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Autore	Jones E. L (Eric Lionel)
Titolo	Cultures merging : a historical and economic critique of culture / / Eric L. Jones
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Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (315 p.)
Collana	The Princeton economic history of the Western world
Classificazione	83.01
Disciplina	306.301
Soggetti	Economics - Sociological aspects Culture - Economic aspects Social change - Economic aspects
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [273]-290) and index.
Nota di contenuto	The revival of cultural explanation -- Cultures fluid and sticky -- Culture as mediocrity -- The means of merging -- Institutions as cryptogams -- Cultures of immigration -- East Asia's experience -- Economic changes, cultural responses -- Cultural protection -- Culture as reciprocity.
Sommario/riassunto	"Economists agree about many things--contrary to popular opinion--but the majority agree about culture only in the sense that they no longer give it much thought." So begins the first chapter of <i>Cultures Merging</i> , in which Eric Jones--one of the world's leading economic historians--takes an eloquent, pointed, and personal look at the question of whether culture determines economics or is instead determined by it. Bringing immense learning and originality to the issue of cultural change over the long-term course of global economic history, Jones questions cultural explanations of much social behavior in Europe, East Asia, the United States, Australia, and the Middle East. He also examines contemporary globalization, arguing that while centuries of economic competition have resulted in the merging of

cultures into fewer and larger units, these changes have led to exciting new syntheses. Culture matters to economic outcomes, Jones argues, but cultures in turn never stop responding to market forces, even if some elements of culture stubbornly persist beyond the time when they can be explained by current economic pressures. In the longer run, however, cultures show a fluidity that will astonish some cultural determinists. Jones concludes that culture's "ghostly transit through history" is much less powerful than noneconomists often claim, yet it has a greater influence than economists usually admit. The product of a lifetime of reading and thinking on culture and economics, a work of history and an analysis of the contemporary world, *Cultures Merging* will be essential reading for anyone concerned about the interaction of cultures and markets around the world.

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