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Autore	Onnekink David
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Nota di contenuto	1. General Introduction -- 2. Foreign policy discourses and the construction of identities -- 3. The Franco-Dutch War (1672-1678) -- 4. The Nine Years' War (1688-1697) -- 5. The War of the Spanish Succession (1702-1713) -- 6. General conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	This book aims to reinterpret current perceptions of the Dutch Forty Years War (1672-1713), usually regarded as a struggle against the expansionism of Louis XIV, birthing the European balance of power. Particular attention is given to recent international relations theory, through the examination of popular and official documents, as well as political and diplomatic correspondence. While focusing on the emergence and appropriation of Universal Monarchy and Balance of Power discourses, this book also provides counter discourses, allowing

readers to explore the lively domestic debate on foreign policy along partisan lines.

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