

1. Record Nr.	UNINA990005794310403321
Autore	Harnack, Adolf von <1851-1930>
Titolo	Il dogma del Figlio di Dio / Adolfo Harnack
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Mendrisio ((Svizzera) : Casa Editrice Cultura Moderna, 1913
Edizione	[1. versione italiana sulla 4. ed. tedesca]
Descrizione fisica	420 p. ; 22 cm
Collana	Biblioteca economica di scienze religiose ; 9 ; 0010
Disciplina	230.2
Locazione	FLFBC
Collocazione	230.2 HAR 1 (4)
Lingua di pubblicazione	Italiano
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
2. Record Nr.	UNINA9910822717103321
Autore	Mouritzen Hans
Titolo	Explaining foreign policy : international diplomacy and the Russo-Georgian War // Hans Mouritzen, Anders Wivel
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Boulder, Colorado ; ; London, [England] : , : Lynne Rienner Publishers, , 2012 ©2012
ISBN	1-58826-969-8 1-58826-835-7
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (235 p.)
Disciplina	947.5808/6
Soggetti	International relations
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.

""Book Title""; ""Table of Contents""; ""List of Tables and Figures""; ""Preface""; ""1-Explaining Foreign Policy""; ""Figure 1.1 Map of Georgia""; ""Foreign Policy Explanations: Competitive or Complementary?""; ""Explaining Much by Little""; ""Realism and Foreign Policy""; ""The Spatial Blindness of Modern Realism""; ""Structure of the Volume""; ""Historical Roots of the 2008 Conflict""; ""Notes""; ""2-A New Explanatory Framework""; ""Foreign Policy Profiles and Strategies""; ""Figure 2.1 Foreign Policy Profiles and Their Underlying Strategies""; ""What Is an a€œInterestinga€? Explanation?""
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 ""The Georgian Action Profile""""The Systemic Explanatory Level""; ""The Interstate Explanatory Level""; ""The Intrastate Explanatory Level""; ""Conclusions""; ""Notes""; ""4-A Well-Prepared Russia Strikes Back""; ""The Russian Military and Diplomatic Response""; ""Limited War: The Fruits of Victory""; ""Russiaa€?s Legitimizations: The Mirror Tactic""; ""The Systemic Explanatory Level""; ""Why Not a€œFinish the Joba€??""; ""Reflections on Explanatory Overkill""; ""Conclusions""; ""Notes""; ""5-The United States Lets Down a Loyal Friend?""; ""The US Reaction Profile""
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 ""7-A Surprising Success: The European Union as Mediator""""The EU Reaction Profile""; ""The Systemic Explanatory Level""; ""The EU-External Explanatory Level""; ""The Intra-EU Explanatory Level""; ""Conclusions""; ""Notes""; ""8-Russiaa€?s Near Abroad and China: United in Caution""; ""The Near Abroad Reaction Profiles""; ""Figure 8.1 Reaction Profiles of Russiaa€?s Near Abroad and China Toward the Russo-Georgian War""; ""Table 8.1 Relevant Eurasian IGOs and Their Members""; ""Figure 8.2 Military Expenditures for China, Russia, and Russiaa€?s Near Abroad, 1995a€?2009""
 ""The Systemic Explanatory Level""

Why would Georgia attack South Ossetia in August 2008, with Russian forces conducting exercises nearby? This remains a puzzle to analysts—on a not inconsiderable list of foreign policy puzzles. Hans Mouritzen and Anders Wivel use the example of the Russo-Georgian war to illustrate and evaluate their original model for explaining foreign policy behavior. The authors apply the model to the actions of forty countries in relation to the 2008 war. Uniquely linking system, interstate, and intrastate levels of explanation, and benefiting from the WikiLeaks revelations, they offer an important new tool for foreign policy analysis.