



## Political experiments in Eastern Europe: Civil society

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By Iris Schoenauer-Alvaro

GRIN Verlag Aug 2008, 2008. Taschenbuch. Book Condition: Neu. 211x146x5 mm. This item is printed on demand - Print on Demand Neuware - Essay from the year 2003 in the subject Politics - International Politics - Region: Eastern Europe, grade: Honours, Dublin City University, 24 entries in the bibliography, language: English, abstract: Despite the fact that during the recent Hungarian plebiscite regarding the country's accession to the European Union (EU) 83.76 per cent of the votes were in favour of joining the EU, the low election turnout of only 44.13 per cent of all Hungarians entitled to vote was considered 'shameful'; an important political and economic decision has been taken with the official approval of only two fifth of the eight million Hungarians with voting rights.<sup>1</sup> This and other somewhat disappointing examples raise the question of how committed Eastern Europeans are in terms of forging their own post-communist future. This paper will attempt to analyse the role civil society has played in the democratisation process of the region since 1989. As effects can generally only be properly assessed with a mid- or even long-term perspective, looking at isolated events, which took place during the last slightly more than thirteen years,...



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