Katarzyna Lasinska deals with the consequences of democratic transitions in Middle and Eastern Europe. By selecting specific sets of countries according to the main explanations such as Catholic tradition, transformation process and communist legacies, the author identifies key factors explaining particular findings in Poland. Thanks to systematically used comparative research strategy the pitfalls of idiosyncratic argumentation are successfully avoided. Through inclusion of religious tradition as an explanatory factor the results go beyond the commonly used East-West comparisons. The author presents a comprehensive picture of complex conditions and different processes for social capital building across Eastern European societies.

(From the publisher's website)

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