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Nota di contenuto	Preliminary Material / Randall Lesaffer -- Introduction / Randall Lesaffer -- The Twelve Years Truce: Textual Explanations / Paul Brood -- Preparing the Ground: The Cession of the Netherland's Sovereignty in 1598 and the Failure of its Peace-Making Objective, 1607–1609 / Alicia Esteban Estríngana -- The Act of Cession, the 1598 and 1600 States General in Brussels and the Peace Negotiations during the Dutch Revolt / Bram De Ridder and Violet Soen -- The Anglo-Spanish Peace Treaty of 1604: A Rehearsal for Belgian Diplomats? / Alain Wijffels -- Left 'Holding the Bag': The Johor-voc Alliance and the Twelve Years Truce (1606–1613) / Peter Borschberg -- The Tactical Military Revolution and Dutch Army Operations during the Era of the Twelve Years Truce (1592–1618) / Olaf van Nimwegen -- 'Une oppression insupportable au peuple': The Impact of Contributions on Armistice, Peace and Truce Negotiations / Tim Piceu -- The United Provinces: 'Free' or 'Free and Sovereign'? / Beatrix C.M. Jacobs -- How 'Sovereign' were the Southern Netherlands under the Archdukes? / Georges Martyn -- The Early Doctrine of International Law as a Bridge from Antiquity to Modernity and Diplomatic Inviolability in 16th- and 17th-Century European Practice / Carlo Focarelli -- From Antwerp to Munster

(1609/1648): Truce and Peace under the Law of Nations / Randall Lesaffer , Erik-Jan Broers and Johanna Waelkens -- 'La dernière ancre de leur finesse': Truce and Peace Treaties as Criteria for *bellum justum* in Early Modern Europe / Bernd Klesmann -- The Treaty of London, the Twelve Years Truce and Religious Toleration in Spain and the Netherlands (1598–1621) / Werner Thomas.

#### Sommario/riassunto

The Twelve Years Truce of 9 April 1609 made a temporary end to the hostilities between Spain and the Northern Netherlands that had lasted for over four decades. The Truce signified a crucial step in the recognition of the Republic of the Northern Netherlands as a sovereign power. As the direct source of inspiration for the 1648 Peace of Munster the Truce is a crucial text in the formation of the early modern law of nations. As few other texts, it reflects the radical changes to the laws of war and peace from around 1600. The Twelve Years Truce offers a collection of essays by leading specialists on the diplomatic and legal history of the Antwerp Truce of 1609. The first part covers the negotiation process leading up to the Truce. The second part collects essays on the consequences of the Truce on the state of war. In the third part, the consequences of the Truce for the sovereignty of the Northern and Southern Netherlands as well as its wider significance for the changing laws of war and peace of the age are scrutinised.