How are democracy and market reforms faring in East Central Europe and the former Soviet Union? Is civil society expanding or shrinking? Are the media free or fettered by official constraints? To what degree are nations governed by the rule of law? Are human rights respected? Do taxation and trade policies, property rights reforms, banking laws, privatization, and macroeconomic policies encourage or encumber private sector development and economic growth? In Nations in Transit 1999-2000, Freedom House asked leading regional specialists and in-house experts to answer a checklist of 70 indicators for 28 post-Communist countries in ten key areas: political process, civil society, independent media, governance and public administration, constitutional, legislative and judicial framework, corruption, privatization, macroeconomic policy, microeconomic policy, and social sector indicators. The results are incisive, authoritative, and comprehensive country-by-country reports which assess the progress of East Central European and former Soviet countries in ridding themselves of repressive political systems and inefficient statist economies. As an added dimension, Freedom House also developed a rating system which allows for a comparative analysis of countries in terms of democratic and market reforms. Nations in Transit is an invaluable resource for government and non-governmental institutions, schools and universities, and anyone else interested in better understanding the political, economic, and legal structures and institutions that compromise the infrastructure on which the transition to open societies and markets depends.