How can the new dynamic in European integration politics during the second half of the 1980's be explained? What were the driving forces behind the Single European Act, the achievement of the single market, the Schengen agreement, the EU's expansion to the south, and the new steps towards monetary union and the Common Foreign and Security Policy? In this book, using numerous discoveries from the archives, historians from 12 countries show how the European Community reacted to the challenges of globalisation and the reform initiatives by Mikhail Gorbachev. In doing so, they write a new chapter in the history of European integration: the emergence of the European Union.

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