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Autore	Shaw Caroline
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Sommario/riassunto

'Britannia's Embrace' offers the first historical examination of the origins of refuge for persecuted foreigners. It argues that this modern humanitarian norm - the responsibility to protect foreign refugees of any race, class, politics, or creed - developed in nineteenth-century Britain through a popular movement that equated the provision of refuge with a national liberal identity and compelled even the most powerful politicians to heed its demands. The public's moral enthusiasm for foreign refugees ironically drew strength from the political and physical resources of the British Empire.
