On 24 October 1964, the Republic of Zambia was formed, replacing the territory which had formerly been known as Northern Rhodesia. Fifty years on, Andrew Sardanis provides a sympathetic but critical insider’s account of Zambia, from independence to the present. He paints a stark picture of Northern Rhodesia at decolonisation and the problems of the incoming administration, presented with the immense uphill task of rebuilding the infrastructure of government. Having served at the heart of this process and as a friend and colleague of many of the most prominent names in post-independence Zambia, Sardanis uses his unique eyewitness experience to provide an inside view of the country’s evolution. This book provides a detailed examination of the major events in Zambia’s history since independence and their effect on the country’s progress, based on Sardanis’s in-depth knowledge of Zambia, its people and the inner workings of its government.

Andrew Sardanis was born in colonial Cyprus, worked as a journalist and moved to Northern Rhodesia in 1950. He participated in the Zambian independence movement and played a major role in the first administration of the country. He is the author of Africa: Another Side of the Coin and A Venture in Africa (both published by I.B.Tauris).