1948; Chapter Three: Concessions or Conviction? Czechoslovakia's Road to the Cold War and the Soviet Bloc; Chapter Four: Hungary's Role in the Soviet Bloc, 1945-1956; Chapter Five: Stalin, the Split with Yugoslavia, and Soviet-East European Efforts to Reassert Control, 1948-1953; Chapter Six: Austria, Germany, and the Cold War, 1945-1955 Chapter Seven: Neutrality for Germany or Stabilization of the Eastern Bloc? New Evidence on the Decision-Making Process of the Stalin Notell: The German Question and Intra-Bloc Politics in the Post-Stalin Era; Chapter Eight: The Berlin Wall: Looking Back on the History of the Wall Twenty Years After Its Fall; Chapter Nine: The German Problem and Security in Europe: Hindrance or Catalyst on the Path to 1989-1990?;

Chapter Ten: Germany and East-Central Europe, 1945-1990: The View from London; Chapter Eleven: The German Question as Seen from Paris  
Chapter Twelve: Cold War, Detente, and the Soviet Bloc: The Evolution of Intra-Bloc Foreign Policy Coordination, 1953-1975  
Chapter Thirteen: Ronald Reagan, George H. W. Bush, and the Revolutions of 1989: American Myths Versus the Primary Sources; Chapter Fourteen: Moscow and Eastern Europe, 1988-1989: A Policy of Optimism and Caution; Chapter Fifteen: The Fall of the Wall, Eastern Europe, and Gorbachev's Vision of Europe after the Cold War; Chapter Sixteen: Pulling the Rug: East-Central Europe and the Implosion of East Germany  
Chapter Seventeen: The Demise of the Soviet Bloc  
Chapter Eighteen: Nuclear Weapons and the Cold War in Europe; Chapter Nineteen: Why Did the Cold War Last So Long?; Chapter Twenty: The End of Cold War as a Non-Linear Confluence; Chapter Twenty-one: Conspicuous Connections, 1968 and 1989; Chapter Twenty-two: 1989 in Historical Perspective: The Problem of Legitimation; Chapter Twenty-three: November 1989: From a Velvet Opening of Regime Change to a Revolutionary Outcome  
Chapter Twenty-four: The End of the Cold War and the Transformation of Cold War History: A Tale of Two Conferences, 1988-1989  
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### Sommario/riassunto

Imposing, Maintaining, and Tearing Open the Iron Curtain: The Cold War and East-Central Europe, 1945-1989, edited by Mark Kramer and Vit Smetana, provides an in-depth survey of the origins, consolidation, slow erosion, and abrupt demise of the Cold War divisions in Europe after World War II. The contributors to this volume examine how the Cold War kept the continent divided for nearly 45 years, but ultimately came to a largely peaceful end, contrary to expectations.

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