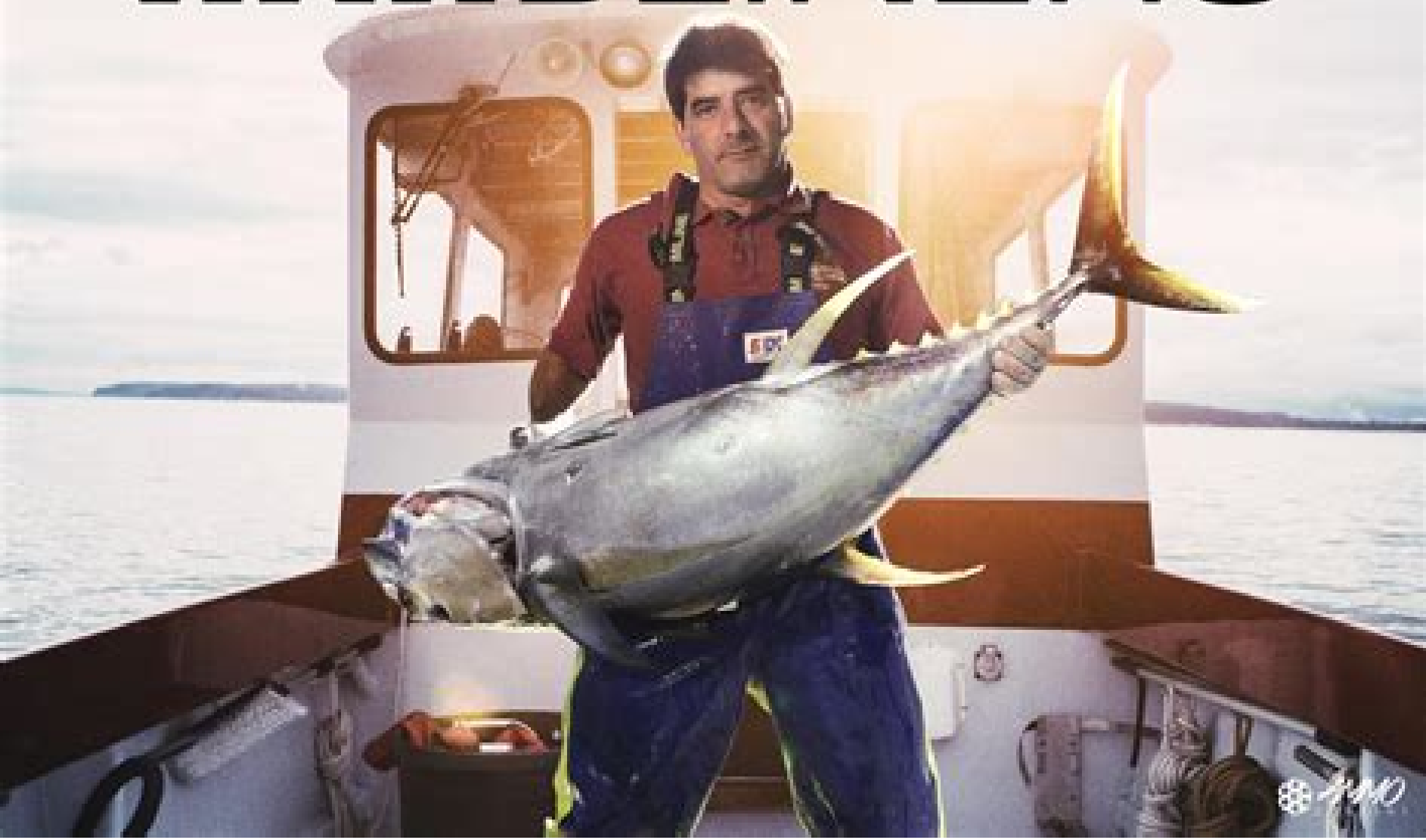


HARDLINERS



The Hardliners

Melissa Willard-Foster



The Hardliners:

