



Antonio Maria Costa

SCACCOMATTO ALL'OCCIDENTE

The Checkmate Pendulum

Political Thriller

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English e-book available

From Fiction to Reality

Checkmate, a fictional rendering of the financial crisis in Europe. The book is unique in his conception, architecture and detailed narrative, based on a distinctive 40-year experience at the top of major international institutions.

History's pendulum oscillates between Berlin and Paris, Washington and Moscow. Eventually it comes to rest in Beijing, where investigative journalist Bosco finds evidence that China's quest for supremacy is more than neo-imperialism: it's vengeance.

Investigating arms trafficking and suspicious banking, TV journalist Pierre G Bosco exposes maneuverings that prompt him to address big questions. Nobody in Europe loves the euro, but everybody needs it. Is the common currency a step towards greater EU integration or will it cause Europe's disintegration? Germany has become the EU's dominant country. Will Germany save Europe or wreck it a third time in a century? Despite their crimes, bankers are "too big to fail or jail." Is this impunity because finance is war – and major powers are at war right now? Russia's neo-imperialism and China's global ascendancy are realigning power in the world. Can Europe and the U.S. fight back? In the dramatic search for answers, Bosco overcomes professional sanctions and death threats to unveil an epic conspiracy in which crime, finance and politics collude. The much-sought prize is not just hegemony over Europe: it's global supremacy.



Mr. Costa signed the first ever EU reports on the single market (1988) and the single currency (1991). He has written numerous articles on development, economic policies, drug and crime control. He is the Editor-in-Chief of *Journal of Policy Modelling*, the foremost scientific periodical in applied economics published by Elsevier since 1978.

Until recently, for almost a decade, the author was the *UN drug czar*, namely the United Nations Under-Secretary in charge of fighting drugs and crime (Vienna). At the time the euro was planned, he was the EU Director-General for Economics and Finance (Brussels). In earlier years he served as Secretary-General of the EBRD (London), and Under-Secretary at the OECD (Paris). Costa, who studied mathematical economics at Moscow University and holds a Ph.D.

in economics from the University of California (Berkeley), is a member of the scientific committee of the *Centesimus Annus pro Pontefice Foundation*. EBRD (London), and Under-Secretary at the OECD (Paris).

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