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| Autore                  | Zwierlein Cornel                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
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| Note generali           | Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 27 Oct 2016).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Nota di bibliografia    | Includes bibliographical references and index.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Nota di contenuto       | Cover ; Half-title page; Title page; Copyright page; Contents; List of Figures; Acknowledgments; Note on Conventions; List of Abbreviations; Introduction; History of Empires, History of Ignorance; Actors, Institutions, Places, Period; Terminology and the Questions a History of Ignorance Asks; Disclaimers: The Author's Ignorances; 1 Politics and Economy: Nationalizing Economics; The Constructive Power of Non-Knowledge; Norms as Specifiers of National Non-Knowledge; Baldus versus Grotius: Conceiving the Empires and Their Unknowns; Conclusion: Operative National Non-Knowledge<br>2 Religion: Empires Ignoring, Learning, Forgetting ReligionsEntangling |

Powers of Non-Knowledge between West and East (Greek Church, Samaritans, Phoenicians); English Chaplains versus French State Catholicism: Conditions and Functions of Non-Knowledge  
Communication; Comparison and Conclusion; 3 History: How to Cope with Unconscious Ignorance; The Forgotten Arabic Middle Ages; Growing Awareness; Structure Replaces Content; Standardization and Spatialization; Conclusion; 4 Science: Mediterranean Empires and Scientific Unknowns; From Avicenna to the *Queries of the Royal Society* (1692)

Enlightened Falsifications  
From Natural History to Nation's History; Conclusion: Scientific Unknowns and the Mediterranean; Conclusion; Historicizing Ignorance, Synchronizing Empires; Bibliography; Index

#### Sommario/riassunto

In this major new study, the history of the French and British trading empires in the early modern Mediterranean is used as a setting to test a new approach to the history of ignorance: how can we understand the very act of ignoring - in political, economic, religious, cultural and scientific communication - as a fundamental trigger that sets knowledge in motion? Zwierlein explores whether the Scientific Revolution between 1650 and 1750 can be understood as just one of what were in fact many simultaneous epistemic movements and considers the role of the European empires in this phenomenon. Deconstructing central categories like the mercantilist 'national', the exchange of 'confessions' between Western and Eastern Christians and the bridging of cultural gaps between European and Ottoman subjects, Zwierlein argues that understanding what was not known by historical agents can be just as important as the history of knowledge itself.