The Meltdown of the Russian State
The Deformation and Collapse of the State in Russia
Piroska Mohácsi Nagy, Institute of Global Affairs, LSE, UK

The economic power of the Russian state has declined to a point where it is no longer able to perform its basic function – maintaining law and order and providing social services. This innovative book proposes that the inherent weaknesses of the post-reform Russian state arose from the manner in which the Soviet Union dissolved combined with the critical role played by President Yeltsin.

‘This is a fascinating book. The penetrating analysis gives a clear political economy explanation how certain groups of the managerial-banker elite grab power and wealth of a magnitude unique in modern history. Many pieces of the puzzle were known before, the book’s achievement is to provide a convincing overall picture of the process.’
– Janos Kornai, Harvard University, US and Collegium Budapest, Hungary

‘A powerful restatement of the role a state can and should play in the process of economic transformation. Policymakers as well as scholars will ignore this book at their peril.’
– Stephen L. White, Keele University, UK