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| 1. Record Nr. | UNINA9910255300103321 |
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| Titolo | Shifting Power in Asia-Pacific? : The Rise of China, Sino-US Competition and Regional Middle Power Allegiance // by Enrico Fels |
| Pubbl/distr/stampa | Cham : , : Springer International Publishing : , : Imprint : Springer, , 2017 |
| ISBN | 9783319456898 |
| Edizione | [1st ed. 2017.] |
| Descrizione fisica | 1 online resource (XVII, 768 p. 27 illus. in color.) |
| Collana | Global Power Shift, , 2198-7343 |
| Disciplina | 327 |
| Soggetti | International relations Asia—Politics and government Asia—Economic conditions United States—Politics and government International Relations Asian Politics Asian Economics US Politics |
| Lingua di pubblicazione | Inglese |
| Formato | Materiale a stampa |
| Livello bibliografico | Monografia |
| Nota di bibliografia | Includes bibliographical references. |
| Nota di contenuto | Acknowledgements -- 1 Opening the Floor: The Rivalry Between Eagle and Dragon in Asia-Pacific -- 2 Theoretical Framework: Realism as a Lens for Analysis -- 3 Power in International Affairs -- 4 Towards a Middle Power Theory in International Affairs -- 5 Taking Stock of Asia-Pacific's Tangible Power Changes - Measuring Aggregate Power -- 6 Determining the (Almost) Intangible: Measuring Relational Power -- 7 Australia - Trading With the Dragon, But Flying With the Eagle -- 8 Pakistan - "Iron Brother" to Beijing, Reluctant Partner for Washington -- 9 Japan - Warm Ties to Washington, "Cold Politics" With Beijing -- 10 Republic of Korea - No Longer a Small "Shrimp Among Whales" -- 11 Thailand - Bending With the Wind Again? -- 12 Indonesia - Rowing Between Two Reefs Once More -- 13 Conclusion - Does "Rising" in Power Equate to "Shifting" of Power?. |
| Sommario/riassunto | This book investigates whether a power shift has taken place in the Asia-Pacific region since the end of the Cold War. By systematically |

examining the development of power dynamics in Asia-Pacific, it challenges the notion that a wealthier and militarily more powerful China is automatically turning the regional tides in its favour. With a special emphasis on Sino-US competition, the book explores the alleged linkage between the regional distribution of relevant material and immaterial capabilities, national power and the much-cited regional power shift. The book presents a novel concept for measuring power in international relations by outlining a composite index on aggregated power (CIAP) that includes 55 variables for 44 regional countries and covers a period of twenty years. Moreover, it develops a middle power theory that outlines the significance of middle powers in times of major power shifts. By addressing political, military and economic cooperation via a structured-focused comparison and by applying a comparative-historical analysis, the book analyses in depth the bilateral relations of six regional middle powers to Washington and Beijing. .
