

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910452260003321
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Titolo	Darkness at dawn [[electronic resource]] : the rise of the Russian criminal state // David Satter
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New Haven, : Yale University Press, c2003
ISBN	1-281-72942-6 9786611729424 0-300-12909-2
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (336 p.)
Disciplina	364.1/06/0947
Soggetti	Organized crime - Russia (Federation) Electronic books. Russia (Federation) Social conditions 1991-
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 289-302) and index.
Nota di contenuto	The Kursk -- Ryazan -- The young reformers -- The history of reform -- The gold seekers -- The workers -- Law enforcement -- Organized crime -- Ulyanovsk -- Vladivostok -- Krasnoyarsk -- The value of human life -- The criminalization of consciousness -- Conclusion : does Russia have a future?
Sommario/riassunto	Anticipating a new dawn of freedom and democracy after the disintegration of the Soviet Union, Russians could hardly have foreseen the reality of their future a decade later: a country desperately impoverished and controlled at every level by criminals. This compelling book tells the story of the 1990's reform period in Russia through the experiences of individual citizens. Recounting in detail the development of a new era of oppression, journalist David Satter conveys the staggering nature of the changes that have swept Russian life, society, and ways of thinking. Through the stories of people at all levels of Russian society, Satter describes fraudulent investment schemes, massive corruption, and the intrusion of organized crime everywhere. With insights derived from more than twenty years of writing and reporting on Russia, Satter considers why the individual human being there has historically counted for so little. And he offers

an illuminating analysis of how Russia's post-Soviet fate was decided when a new morality failed to fill the vast moral vacuum that communism left in its wake.
