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Nota di contenuto Chapter 1. Introduction -- Chapter 2. Genoa, Liguria, and the Regional

Development of Medieval Public Debt -- Chapter 3. Angelo degli Ubaldi and the Gulf of the Venetians: Custom, Commerce, and the Control of the Sea before Grotius -- Chapter 4. Capitalism and the Special Economic Zone, 1590–2014 -- Chapter 5. Theatrum Œconomicum: Anders Berch and the Dramatization of the Swedish Improvement Discourse -- Chapter 6. Gulliver's Travels, Party Politics, and Empire -- Chapter 7. Commerce, not Conquest: Political Economic Thought in the French Indies Company, 1719–1769 -- Chapter 8. The Economics of the Antipodes: French Naval Exploration, Trade, and Empire in the 19th Century -- Chapter 9. A 'Surreptitious Introduction': Opium Smuggling and Colonial State Formation in Late 19th Century Bengal and Burma -- Chapter 10. A Place in the Sun: Rethinking the Political

Economy of German Overseas Expansion and Navalism before the Great

Sommario/riassunto

War -- Chapter 11. Wesley Mitchell's Business Cycles after 100 Years -- Chapter 12. On a Certain Blindness in Economic Theory: Keynes' Giraffes and the Ordinary Textuality of Economic Ideas -- Chapter 13. Between Economic Planning and Market Competition: Institutional Law and Economics in the US -- Chapter 14. The '73 Graft: Punishment, Political Economy, and the Genealogy of Morals.

This volume offers a snapshot of the resurgent historiography of political economy in the wake of the ongoing global financial crisis, and suggests fruitful new agendas for research on the political-economic nexus as it has developed in the Western world since the end of the Middle Ages. New Perspectives on the History of Political Economy brings together a select group of young and established scholars from a wide variety of disciplinary backgrounds—history. economics, law, and political science—in an effort to begin a reconceptualization of the origins and history of political economy through a variety of still largely distinct but complementary historical approaches—legal and intellectual, literary and philosophical, political and economic—and from a variety of related perspectives: debt and state finance, tariffs and tax policy, the encouragement and discouragement of trade, merchant communities and companies. smuggling and illicit trades, mercantile and colonial systems, economic cultures, and the history of economic doctrines more narrowly construed. The first decade of the twenty-first century, bookended by 9/11 and a global financial crisis, witnessed the clamorous and urgent return of both 'the political' and 'the economic' to historiographical debates. It is becoming more important than ever to rethink the historical role of politics (and, indeed, of government) in business. economic production, distribution, and exchange. The artefacts of premodern and modern political economy, from the fourteenth through the twentieth centuries, remain monuments of perennial importance for understanding how human beings grappled with and overcame material hardship, organized their political and economic communities, won great wealth and lost it, conquered and were conquered. The present volume, assembling some of the brightest lights in the field, eloquently testifies to the rich and powerful lessons to be had from such a historical understanding of political economy and of power in an economic age.