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Decades of Reconstruction

Postwar Societies, State-Building, and International Relations from the Seven Years' War to the Cold War

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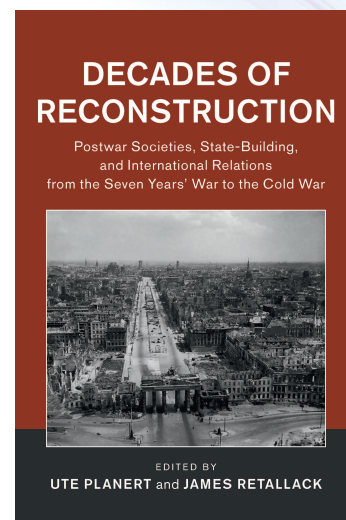
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As wars and other conflicts increase on a worldwide scale, the alleged 'new wars' of the present day have taught that military victory does not necessarily result in a sustained state of peace. Rather, societies in conflict experience a 'status mixtus' - a transformative period that includes substantial changes in economy, politics, society and culture. Focusing on these decades of reconstruction in Europe and North America, this book examines the transformation of state systems, international relations, and normative principles in international comparison. By putting the postwar decade after 1945 into a long-term historical perspective, the chapters illuminate new patterns of transition between war and peace from the eighteenth to the twentieth century. Experts in the field show that states and societies are never restituted from a 'zero hour'. They also demonstrate that foreign and domestic policy are intermixed before and after peace breaks out.

Introduction: neither war nor postwar: decades of reconstruction; Part I. A World in Upheaval: From the Seven Years' War to the Age of Metternich: 1. Sea power and informal empire: Great Britain and the world after the Seven Years' War; 2. Losing an empire, re-entering the stage: France after the Seven Years' War; 3. How long was the Seven Years' War? 1763 in Native American country; 4. The reorganization of Europe in 1815 as a 'subject domestic policy'; Part II. Between Reich and State: The Germanies, 1648–1830: 5. The Habsburg Empire 1763 and 1815: reconstruction and repose; 6. Eras of postwar reconstruction in Prussian history; 7. The alchemy of credit: Saxony's *rétablissement* after 1763; 8. Identifying a postwar period: case studies from the Hanseatic cities following the Napoleonic wars; Part III. Civil and Uncivil Wars: The 1860s and 1870s: 9. US reconstruction, republicanism, and imperial rivalries in the Caribbean after 1865; 10. After the 'German civil war' of 1866: building the state, embracing the nation; 11. The civil war in France, Alsace-Lorraine, and postwar reconstruction in the 1870s; Part IV. Central Europe and its Borderlands in the Twentieth Century: 12. German state-building in occupied Poland as an episode in postwar reconstruction, 1915–18; 13. Violent reconstruction as shatterzones: the German revolution of 1918/19 and the foundation of the Weimar Republic; 14. Reconstruction and representation: state-building and interpretations of war in Germany after 1945; Part V. A New International Order after Total War?: 15. The International Red Cross, the League of Nations, and Humanitarian Assistance Regimes, 1918–39; 16. After civil war: Francoism and the reconstruction of Spain; 17. The end of empires and the triumph of the nation state? 1918 and the new international order; Part VI. Prospects: 18. Five postwar orders, 1763–1945.



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