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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- List of Maps and Tables -- Preface -- Acknowledgments -- Notes on Languages and Spelling -- Acronyms and Abbreviations -- Introduction -- 1. A Starting Point: History and Geopolitics and What They Tell Us -- 2. The Open Wound: Mountainous Karabagh and National Consciousness -- 3. Azerbaijan's Best and Brightest: The Rise, Decline, and Renewal of the Democratic Opposition -- 4. Oil Lifts All Boats? Social and Economic Repercussions and the Rise of Corruption -- 5. Jail for the "Donkey Bloggers": Crushing Youth Activism, Human Rights, and a Free Media -- 6. Allah-u Akbar: Islam in Azerbaijan- Piety, Politics, and the Future -- 7. What's Next? The Choices Ahead -- Notes -- Selected Bibliography of Major Sources -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Frustrated Democracy in Post-Soviet Azerbaijan follows a newly

independent oil-rich former Soviet republic as it adopts a Western model of democratic government and then turns toward corrupt authoritarianism. Audrey L. Altstadt begins with the Nagorno-Karabagh War (1988-1994) which triggered Azerbaijani nationalism and set the stage for the development of a democratic movement. Initially successful, this government soon succumbed to a coup. Western oil companies arrived and money flowed in-a quantity Altstadt calls "almost unimaginable"-causing the regime to resort to repression to maintain its power. Despite Azerbaijan's long tradition of secularism, political Islam emerged as an attractive alternative for those frustrated with the stifled democratic opposition and the lack of critique of the West's continued political interference. Altstadt's work draws on instances of censorship in the Azerbaijani press, research by embedded experts and nongovernmental and international organizations, and interviews with diplomats and businesspeople. The book is an essential companion to her earlier works, *The Azerbaijani Turks: Power and Identity Under Russian Rule* and *The Politics of Culture in Soviet Azerbaijan, 1920-1940*.

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