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Autore	Schillings Sonja
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Nota di contenuto	Introduction -- The emperor and the pirate: legitimate violence as a modern dilemma. Augustine of Hippo: The city of God; Charles Johnson: A general history of the pyrates; Charles Ellms: The pirates' own book -- Race, space, and the formation of the hostis humani generis constellation. Piratae and praedones: the racialization of hostis humani generis; John Locke, William Blackstone, and the invader in the state of nature; Hostis humani generis and the American historical novel: James Fenimore Cooper's The deerslayer -- The American civilization thesis: internalizing the other. The frontier thesis as a third model of civilization; The democratic frontiersman and the totalitarian leviathan; Free agency and the pure woman paradox; The foundational pirata in Richard Wright's Native son -- "It is underneath us": the planetary zone in between as an American dilemma; The institutional

frontier: a new type of criminal; Who is innocent? the later Cold War years; Moshin Hamid's The reluctant fundamentalist and the War on Terror -- Conclusion.

**Sommario/riassunto**

"Provides a narrative basis for legitimating violence against 'enemies of civilization' " --