Record Nr. UNINA9910163124303321 Autore Ergin Murat <1977-> **Titolo** Is the Turk a white man?: race and modernity in the making of Turkish identity / / by Murat Ergin Leiden;; Boston:,: Brill,, 2016 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 90-04-33055-0 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (286 pages): color illustrations Collana Studies in critical social sciences;; v. 95 305.894/35 Disciplina Ethnicity - Turkey Soggetti Ethnology - Turkey Group identity - Turkey Turks - Ethnic identity Turks - Race identity Electronic books. Turkey Ethnic relations Turkey Race relations Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Preliminary Material -- Introduction -- Why This Book Should Not Have Been Written -- The Republican Conversion Narrative -- Encounters with the "West" -- Race in Early Republican Turkey -- Close Encounters and Racial Discourses -- Race in Contemporary Turkey -- Conclusion -- Bibliography -- Index. Sommario/riassunto In 1909, the US Circuit Court in Cincinnati set out to decide "whether a Turkish citizen shall be naturalized as a white person"; the New York Times article on the decision, discussing the question of Turks' whiteness, was cheekily entitled "Is the Turk a White Man?" Within a few decades, having understood the importance of this question for their modernization efforts. Turkish elites had already started a fantastic scientific mobilization to position the Turks in world history as the generators of Western civilization, the creators of human language, and the forgotten source of white racial stock. In this book, Murat Ergin examines how race figures into Turkish modernization in a process of

interaction between global racial discourses and local responses.