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Autore	Arzyutov Dmitry V (Editor)
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Nota di contenuto	1. Grounding etnos theory: an introduction -- 2. Etnos thinking in the long twentieth century -- 3. Ukrainian roots of the theory of etnos -- 4. Mapping etnos: the geographi imagination of Fedor Volkov and his students -- 5. Notes from his "Snail's shell": Shirokogoroff's fieldwork and the groundwork for etnos thinking -- 6. Order out of chaos: anthropology and politics of Sergei M. Shirokogoroff -- 7. Chasing shadows: sharing photographs from former northwest Manchuria -- 8. "The sea is our field": pomor identity in Russian ethnography -- 9. Epilogue: Why etnos (still) matters.
Sommario/riassunto	The idea of etnos came into being over a hundred years ago as a way of understanding the collective identities of people with a common language and shared traditions. In the twentieth century, the concept came to be associated with Soviet state-building, and it fell sharply out of favour. Yet outside the academy, etnos-style arguments not only persist, but are a vibrant part of regional anthropological traditions. Life Histories of Etnos Theory in Russia and Beyond makes a powerful argument for reconsidering the importance of etnos in our understanding of ethnicity and national identity across Eurasia. The collection brings to life a rich archive of previously unpublished letters, fieldnotes, and photographic collections of the theory's early proponents. Using contemporary fieldwork and case studies, the volume shows how the ideas of these ethnographers continue to impact and shape identities in various regional theatres from Ukraine to

the Russian North to the Manchurian steppes of what is now China. Through writing a life history of these collectivist concepts, the contributors to this volume unveil a world where the assumptions of liberal individualism do not hold. In doing so, they demonstrate how notions of belonging are not fleeting but persistent, multi-generational, and bio-social.