The Fall Steven Saxonberg, 2017-07-05 With a foreword by Seymour Lipset Hoover Institution and George Mason University USA The Fall examines one of the twentieth century's great historical puzzles why did the communist led regimes in Eastern Europe collapse so quickly and why was the process of collapse so different from country to country This major study explains why the impetus for change in Poland and Hungary came from the regimes themselves while in Czechoslovakia and East Germany it was mass movements which led to the downfall of the regimes *The Order of Genocide* Scott Straus, 2013-01-19 The Rwandan genocide has become a touchstone for debates about the causes of mass violence and the responsibilities of the international community Yet a number of key questions about this tragedy remain unanswered How did the violence spread from community to community and so rapidly engulf the nation Why did individuals make decisions that led them to take up machetes against their neighbors And what was the logic that drove the campaign of extermination According to Scott Straus a social scientist and former journalist in East Africa for several years who received a Pulitzer Prize nomination for his reporting for the Houston Chronicle many of the widely held beliefs about the causes and course of genocide in Rwanda are incomplete They focus largely on the actions of the ruling elite or the inaction of the international community Considerably less is known about how and why elite decisions became widespread exterminatory violence Challenging the prevailing wisdom Straus provides substantial new evidence about local patterns of violence using original research including the most comprehensive surveys yet undertaken among convicted perpetrators to assess competing theories about the causes and dynamics of the genocide Current interpretations stress three main causes for the genocide ethnic identity ideology and mass media indoctrination in particular the influence of hate radio Straus's research does not deny the importance of ethnicity but he finds that it operated more as a background condition Instead Straus emphasizes fear and intra ethnic intimidation as the primary drivers of the violence A defensive civil war and the assassination of a president created a feeling of acute insecurity Rwanda's unusually effective state was also central as was the country's geography and population density which limited the number of exit options for both victims and perpetrators In conclusion Straus steps back from the particulars of the Rwandan genocide to offer a new dynamic model for understanding other instances of genocide in recent history the Holocaust Armenia Cambodia the Balkans and assessing the future likelihood of such events *Russia's Revolution from Above, 1985-2000* Gordon Hahn, 2018-04-27 The fall of the Soviet communist regime in 1991 offers a challenging contrast to other instances of democratic transition and change in the last decades of the twentieth century The 1991 revolution was neither a peaceful revolution from below as occurred in Czechoslovakia nor a negotiated transition to democracy like those in Poland Hungary or Latin America It was not primarily the result of social modernization the rise of a new middle class or of national liberation movements in the non Russian union republics Instead as Gordon Hahn argues the Russian transformation was a bureaucrat led state based revolution managed

by a group of Communist Party functionaries who won control over the Russian Republic RSFSR in the mid 1990s Hahn describes how opportunistic Party and state officials led by Boris Yeltsin defected from the Gorbachev camp and proceeded in 1990 91 to dismantle the institutions that bound state and party These revolutionaries from above seized control of political economic natural and human resources and then separated the party apparatus from state institutions on Russian Republic territory With the failed August 1991 hard line coup Yeltsin banned the Communist Party and decreed that all Union state organs including the KGB and military were under RSFSR control In Hahn s account this mode of revolutionary change from above explains the troubled development of democracy in Russia and the former Soviet republics Hahn shows how limited mobilization of the masses stunted the development of civil societies and the formation of political parties and trade unions with real grass roots The result is a weak society unable to nudge the state to concentrate on institutional reforms society needs for the development of a free polity and economy Russia s Revolution from Above goes far in correcting the historical record and reconceptualizing the Soviet transformation It should be read by historians economists political scientists and Russia area scholars

Rwanda Noah Berlatsky,2015-06-11 From April to July 1994 members of the Hutu ethnic majority in the east central African nation of Rwanda murdered as many as 800 000 people mostly of the Tutsi minority The essays in this anthology document and explain the social historical and economic factors that led to the genocide in Rwanda Background information and first person accounts of the events are provided as well to give the reader a more rounded knowledge of the events Charts and graphs are provided to summarize important statistical information and timelines are included to help the reader trace the sequence of events Maps provide details about the areas of contention and locations of conflux

