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Nota di contenuto	The economic factors in the collapse of state socialism and the new international environment, 1973-1989 -- Radical transformation and policy mistakes: dramatic economic decline in the early 1990s -- Toward better times: the European Union and its policy of eastward enlargement -- Recuperation and growth: the role of foreign direct investment -- Economic restructuring: transforming main sectors, economic recovery, growth, and weaknesses -- Transformation and social shock -- Lasting changes in the structure of income, employment, welfare institutions, education, and settlement -- Epilogue: the future of catching up in the European "melting pot."
Sommario/riassunto	The Soviet Union's dramatic collapse in 1989 was a pivotal moment in

the complex history of Central and Eastern Europe, and Ivan Berend here offers a magisterial new account of the dramatic transformation that culminated in ten former Soviet Bloc countries joining the European Union. Taking the OPEC oil crisis of 1973 as his starting point, he charts the gradual unravelling of state socialism in Central and Eastern Europe, its ultimate collapse in the revolutions of 1989, and the economic restructuring and lasting changes in income, employment, welfare, education and social structure which followed. He pays particular attention to the crucial role of the European Union as well as the social and economic hurdles that continue to face former Eastern-bloc nations as they try to catch up with their Western neighbours. This will be essential reading for scholars and students of European and economic history, European politics and economics.

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