1. Record Nr. UNINA9910465178103321 Autore Hull Isabel V. Titolo A scrap of paper: breaking and making international law during the Great War / / Isabel V. Hull Ithaca;; London:,: Cornell University Press,, 2014 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 9780801470653 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (xiii, 368 pages) Disciplina 341.609/041 Soggetti War (International law) - History - 20th century Humanitarian law - History - 20th century World War, 1914-1918 - Law and legislation Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Prologue: what we have forgotten -- Belgian neutrality -- The "Belgian" atrocities" and the laws of war on land -- Occupation and the treatment of enemy civilians 191-279 -- Great Britain and the blockade --Breaking and making international law: the blockade, 1915-1918 --Germany and new weapons: the submarine, zeppelin, poison gas, flame thrower -- Unrestricted submarine warfare -- Reprisals : prisoners of war and allied aerial bombardment -- Conclusion. A century after the outbreak of the Great War, we have forgotten the Sommario/riassunto central role that international law and the dramatically different interpretations of it played in the conflict's origins and conduct. In A Scrap of Paper, Isabel V. Hull compares wartime decision-making in Germany, Great Britain, and France, weighing the impact of legal considerations in each. Throughout, she emphasizes the profound tension between international law and military necessity in time of war, and demonstrates how differences in state structures and legal traditions shaped the way in which each of the three belligerents fought the war. Hull focuses on seven cases in which each government's response was shaped by its understanding of and respect for the law:

Belgian neutrality, the land war in the west, the occupation of enemy

introduction of new weaponry (including poison gas and the zeppelin), and reprisals. Drawing on voluminous research in German, British, and

territory, the blockade, unrestricted submarine warfare, the

French archives, the author reconstructs the debates over military decision making and clarifies the role played by law-where it constrained action, where it was manipulated to serve military need, where it was simply ignored, and how it developed in the crucible of combat. She concludes that Germany did not speak the same legal language as the two liberal democracies, with disastrous and farreaching consequences. The first book on international law and the Great War published since 1920, A Scrap of Paper is a passionate defense of the role that the law must play to govern interstate relations in both peace and war.