

# Contents

<i>List of illustrations</i>	xi
<i>A personal introductory note</i>	xii
<b>1 The new postwar economic and political world order: the ground paved for European integration</b>	<b>1</b>
<i>War devastation</i>	1
<i>The collapse of colonial empires</i>	3
<i>A return to normalcy?</i>	4
<i>Rebuilding the postwar capitalist economic regime: welfare capitalism</i>	8
<i>Building the free trade system and international institutions</i>	9
<i>American assistance to Europe</i>	10
<i>Rearranging the postwar world: the rising Cold War regime</i>	13
<i>The bomb and the nuclear arms race</i>	15
<i>Cold war crises of 1948–1950: close to a World War III</i>	16
<i>Forming the new Cold War political world order</i>	17
<i>A new solution to the “German Question”</i>	19
<i>The plan for a joint Western European army</i>	24
<b>2 Federalist dreamers and pragmatic integrationists: the conceptualization and first steps towards a United States of Europe</b>	<b>30</b>
<i>The idea of a United States of Europe</i>	30
<i>American plans and efforts to Unite Europe</i>	40
<i>New American integration plans: looking for a European leader</i>	42
<i>The failure to convince Britain</i>	43
<i>Successfully blackmailing France</i>	46
<i>American successes, pragmatic European politicians: the coal and steel community</i>	53

*Deciding how to go further* 59

*The impact of integration on economic recuperation* 65

*The first crisis and curbing further integration* 67

**3 The main institutional structure and policy agendas of the European community** 77

*The governing institutions of the community and their reforms* 77

*The question of democratic deficit* 80

*Common policy agendas* 82

*Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)* 84

*Aiding less-developed regions* 86

*Social policy* 87

*European Neighborhood Policy (ENP)* 87

**4 The new challenges of globalization and global political disorder – Europe's answer: regionalization (the 1980s–1990s)** 91

*The globalized capitalist world economy and the technological revolution* 91

*Neoliberal theory and policy* 94

*America and Asia conquer huge parts of the European markets* 95

*The rearranged world political order* 97

*Civil wars, coups and regime changes* 101

*Lack of hegemony and global governance* 103

*Economic crisis and mistaken answers* 104

*Concerted European policy needed* 105

*Big corporations for European cooperation* 106

*Renewed leadership: Mitterrand-Kohl-Delors and the single Europe act* 109

*Regionalization: the answer to globalization and the Maastricht Treaty* 112

**5 Four decades of permanent enlargement of the union and its dangers** 125

*The first enlargement in 1973* 126

*The 1980s: the American alliance with Mediterranean dictatorships and the second wave of enlargement* 129

*The 1990s: third wave of enlargement* 135

	<i>The end of the Cold War: a new opening towards the East</i>	137
	<i>The 2000s: the fourth enlargement wave, three groups of potential members</i>	139
	<i>Central Europe and the Baltics: thirteen countries join</i>	141
	<i>The postponed acceptance of the West Balkans</i>	144
	<i>The case of the western former Soviet republics</i>	145
	<i>Watch out Europe, reconsider further enlargement</i>	149
	<i>Epidemic corruption in the Balkans</i>	153
<b>6</b>	<b>The triple crises and escaping ahead: 2008–2020</b>	<b>161</b>
	<i>The economic recession of 2008</i>	161
	<i>Financial-economic crisis in Europe</i>	163
	<i>Collapse of the euro currency?</i>	165
	<i>“The Euro is Already Saved!”</i>	168
	<i>Escaping by running ahead: the euro-zone</i>	169
	<i>Migration crisis, 2015–2016</i>	171
	<i>Against a new pressure of migration</i>	175
	<i>The COVID-19 crisis</i>	177
	<i>Escaping by running ahead: coronabond?</i>	181
	<i>Escaping by running ahead: steps towards military integration</i>	185
<b>7</b>	<b>Disappointment and anger: the rise of anti-EU populist nationalism</b>	<b>197</b>
	<i>Nixon and Khrushchev: the kitchen debate</i>	197
	<i>Growing inequality and insecurity</i>	198
	<i>The political revolt against the elite</i>	201
	<i>Nationalist-populist attacks against the European Union</i>	205
	<i>The anti-EU campaign combined with anti-Soros attacks in Eastern Europe</i>	215
	<i>Britain leaves the European Union</i>	217
<b>8</b>	<b>An increasingly hostile international environment</b>	<b>228</b>
	<i>Turkey: from candidate to enemy</i>	228
	<i>Putin’s Russia became hostile</i>	230
	<i>A new rival: China and the Balkan silk road</i>	237
	<i>Russian-Chinese military cooperation</i>	243
	<i>Loosening alliances and rising hostility: the United States</i>	243

9 Conclusion: the socioeconomic achievements 254

*The European economy before integration* 254

*Economic advantage of integration* 254

*The catching-up of less developed countries* 257

*Europe and the United States* 258

*Modernized structure and the social market system* 260

*What about the future?* 263

*Index* 267