

# Contents

<b>Introduction</b> .....	7
<b>Chapter I. The Centrally Planned and Managed Economy</b> .....	11
I.1. Initial System Changes .....	11
I.2. The Tri-Sector System and Economic Planning .....	16
I.3. Acceleration of System Changes from 1947 .....	18
I.4. System Reforms during October 1956 .....	21
I.5. Reform Attempts during the 1960s and 1970s .....	23
I.6. Last Attempts at Reform—1980s .....	25
<b>Chapter II. Economic Policy in the Service of Doctrine</b> .....	33
II.1. Post-War Reconstruction and Integration of the Economy within New Borders ....	33
II.2. Forced Industrialization and Collectivisation of Agriculture (1950–1955) .....	38
II.3. Attempts to Change the Priorities of Economic Policy from 1956 .....	40
II.4. Renewed Acceleration of Industrialisation and Changes to the System .....	40
II.5. Growth Based on Foreign Credits (1971–1979) .....	43
II.6. Unsuccessful Attempts at Overcoming the Crisis (1980–1989) .....	45
<b>Chapter III. “Socialist Industrialisation”</b> .....	49
III.1. Six-Year Plan (1950–1955) .....	49
III.2. Slowdown and Renewed Acceleration of Industrialisation .....	51
III.3. Industrialisation in the Gierek Decade .....	54
III.4. Breakdown of the Industrialisation Program after 1979 .....	60
<b>Chapter IV. Problems with Agriculture</b> .....	63
IV.1. Economic Reconstruction and Forced Socialisation (1944–1955) .....	63
IV.2. Passing Liberalisation and the Return to Collectivising Tendencies (1956–1970) ..	65
IV.3. The Gierek Decade .....	67
IV.4. Structural Crisis of the Central Command Economy (1981–1989) .....	68
<b>Chapter V. The Domination of Foreign Economic Relations by the Soviet Union</b> .....	71
V.1. Period of Post-war Reconstruction .....	71
V.2. The Six-Year Plan .....	74
V.3. Changes in the Second Half of the 1950s .....	75
V.4. Forced Acceleration in the 1960s .....	76

V.5. Under Conditions of External Loans (1971–1980) . . . . .	78
V.6. The Burden of Foreign Debt (1981–1989) . . . . .	82
Chapter VI. <b>Distribution Instead of Trade</b> . . . . .	85
VI.1. Consequences of the “Battle on Trade” and the Six-Year Plan (1947–1955) . . . . .	85
VI.2. Period of “Small Stabilization” (1957–1970) . . . . .	87
VI.3. From Relative Wellbeing to Empty Shelves (1971–1989) . . . . .	89
Chapter VII. <b>Finances and Defective Currency</b> . . . . .	95
VII.1. Formation of the System (1944–1955) . . . . .	95
VII.2. Superficial Changes (1956–1970) . . . . .	98
VII.3. Under Conditions of Growing Internal and External Imbalances (1971–1980) . . . . .	100
VII.4. On the Path to the Financial Crash and Hyperinflation (1981–1989) . . . . .	103
Chapter VIII. <b>Standard of Living as the Cause of Social and Political Crises</b> . . . . .	107
VIII.1. The Path to Poznan—June 1956 . . . . .	107
VIII.2. Towards December 1970 . . . . .	109
VIII.3. Premises from June 1976 and August 1980 . . . . .	111
VIII.4. The Last Decade of the Polish Peoples’ Republic . . . . .	114
Chapter IX. <b>The Polish Economy in the International Context</b> . . . . .	117
IX.1. Characteristics of Economic Growth . . . . .	117
IX.2. Structural Flaws . . . . .	119
IX.3. Negative Social Consequences . . . . .	121
<b>List of Abbreviations</b> . . . . .	122
<b>Selected Bibliography</b> . . . . .	124
<b>Personal Index</b> . . . . .	125