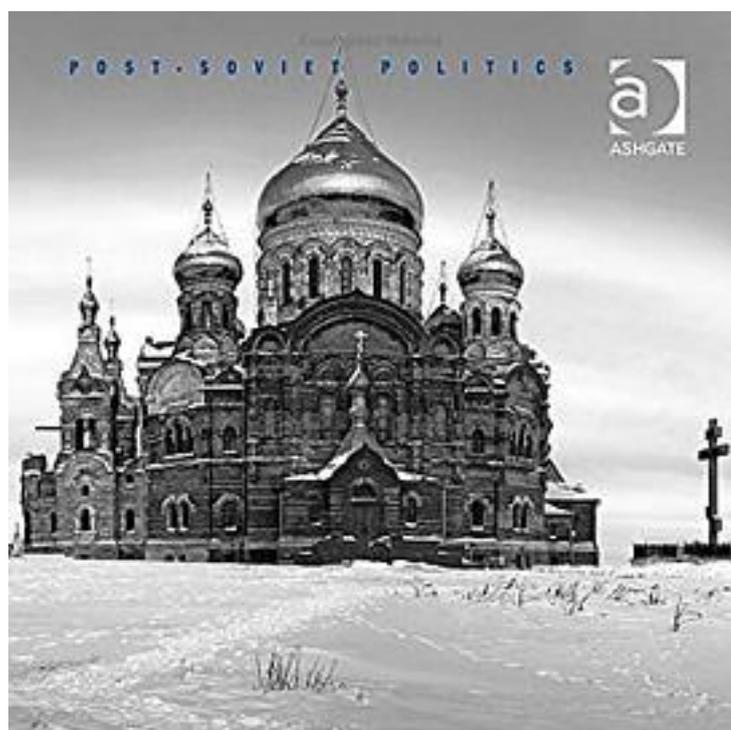


# Religion, Politics and Nation-building in Post-communist Countries



## **RELIGION, POLITICS AND NATION-BUILDING IN POST-COMMUNIST COUNTRIES**

Edited by  
**GREG SIMONS and DAVID WESTERLUND**

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著者:Greg Simons

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The increasing significance and visibility of relationships between religion and public arenas and institutions following the fall of communism in Europe provide the core focus of this fascinating book. Leading international scholars consider the religious and political role of Christian Orthodoxy in the Russian Federation, Romania, Georgia and Ukraine alongside the revival of old, indigenous religions, often referred to as 'shamanistic' and look at how, despite Islam's long history and many adherents in the south, Islamophobic attitudes have increasingly been added to traditional anti-Semitic, anti-Western or anti-liberal elements of Russian nationalism. Contrasts between the church's position in the post-communist nation building process of secular Estonia with its role in predominantly Catholic Poland are also explored. Religion, Politics and Nation-Building in Post-Communist Countries gives a broad overview of the political importance of religion in the Post-Soviet space but its interest and relevance extends far beyond the geographical focus, providing examples of the challenges in the spheres of public, religious and social policy for all transitional countries.

#### 作者介绍:

Greg Simons holds a doctoral degree from the University of Canterbury in New Zealand. He is currently employed at Crismart (Crisis Management Research and Training) in the Swedish National Defence College and at the Uppsala Centre for Russian and Eurasian Studies (Uppsala University).

David Westerlund has a Ph.D. degree in the History of Religions from Stockholm University. He is Professor in the Study of Religions at Sodertorn University in Stockholm. His research interests include modern Islam and Christianity, particularly Pentecostalism, in Africa and Europe. Thematically, he is specialised on issues of religion and health, inter-religious relations, religion and politics, historiography and religious revival movements.

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