

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910463341403321
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Titolo	Belonging and isolation in the Hellenistic world // edited by Sheila L. Ager and Riemer A. Faber
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Toronto, [Ontario] ; ; Buffalo, [New York] ; ; London, [England] : , : University of Toronto Press, , 2013 ©2013
ISBN	1-4426-9944-2
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (416 p.)
Collana	Phoenix Supplementary Volumes ; ; 51
Disciplina	938/.08
Soggetti	Hellenism Belonging (Social psychology) - Mediterranean Region Social isolation - Mediterranean Region Electronic books. Mediterranean Region Civilization Greece Civilization To 146 B.C
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
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Sommario/riassunto

The Hellenistic period was a time of unprecedented cultural exchange. In the wake of Alexander's conquests, Greeks and Macedonians began to encounter new peoples, new ideas, and new ways of life; consequently, this era is generally considered to have been one of unmatched cosmopolitanism. For many individuals, however, the broadening of horizons brought with it an identity crisis and a sense of being adrift in a world that had undergone a radical structural change. *Belonging and Isolation in the Hellenistic World* presents essays by leading international scholars who consider how the cosmopolitanism of the Hellenistic age also brought about tensions between individuals and communities, and between the small local community and the mega-community of *oikoumene*, or 'the inhabited earth.' With a range of social, artistic, economic, political, and literary perspectives, the contributors provide a lively exploration of the tensions and opportunities of life in the Hellenistic Mediterranean.

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