

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910159531303321
Titolo	Religious Institutes and Catholic Culture in 19th and 20th Century Europe // Urs Altermatt, Jan De Maeyer, Franziska Metzger, eds
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Leuven, Belgium : , : Leuven University Press, , 2014 ©2014
ISBN	94-6166-214-9
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (216 pages)
Collana	KADOC studies on religion, culture, and society ; 13
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Disciplina	250
Soggetti	Catholics - Europe - Intellectual life - 20th century Catholics - Europe - Intellectual life - 19th century Christian communities - Europe - History - 20th century Christian communities - Europe - History - 19th century Christian communities - Catholic Church - History - 19th century Europe Intellectual life 20th century Europe Intellectual life 19th century Europe Church history 20th century Europe Church history 19th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	"D/2014/1869/22, Nur: 694"--T.p. verso.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [183]-209) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Intro -- Contents -- Introduction -- Religious Institutes as a Factor of Catholic Communities of Communication -- Catholic Intellectual Elites in the Netherlands -- Stimmen der Zeit and Benediktinische Monats-schrift -- Convent Schools in Central Switzerland -- The Institut St. Elisabeth -- Creating and Disseminating a Catholic Subculture through Children's Literature -- Starving, Spanking and Steam Trains -- The Scandinavian Mission of the Sisters of Saint Joseph -- Religious Communities and the Catholic Poverty Discourse in the First Half of the 19th Century -- Belgian Jesuits and their Labourer Retreats (c. 1890-1914) -- Conclusion -- BIBLIOGRAPHY -- index -- contributors -- Colophon.

This volume examines the cultural contribution of religious institutes, men and women religious, and their role in the constitution of Catholic communities of communication in different European countries (England, Germany, Liechtenstein, the Low Countries, the Nordic Countries, Switzerland). The articles focus on social and cultural history by comparing both discourses and cultural and social practices, as well as examining international networks and cultural transference. How did religious institutes function as cultural elites in the production and mediation of knowledge, ideologies, cultural codes, and practices? What kind of discursive and operational strategies did they use to help construct and propagate social Catholicism, ultramontanism, and confessionalism, and to establish and promote the Catholic communication system? What were the central mechanisms in the production of knowledge and how were they incorporated within identity politics? The volume also takes a broad perspective on the role of religious institutes in the production and propagation of religious, cultural, and social practices, and in the socialisation of the Catholic population. The focus is on cultural practices, on the transmission and transformation of attitudes, and on the rites and customs in everyday religious and social practices.
