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Nota di contenuto	Intro -- CONTENTS -- PREFACE -- THE AUTHORS -- 1 From Transition to Accession -- The Logic of Transition -- The Process of Accession -- Beyond Accession -- 2 The Course of Transition -- From Output Collapse to Recovery -- Institutional Developments -- Living Standards and Poverty -- Conclusions -- 3 Labor Markets -- The Logic of Transition: Labor Markets -- Labor Markets under Accession -- Beyond Accession: Balancing Flexibility and Security -- ANNEX 3A. Active Labor Market Programs -- 4 Social Safety Nets -- The Logic of Transition: Social Safety Nets -- Social Safety Nets under Accession -- Beyond Accession: From Poverty Relief to Social Inclusion -- ANNEX 4A. Roma: Europe's Largest Minority -- 5 Pensions -- The Logic of Transition: Pensions -- Pensions under Accession -- Beyond Accession: Longer Working Lives? -- 6 Health Care -- The Logic of Transition: Health Care -- Health Care under Accession -- Beyond Accession: The Future of Health Policy -- 7 Education and Training -- The Logic of Transition: Education -- Education under Accession -- Beyond Accession: The New

Sommario/riassunto

The experience of Central and Eastern Europe is unique. It is evidence of great success in demolishing the communist system and building a market economy. It is also evidence of major remaining challenges. This excellent book should be read not only by EU politicians and bureaucrats, but should serve as a manual for those who are concerned with the long-term development of their country, political pragmatists, researchers and others involved in the reform of social policy." Andris Berzins, former Prime Minister and Minister of Welfare of Latvia Labor Markets and Social Policy in Central and Eastern Europe summarises social policy reform during the transition and EU accession and analyses the social policy challenges which continue to face both old and new member states. Specifically, the book amplifies two sets of arguments. First, social policy under communism was in important respects well-suited to the old order and - precisely for that reason - was systematically badly-suited to a market economy. Strategic reform directions thus followed from the nature of the transition process and from constraints imposed by EU accession. Secondly, successful accession is not the end of the story: economic and social trends over the past 50 years are creating strains for social policy which all countries - old and new members - will have to face. This book will be of interest to readers interested in social policy, particularly those with an interest in the process of post-communist transition, in EU accession, and in future social policy challenges for the wider Europe. It should be of interest to academics in departments of economics, social policy and political science, and to policy makers, including government advisers and civil servants. This book is a sequel to Labor Markets and Social Policy in Central and Eastern Europe: The Transition and Beyond, also edited by Nicholas Barr