Post-1989 regional cooperation in the Balkans

The author presents and subjects to scrutiny the issues related to the post-1989 development of regional co-operation in the Balkans, beginning, however, with the most important events of the period of transformation of the social and political system in the region, which include the collapse of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the forming of the sovereign republics. The development of co-operation between the Balkan states is analysed, as is its significance to the enhancement of the region’s position in negotiations with the European Union. The author posits that this co-operation may be successfully continued in parallel with the integration processes, that it may firmly support the process of Europeanisation in the West Balkans and that it should evolve along sectoral and functional lines.