

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910453183103321
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Titolo	Savage century [[electronic resource]] : back to barbarism // Therese Delpech ; translated by George Holoch
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Washington, D.C., : Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, c2007
ISBN	0-87003-276-3
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (238 p.)
Altri autori (Persone)	HolochGeorge
Disciplina	327.101/12
Soggetti	Security, International - Forecasting World politics - 21st century Geopolitics Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Translation of: Ensauvagement : le retour de la barbarie au XXIe siecle. First paperback edition published in 2008.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 183-199) and index.
Nota di contenuto	pt. 1. The telescope -- pt. 2. 1905 -- pt. 3. The world in 2025 -- pt. 4. Back in 2005.
Sommario/riassunto	At the dawn of the twentieth century, observers heralded a new era of social progress, seemingly limitless technological advances, and world peace. But within only a few years, the world was perched on the brink of war, revolution, and human misery on an unprecedented scale. Is it possible that today, in the early twenty-first century, we are on the verge of similar, tumultuous times? Blending a detailed knowledge of international security affairs with history, philosophy, psychology, and literature, Th?r?se Delpech vividly reminds us of the signs and warnings that were missed as the ""civiliz