

Contents

| | |
|---|-----------|
| <i>List of Illustrations, Figures, Maps, Tables and Boxes</i> | x |
| <i>Acknowledgements</i> | xii |
| <i>List of Abbreviations</i> | xiii |
| <i>Map of France</i> | xv |
| Introduction | 1 |
| 1 History and Legacies | 8 |
| Introduction | 8 |
| The Making of the French Nation State | 11 |
| The Postwar Transformations of France | 19 |
| Gaullist France in the Cold War Years | 25 |
| Change and Continuity: François Mitterrand's France | 29 |
| From Jacques Chirac to Nicolas Sarkozy: France Enters the Twenty-First Century | 32 |
| Conclusions | 36 |
| 2 France and the French | 37 |
| Introduction | 37 |
| <i>La terre</i> , territory and <i>le terroir</i> | 39 |
| Who are the Twenty-First-Century French? | 53 |
| Conclusions | 62 |
| 3 Politics and Political Culture | 64 |
| Introduction | 64 |
| French Political Culture | 65 |
| French Political Parties in a Bipolar Party System | 71 |
| French Politics and Twenty-First-Century Problems | 83 |
| Conclusions | 92 |

| | | |
|----------|---|------------|
| 4 | Government, Policy-Making and the Republican State | 93 |
| | Introduction | 93 |
| | The Semi-Presidential Regime of the Fifth French Republic | 95 |
| | The State and the Republic: Grand Ideas into Policy | 100 |
| | Decentralization and Local Democracy | 109 |
| | France in Europe, Europe in France | 116 |
| | Conclusions | 120 |
| 5 | A Social French Republic | 122 |
| | Introduction | 122 |
| | Social Structures and Social Policy | 125 |
| | A Secular State in a Diverse Society | 134 |
| | Education, Class and Opportunity | 138 |
| | Conclusions | 145 |
| 6 | Culture and Identity | 147 |
| | Introduction | 147 |
| | The Politics of French Culture | 151 |
| | International Cultural Diplomacy | 156 |
| | Contemporary Culture and Cultural Identities | 163 |
| | Conclusions | 173 |
| 7 | Economy and Business | 174 |
| | Introduction | 174 |
| | The French Republic in the Global Economy | 176 |
| | <i>Dirigisme</i> , the State and the Market | 181 |
| | France in the European (EU) Economy | 184 |
| | Labour, Capital and the State | 189 |
| | The French Business Environment in the Twenty-First Century | 193 |
| | Conclusions | 194 |
| 8 | France in the World | 196 |
| | Introduction | 196 |
| | The Weight of the Past | 197 |
| | The Challenge of the Future: Post-Cold War Review | 200 |

| | |
|--|------------|
| The European Union | 204 |
| France and the 'Anglo-Saxons' | 211 |
| France in the Wider World | 214 |
| Remembering the Past, Shaping the Future | 217 |
| Conclusions | 219 |
| Conclusions | 220 |
| <i>Bibliography</i> | 224 |
| <i>Index</i> | 229 |