1. Record Nr. UNINA9910460120603321 Autore Piot Peter <1949-> Titolo AIDS between science and politics / / Peter Piot; translated by Laurence Garey Pubbl/distr/stampa New York: ,: Columbia University Press, , [2015] ©2015 0-231-53877-4 **ISBN** Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (215 p.) Disciplina 362.19697/92 Soggetti AIDS (Disease) - Prevention Communicable diseases Electronic books. Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Monografia Livello bibliografico Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. A heterogeneous and still evolving epidemic -- Hyperendemic HIV in Nota di contenuto Southern Africa: the heritage of apartheid -- AIDS as an international political issue -- A new type of transnational civil society movement --The right to treatment -- Combination prevention -- The economics of AIDS -- Prominence of human rights -- The long-term view. Sommario/riassunto Peter Piot, founding executive director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), recounts his experience as a clinician, scientist, and activist fighting the disease from its earliest manifestation to today. The AIDS pandemic was not only catastrophic to the health of millions worldwide but also fractured international relations, global access to new technologies, and public health policies in nations across the globe. As he struggled to get ahead of the disease, Piot found science does little good when it operates independently of politics and economics, and politics is worthless if it rejects scientific evidence and respect for human rights. Piot describes how the epidemic altered global attitudes toward sexuality, the

character of the doctor-patient relationship, the influence of civil

society in international relations, and traditional partisan divides. AIDS thrust health into national and international politics where, he argues, it rightly belongs. The global reaction to AIDS over the past decade is

the positive result of this partnership, showing what can be achieved when science, politics, and policy converge on the ground. Yet it remains a fragile achievement, and Piot warns against complacency and the consequences of reduced investments. He refuses to accept a world in which high levels of HIV infection are the norm. Instead, he explains how to continue to reduce the incidence of the disease to minute levels through both prevention and treatment, until a vaccine is discovered.