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**The New Central Asia
and its Neighbours**

edited by Peter Ferdinand

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The New Central Asia and its Neighbours

In Central Asia hope and anxiety have alternated since the collapse of the Soviet Union. On the one hand its peoples are now closer to being masters of their destiny than at any time this century. On the other hand the civil war in Tajikistan is a constant reminder of the fragility of ethnic and clan relations in the region as a whole. Meanwhile other states, especially neighbouring ones, look on nervously.

This study focuses both on developments inside the five republics – Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan – and on their relations with adjacent states. It pays particular attention to the development of economic cooperation in the region. It starts by examining the republics' history and the extent to which they had a Central Asian identity in the past and are trying to create one now. Further chapters deal with relations with Russia, including the official policies of the republics, and popular attitudes towards their Russian minorities; relations with the Middle East, in particular Iran, Turkey and Israel; the impact on South Asia, particularly the rivalry between India and Pakistan (including over Kashmir) and the interaction with the civil war in Afghanistan; and the impact on China, especially on Xinjiang and on the more general relationship between the centre and the provinces.

The authors

Dr Peter Ferdinand is Director of the Centre for Studies in Democratization at the University of Warwick. The other contributors to this volume are Dr Shirin Akiner, Professor Grigory Bondarevsky, Anthony Hyman and Dr Philip Robins.



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