Selling Intervention and War Jon Western,2021-02-10 Selling Intervention and War examines the competition among foreign policy elites in the executive branch and Congress in winning the hearts and minds of the American public for military intervention The book studies how the president and his supporters organize campaigns for public support for military action According to Jon Western the outcome depends upon information and propaganda advantages media support or opposition the degree of cohesion within the executive branch and the duration of the crisis Also important is whether the American public believes that military threat is credible and victory plausible Not all such campaigns to win public support are successful in some instances foreign policy elites and the president and his advisors have to back off Western uses several modern conflicts including the current one in Iraq as case studies to illustrate the methods involved in selling intervention and war to the American public the decision not to intervene in French Indochina in 1954 the choice to go into Lebanon in 1958 and the more recent military actions in Grenada Somalia Bosnia and Iraq Selling Intervention and War is essential reading for scholars and students of U S foreign policy international security the military and foreign policy and international conflict

Boko Haram Alexander Thurston,2017-10-31 A comprehensive history of one of the world s deadliest jihadist groups Boko Haram is one of the world s deadliest jihadist groups It has killed more than

twenty thousand people and displaced more than two million in a campaign of terror that began in Nigeria but has since spread to Chad Niger and Cameroon as well This is the first book to tell the full story of this West African affiliate of the Islamic State from its beginnings in the early 2000s to its most infamous violence including the 2014 kidnapping of 276 Nigerian schoolgirls Drawing on sources in Arabic and Hausa rare documents propaganda videos press reports and interviews with experts in Nigeria Cameroon and Niger Alexander Thurston sheds new light on Boko Haram s development He shows that the group far from being a simple or static terrorist organization has evolved in its worldview and ideology in reaction to events Chief among these has been Boko Haram s escalating war with the Nigerian state and civilian vigilantes The book closely examines both the behavior and beliefs that are the keys to understanding Boko Haram Putting the group s violence in the context of the complex religious and political environment of Nigeria and the Lake Chad region the book examines how Boko Haram relates to states politicians Salafis Sufis Muslim civilians and Christians It also probes Boko Haram s international connections including its loose former ties to al Qaida and its 2015 pledge of allegiance to ISIS An in depth account of a group that is menacing Africa s most populous and richest country the book also illuminates the dynamics of civil war in Africa and jihadist movements in other parts of the world Toppling Foreign Governments Melissa Willard-Foster,2019-01-11 In 2011 the United States launched its third regime change attempt in a decade Like earlier targets Libya s Muammar Qaddafi had little hope of defeating the forces stacked against him He seemed to recognize this when calling for a cease fire just after the intervention began But by then the United States had determined it was better to oust him than negotiate and thus backed his opposition The history of foreign imposed regime change is replete with leaders like Qaddafi overthrown after wars they seemed unlikely to win From the British ouster of Afghanistan s Sher Ali in 1878 to the Soviet overthrow of Hungary s Imre Nagy in 1956 regime change has been imposed on the weak and the friendless In Toppling Foreign Governments Melissa Willard Foster explores the question of why stronger nations overthrow governments when they could attain their aims at the bargaining table She identifies a central cause the targeted leader s domestic political vulnerability that not only gives the leader motive to resist a stronger nation s demands making a bargain more difficult to attain but also gives the stronger nation reason to believe that regime change will be comparatively cheap As long as the targeted leader s domestic opposition is willing to collaborate with the foreign power the latter is likely to conclude that ousting the leader is more cost effective than negotiating Willard Foster analyzes 133 instances of regime change ranging from covert operations to major military invasions and spanning over two hundred years She also conducts three in depth case studies that support her contention that domestically and militarily weak leaders appear more costly to coerce than overthrow and as long as they remain ubiquitous foreign imposed regime change is likely to endure **Mass Protests in Iran** Masoud Kazemzadeh,2023-09-05 **Mass Protests in Iran** From Resistance to Overthrow explores the various waves of protests in Iran over the past 44 years surveying their causes consequences and outcomes The author argues that the regime

