1. Record Nr. UNINA9910459177003321 Autore Piot Charles Titolo Nostalgia for the future [[electronic resource]]: West Africa after the Cold War / / Charles Piot Chicago; ; London, : University of Chicago Press, 2010 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-282-67920-1 9786612679209 0-226-66966-1 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (212 p.) Disciplina 966.03/3 Postcolonialism - Africa, West Soggetti Postcolonialism - Togo Electronic books. Africa, West History 1960-Togo History 20th century Togo History 21st century Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Front matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction -- One. States of Emergency -- Two. The End of History -- Three. Exit Strategy -- Mise En Scène -- Four. Charismatic Enchantments -- Five. Arrested Development -- Six. The Death of a Culture -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index Sommario/riassunto Since the end of the cold war, Africa has seen a dramatic rise in new political and religious phenomena, including an eviscerated privatized state, neoliberal NGOs, Pentecostalism, a resurgence in accusations of witchcraft, a culture of scamming and fraud, and, in some countries, a nearly universal wish to emigrate. Drawing on fieldwork in Togo, Charles Piot suggests that a new biopolitics after state sovereignty is remaking the face of one of the world's poorest regions. In a country where playing the U.S. Department of State's green card lottery is a national pastime and the preponderance of cybercafés and Western

> Union branches signals a widespread desire to connect to the rest of the world, Nostalgia for the Future makes clear that the cultural and

political terrain that underlies postcolonial theory has shifted. In order to map out this new terrain, Piot enters into critical dialogue with a host of important theorists, including Agamben, Hardt and Negri, Deleuze, and Mbembe. The result is a deft interweaving of rich observations of Togolese life with profound insights into the new, globalized world in which that life takes place.