

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910450437003321
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Titolo	British policy in Persia, 1918-1925 / / Houshang Sabahi
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Portland, Or. : , : F. Cass, , 1990
ISBN	1-135-77848-5 1-280-14351-7 0-203-98819-1
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (279 p.)
Disciplina	327.41055
Soggetti	International relations Electronic books. Great Britain Foreign relations 1910-1936 Great Britain Foreign relations Iran Iran Foreign relations Great Britain
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references.
Nota di contenuto	Preliminaries; CONTENTS; Acknowledgements; Introduction; 1. Finance: The Power of the Purse; 2 Force The Diplomacy of Violence; 3. Soviet Landing at Enzeli; 4 Persian Communists; 5 Zero Sum Game; 6 Anglo American Partnership; 7. Britain's Reaction to Reza Khan's Ascendancy; 8 Reza Khan's Rise to Supreme Power; Notes; Bibliography; Index
Sommario/riassunto	Viewed from the perspective of Whitehall, Persia was a crossroads where Britain's European and Indian interests met. Control of Persia by any European power was bound to jeopardize the security of British India. A threat to India could in turn be used as a lever to upset the balance of power in Europe. To forestall this danger, Britain tried various policies. At first London and India hesitantly experimented with the policy of bringing Persia into the British sphere of influence either by contracting an alliance with her or by turning her into a protectorate. Persia's crushing defeat in the war with Ru