

A BRIEF HISTORY OF SOCIALISM AND COMMUNISM

Javier Paniagua

Two paths with different objectives, socialism and communism have pushed for change in the world order so as to achieve egalitarian social justice. Here you will learn everything from Marx, Lenin, the creation of the socialist parties and the Second International to neo-liberalism, perestroika, social democracy, the Third Way of Blair's Britain.

Synopsis

This book narrates the historical evolution of both ideological movements that emanated from the teachings of Marx. As such, the book looks at the socialist utopias, the formulation of Marxist theory and politics, economic changes from a Marxian perspective, the appearance of socialist political parties in Europe, and the creation of the Second International.

Within this context, the reader will get a better idea of the social processes that took root after the Russian Revolution and the emergence of communist parties. Later, the book will analyze the repercussions of fascism and the consequences of World War II, which permanently divided social democracy and communism. Lastly, you will learn about the process of change that social democracy has undergone – even accepting the free market economic model – and how communism has stood up after the days of perestroika.

Biography

Javier Paniagua is a professor of the course, History of Political Doctrines and Social Movements at UNED (University of Distant Learning) in Spain, director of the Alzira-Valencia Center, and Vice Chancellor of the East Campus of UNED. Previously he was director general of university studies for the Valencian community government (1983-1986) and representative in the General Courts for 4 legislative periods (1986-2000).

He has written extensively on contemporary social movements with a special emphasis on socialism and anarchism. He is co-director of the *Historia Social* journal, which is considered the best of that kind in Spain. Recently he contributed a chapter in the 20th tome of the *Historia de España*, which is directed by the Hispanicist Lynch and which deals with the last legislature in Spain. He also wrote the book, *La larga marcha hacia la anarquía: Pensamiento y acción en el movimiento libertario*, edited by the Interciencias collection from UNED, and directed the *Biographical dictionary of contemporary Valencian politicians* (1810-2005).

Sales pitch

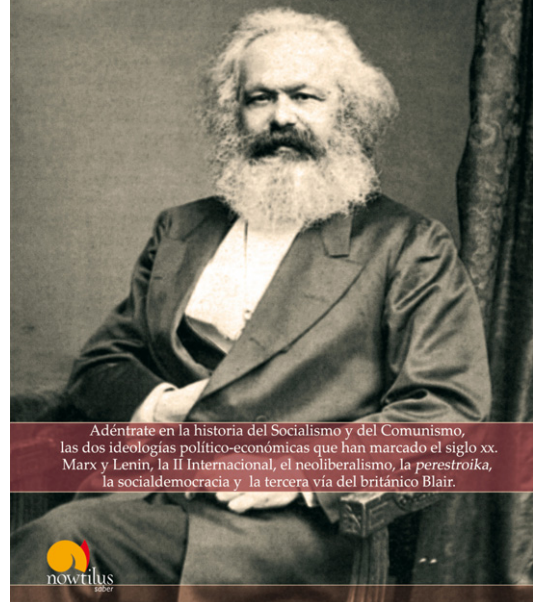
DIFFERENCES BETWEEN COMMUNISM AND SOCIALISM: The book explains the fundamental differences between these two doctrines and the key theoretical and strategic differences between their corresponding political movements.

ILLUSTRATED CONTENT: The reader will find important graphic documents.

CURRENT STATE OF THESE MOVEMENTS: Unlike other books dealing with similar themes, this book analyzes the current state of these political moments, including how many socialist principles have been absorbed into social democratic doctrines and how communism wore down from Western pressures.

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SOCIALISMO y del COMUNISMO
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