

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910465509303321
Autore	Frankopan Peter
Titolo	The First Crusade [[electronic resource]] : the call from the East / / Peter Frankopan
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge, Mass., : Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2012
ISBN	0-674-06499-2 0-674-06902-1
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (295 p.)
Disciplina	956/.014
Soggetti	Crusades - First, 1096-1099 Electronic books. Byzantine Empire History Alexius I Comnenus, 1081-1118
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Illustrations -- Maps -- Preface and Acknowledgements -- Author's Note -- Introduction -- 1. Europe in Crisis -- 2. The Recovery of Constantinople -- 3. Stability in the East -- 4. The Collapse of Asia Minor -- 5. On the Brink of Disaster -- 6. The Call from the East -- 7. The Response of the West -- 8. To the Imperial City -- 9. First Encounters with the Enemy -- 10. The Struggle for the Soul of the Crusade -- 11. The Crusade Unravels -- 12. The Consequences of the First Crusade -- Abbreviations -- Notes -- Further Reading -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	According to tradition, the First Crusade began at the instigation of Pope Urban II and culminated in July 1099, when thousands of western European knights liberated Jerusalem from the rising menace of Islam. But what if the First Crusade's real catalyst lay far to the east of Rome? In this groundbreaking book, countering nearly a millennium of scholarship, Peter Frankopan reveals the untold history of the First Crusade. Nearly all historians of the First Crusade focus on the papacy and its willing warriors in the West, along with innumerable popular tales of bravery, tragedy, and resilience. In sharp contrast, Frankopan examines events from the East, in particular from Constantinople, seat of the Christian Byzantine Empire. The result is revelatory. The true

instigator of the First Crusade, we see, was the Emperor Alexios I Komnenos, who in 1095, with his realm under siege from the Turks and on the point of collapse, begged the pope for military support. Basing his account on long-ignored eastern sources, Frankopan also gives a provocative and highly original explanation of the world-changing events that followed the First Crusade. The Vatican's victory cemented papal power, while Constantinople, the heart of the still-vital Byzantine Empire, never recovered. As a result, both Alexios and Byzantium were consigned to the margins of history. From Frankopan's revolutionary work, we gain a more faithful understanding of the way the taking of Jerusalem set the stage for western Europe's dominance up to the present day and shaped the modern world.
