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Nota di contenuto	Part I: Setting the Stage -- Chapter 1: A world full of mergers: The Nordic countries in a global context. Rómulo Pinheiro, Lars Geschwind and Timo Aarrevaara -- Part II: Path Dependencies & System Dynamics -- Chapter 2: Mergers in Norwegian higher education. Svein Kyvik and Bjørn Stensaker -- Chapter 3: Conflicting Rationalities: Mergers and Consolidations in Swedish Higher Education Policy. Mats Benner and Lars Geschwind -- Chapter 4: Merger mania? The Finnish higher education experience. Timo Aarrevaara and Ian R. Dobson -- Chapter 5: Mergers in Danish Higher education: An overview over the changing landscape. Kaare Aagaard, Hanne F. Hansen and Jørgen G. Rasmussen -- Part III: Case Studies -- Chapter 6: The anatomy of a merger process in the greater Oslo region. Elizabeth Mathisen and Rómulo Pinheiro -- Chapter 7: Mergers in the North: The Making of the Artic University of Norway. Peter Arbo and Tove Bull -- Chapter 8: Mergers as opportunities for branding: The Making of the Linnaeus University. Lars Geschwind, Göran Melin and Linda Wedlin -- Chapter 9: Takeovers in

Swedish Higher Education: Comparing the “hostile” and the “friendly”. Sara Karlsson and Lars Geschwind -- Chapter 10: Merger of two Universities of Applied Sciences. Maria Sutela and Yuzhuo Cai -- Chapter 11: A complex and messy merger: The road to the University of Eastern Finland. Jarkko Tirronen, Hanna-Mari Aula and Timo Aarrevaara -- Chapter 12: Different faces of Danish Higher Education mergers. Kaare Aagaard, Hanne F. Hansen and Jørgen G. Rasmussen -- Chapter 13: Post-merger experiences at Danish Higher Education Institutions. Kaare Aagaard, Hanne F. Hansen and Jørgen G. Rasmussen -- Part IV: Lessons Learnt and Way Forward -- Chapter 14: The many guises of Nordic higher education mergers. Lars Geschwind, Rómulo Pinheiro and Timo Aarrevaara. .

Sommario/riassunto

This book addresses the critical knowledge gaps of mergers involving higher education institutions. It is based on a comparative research project (spring 2013-spring 2015) investigating the phenomena of mergers involving higher education institutions across the Nordic countries – Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark. The study involved close to 30 scholars from the region, and aimed at shedding critical light on, and providing novel contributions around, the following key aspects: Conceptual and theoretical approaches – strengths and limitations - towards the study of the phenomena of mergers in higher education; Historical developments, leading to significant structural changes in the domestic higher education landscape, and, in turn, how mergers have been used as a policy/institutional mechanism to foster adaptation to a new external environment at the local, national, regional and international levels; The complex dynamics inherent to merger processes by undertaking an in-depth investigation of a series of selected case studies, with a particular focus on the “black-box” associated with the implementation process; The implications of the findings as regards future policy and strategic endeavours, theory development and future research agenda. .
