

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910462424903321
Titolo	The rise of fiscal states : a global history, 1500-1914 // edited by Bartolome Yun-Casalilla, Patrick O'Brien [[electronic resource]]
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge : , : Cambridge University Press, , 2012
ISBN	1-107-22954-5 1-139-36606-8 1-280-77358-8 9786613684356 1-139-37862-7 1-139-37576-8 1-139-00423-9 1-139-37177-0 1-139-37719-1 1-139-38005-2
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xxi, 471 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Disciplina	332/.0420903
Soggetti	Fiscal policy - History
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015).
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	; 1. Introduction: the rise of the fiscal state in Eurasia from a global, comparative and transnational perspective / Bartolome Yun-Casalilla -- ; Part I. North Atlantic Europe: ; 2. Long-term trends in the fiscal history of the Netherlands, 1515-1913 / Wantje Fritschy, Marjolein 'T Hart and Edwin Horlings; ; 3. Taxation in the Habsburg Low Countries and Belgium, 1579-1914 / Paul Janssens; ; 4. The rise of the fiscal state in France, 1500-1914 / Richard Bonney; ; 5. The politics of British taxation, from the Glorious Revolution to the Great War / Martin Daunton -- ; Part II. Central and Eastern Europe: ; 6. Finances and power in the German state system / Michael North; ; 7. Financing an empire: the Austrian composite monarchy, 1650-1848 / Renate Pieper; ; 8. The Russian fiscal state, 1600-1914 / Peter Gatrell -- ; Part III. South Atlantic Europe and the Mediterranean: ; 9. From pioneer

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## Sommario/riassunto

From the Netherlands to the Ottoman Empire, to Japan and India, this groundbreaking volume confronts the complex and diverse problem of the formation of fiscal states in Eurasia between 1500 and 1914. This series of country case studies from leading economic historians reveals that distinctive features of the fiscal state appeared across the region at different moments in time as a result of multiple independent but often interacting stimuli such as internal competition over resources, European expansion, international trade, globalisation and war. The essays offer a comparative framework for re-examining the causes of economic development across this period and show, for instance, the central role that the more effective fiscal systems of Europe during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries played in the divergence of east and west as well as the very different paths to modernisation taken across the world.

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