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Nota di contenuto	Table of Contents -- List of Tables -- PREFACE -- INTRODUCTION -- PART 1: THE SOVIET EMPIRE -- Chapter 1: Theoretical and Conceptual Considerations -- PART 2: EXPANSION -- Chapter 2: The Imperial and Ideological Paradigm -- Chapter 3: The Comprehensive Crisis of Empire -- PART 4: COLLAPSE -- Chapter 4: Gorbachev's Old and New Thinking -- Chapter 5: Domestic Implications of Gorbachev's German Policy -- Chapter 6: The Last Crisis -- CONCLUSIONS -- The Gorbachev Era -- Collapse of the Soviet Empire: The Utility of Theories of Imperialism -- Lessons Unlearned: Putin in Brezhnev's Footsteps -- APPENDIX -- Notes on Archival Research -- Biographical Notes -- List of Interviews -- Bibliography -- Glossary and Abbreviations -- Register.
Sommario/riassunto	The book is an analysis of the rise and fall of the Soviet empire in what, during the Cold War, was called "Eastern Europe". Its central focus is the role played by the German problem in that process.