and its support base of fundamentalist groups constitute a minority in Iran and lack legitimacy and thus the regime uses repression and violence to secure its rule The result is a pre revolutionary situation and a shifting political landscape of overthrows constant mass protests and mass repression Kazemzadeh s analysis highlights the factors that would assist the fundamentalist regime in succeeding in suppressing these protests and the factors that would assist the Iranian people in defeating the fundamentalist regime Written in an accessible style this timely book offers a much needed contribution to the literature on Iranian politics It will be of interest to students and scholars as well as policy makers interested in Middle Eastern studies social movements protest movements political science and sociology

Chances for Democracy in Europe Mária Bordás,2023-10-24 At the turn of Twenty First Century no one could have believed that by a decade later the prime minister of Hungary would roughly declare his political and government system as an illiberal democracy Chances for Democracy in Europe The New Wave of Illiberalism in Post Communist Countries explores the scenarios of building illiberal democracy as followed by Putin in Russia then how it spread in the post Communist Europe It will be showing how a full born illiberal democracy has unfolded in Hungary since 2010 during the last four Orb n governments and the similarities it shares with the Russian illiberal state If the Treaty of Maastricht that laid down democratic principles of the European Union has the sufficient political and legal tools to enforce them when they are not respected by the member states While the EU failed in this effort with Hungary it seems to be successful of a sort in Poland and Slovenia The author analyses why developed Western European countries with long traditions of democratic traditions and values have been resistant to illiberalism and remained strong liberal democracies but what about the countries without long traditions of democratic values

The Ethics of Economic Rationalism John Wright,2003 This work tackles economic rationalism from a moral perspective Firstly in non technical language it reviews the economic arguments for economic rationalism It then examines the ethical defences for economic rationalism and considers its many criticisms

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Table of Contents The Hardliners

1. Understanding the eBook The Hardliners
 - The Rise of Digital Reading The Hardliners
 - Advantages of eBooks Over Traditional Books
2. Identifying The Hardliners
 - Exploring Different Genres
 - Considering Fiction vs. Non-Fiction
 - Determining Your Reading Goals
3. Choosing the Right eBook Platform
 - Popular eBook Platforms
 - Features to Look for in an The Hardliners
 - User-Friendly Interface
4. Exploring eBook Recommendations from The Hardliners
 - Personalized Recommendations
 - The Hardliners User Reviews and Ratings
 - The Hardliners and Bestseller Lists

5. Accessing The Hardliners Free and Paid eBooks
 - The Hardliners Public Domain eBooks
 - The Hardliners eBook Subscription Services
 - The Hardliners Budget-Friendly Options
6. Navigating The Hardliners eBook Formats
 - ePub, PDF, MOBI, and More
 - The Hardliners Compatibility with Devices
 - The Hardliners Enhanced eBook Features
7. Enhancing Your Reading Experience
 - Adjustable Fonts and Text Sizes of The Hardliners
 - Highlighting and Note-Taking The Hardliners
 - Interactive Elements The Hardliners
8. Staying Engaged with The Hardliners
 - Joining Online Reading Communities
 - Participating in Virtual Book Clubs
 - Following Authors and Publishers The Hardliners
9. Balancing eBooks and Physical Books The Hardliners
 - Benefits of a Digital Library
 - Creating a Diverse Reading Collection The Hardliners
10. Overcoming Reading Challenges
 - Dealing with Digital Eye Strain
 - Minimizing Distractions
 - Managing Screen Time
11. Cultivating a Reading Routine The Hardliners
 - Setting Reading Goals The Hardliners
 - Carving Out Dedicated Reading Time
12. Sourcing Reliable Information of The Hardliners
 - Fact-Checking eBook Content of The Hardliners
 - Distinguishing Credible Sources
13. Promoting Lifelong Learning

- Utilizing eBooks for Skill Development
- Exploring Educational eBooks

14. Embracing eBook Trends

- Integration of Multimedia Elements
- Interactive and Gamified eBooks

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