

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910219984203321
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Titolo	Adjusting to global economic change : the dangerous road ahead / / Robert A. Levine
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Santa Monica, CA, : Rand, 2009
ISBN	1-282-45125-1 9786612451256 0-8330-4863-5
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (31 p.)
Collana	Occasional paper ; ; OP-243-RPC
Disciplina	337
Soggetti	International economic relations Globalization - Economic aspects Economic forecasting
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.
Nota di contenuto	Cover; Preface; Acknowledgments; Adjusting to Global Economic Change: The Dangerous Road Ahead; History: 1929-1939; Theory; History: 1939-1971; History: 1972-1986; Theory; History: 1986-2000; History and Theory: 2000-2008; Prospects; Policy Responses; Appendix - Economic Theory
Sommario/riassunto	The author combines macroeconomic history with a brief exposition of economic theory that stems from and explains that history and explores how that experience may apply to the future. He examines the Great Depression, World War II and the following prosperous quarter century, the stagflation and recovery of the 1970s and 1980s, the information technology boom that lasted through the 1990s, and the current economic crisis. In most macroeconomic crises, the worst case--depression or inflation--is fairly clear, and modern policymakers have the tools at hand to cope. He warns that the worst case