



# International History of the Twentieth Century

*By Antony Best, Jussi Hanhimaki, Joseph A. Maiolo, Kirsten E. Schulze, Jussi M. Hanhimäki*

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Using their thematic and regional expertise, the authors have produced an authoritative yet accessible account of the history of international relations in the last century, covering events in Europe, Asia, the Middle East, Africa and the Americas. They focus on the history of relations between states and on the broad ideological, economic and cultural forces that have influenced the evolution of international politics over the past one hundred years. Among the areas this book covers are:

- the decline of European hegemony over the international order
- the diffusion of power to the two superpowers
- the rise of newly independent states in Asia and Africa
- the course and consequences of the three major global conflicts of the twentieth century: the Great War, the Second World War and the Cold War.

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### About the Author

Antony Best is Senior Lecturer in International History at the London School of Economics. He is the author of *Britain, Japan and Pearl Harbor: Avoiding War in East Asia 1936-41* (1995) and *British Intelligence and the Japanese Challenge in Asia, 1914-1941* (2002) and a number of scholarly articles on Anglo-Japanese relations in the inter-war period.

Jussi M. Hanhimaki is Professor of International History and Politics at the Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva, Switzerland and an editor of *Cold War History*. He is the author of *Understanding the Cold War: A History in Documents and Eyewitness Accounts* (2003), with Arne Westad, *An Insecure Friendship: the United States and Scandinavia Since 1945* (1997), *Containing Coexistence: America, Russia, and the 'Finnish Solution' 1945-1956* (1997) and *Rinnakkaiseloa patoamassa: Yhdysvallat ja Paasikiven linja, 1948-1956* (1996).

Joseph A. Maiolo is Lecturer in International History in the Department of War Studies at King's College London. He is author of *The Royal Navy and Nazi Germany: A Study in Appeasement and the Origins of the Second World War* (1998), editor, with Robert Boyce, of *The Origins of World War Two: The Debate*

Continues (2003), and Assistant Editor of The Journal of Strategic Studies. He is currently working on a study of the global arms race and the origins of the Second World War.

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