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Nota di contenuto	Front cover; Table of Contents; Ch. 1 Introducing Kazakhstan; Ch. 2 Reluctantly Accepting Independence; Ch. 3 The Challenge of Creating Kazakhstanis; Ch. 4 Trying Pluralism and Abandoning It; Ch. 5 Economic Development or Stealing the State?; Ch. 6 A Divided Society; Ch. 7 Can Kazakhstan Regain Its Promise?; Ch. 8 Is Kazakhstan Moving in the Right Direction?; Appendices; Index; Map; Back cover
Sommario/riassunto	At the outset of independence 18 years ago, Kazakhstan's leaders promised that the country's rich natural resources, with oil and gas reserves among the largest in the world, would soon bring economic prosperity. It appeared that democracy was beginning to take hold in this newly independent state. Nearly two decades later, Kazakhstan has achieved the World Bank's ranking of a "middle economic country," but its economy is straining from the global economic crisis. The country's political system still needs fundamental reform before Kazakhstan can

be considered a democracy. Kazakhst

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