

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910450851703321
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Titolo	The tradition of free trade / / Lars Magnusson
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London ; ; New York : , : Routledge, , 2004
ISBN	1-134-50537-X 0-429-23383-3 0-203-50233-7 1-280-07878-2
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (209 p.)
Collana	Routledge studies in the history of economics ; ; 69
Disciplina	382/.71/09034
Soggetti	Free trade - History - 19th century Free trade - Great Britain - History - 19th century Free trade - United States - History - 19th century Free trade - Sweden - History - 19th century Economic history - 1750-1918 Electronic books.
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 (p. [158]-189)and index.
Nota di contenuto	Book Cover; Title; Contents; Acknowledgements; The invention of a tradition of free trade: an introduction; The heritage from Smith and classical political economy; The invention of a tradition: from the Corn Laws to the fair trade controversy; The historical construction of mercantilism; The American system; The three systems of political economy: a Swedish case of translation; Epilogue; Notes; Select bibliography; Index
Sommario/riassunto	In the nineteenth century Adam Smith and others gradually invented a 'tradition' of free trade. This was a towering achievement and has proved to be influential to this day. This book examines this construction of the free trade tradition. Showing how historical construction is a vital component in the writing of doctrinal history, Lars Magnusson argues that it is important for historians of economic thought to distance themselves from the practice of writing history backwards. Contrasting what occurred in Britain in the nineteenth

century with what occurred in the United States and in S