

space between Central and Eastern (former Soviet) Europe with regard to the process of political transition.

Table 1. Democratization Ratings of States in Transition in Europe, 1991-2 and 1998-9

Country	1991-2	1998-9
Armenia	5,5, PF	4,4,PF
Azerbaijan	5,5, PF	6,4,PF
Belarus	4,4, PF	6,6,NF
Bosnia-Herzegovina	6,6,NF (1993)	5,5,PF
Bulgaria	2,3,F	2,3,F
Croatia	3,4,PF	4,4,PF
Czech Republic	2,2,F (Czecho-Slovakia)	1,2,F
Estonia	2,3,F	1,2,F
Georgia	6,5,NF	3,4,PF
Hungary	2,3,F	1,2,F
Kazakhstan	5,4,PF	6,5,PF
Kyrgyz Republic	5,4,PF	5,5,PF
Latvia	2,3,F	1,2,F
Lithuania	2,3,F	1,2,F
Macedonia	3,4,PF	3,3,PF
Moldova	5,4,PF	2,4,PF
Poland	2,2,F	1,2,F
Romania	5,5,PF	2,2,F
Russia	3,3,PF	4,4,PF
Slovakia	2,2,F (Czecho-Slovakia)	2,2,F
Slovenia	2,3,F	1,2,F
Tajikistan	3,3,PF	6,6,NF
Turkmenistan	6,5,PF	7,7,NF
Ukraine	3,3,PF	3,4,PF
Uzbekistan	6,5,PF	7,6,NF
FRY	6,5,PF	6,6,NF

Note: In each cell, the first figure refers to performance on political rights, the second to performance on civil liberties. One is the highest rating, and seven the lowest. NF refers to not free, PF to partially free, and F to free. This rating is a composite of the first two.

Source: Freedom House, Country Ratings (<http://www.freedomhouse.org/ratings/>).

Meanwhile, although in the northern tier of Central Europe, significant progress has been made in improving the standards of living of large sections of the population, there is little evidence of such progress in the Balkans and the former Soviet Union. In the latter case, most newly independent states were beginning to show evidence of bottoming out in 1995-7, but the Russian economic crisis of 1998 had significant further depressing effects on the regional economies. Table