

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910483284503321
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Titolo	The European Union and the Paradox of Enlargement : The Complex Accession of the Western Balkans // by Tatjana Sekuli
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cham : , : Springer International Publishing : , : Imprint : Palgrave Macmillan, , 2020
ISBN	3-030-42295-X
Edizione	[1st ed. 2020.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xxxiv, 240 pages) : illustrations
Collana	Palgrave Studies in European Political Sociology
Disciplina	341.2422 300
Soggetti	Political sociology European Union Political Sociology European Union Politics
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Sommario/riassunto	This book sheds light on the contradictions underlying the European Union enlargement process, specifically to the Western Balkans, challenging the common assumption that the integration of an extended European space might be possible without mutual transformation of the institutions and agencies involved. Sekuli maps the institutional dimension of the accession process, and analyses how the conditionality principle shapes and constrains the space for negotiation within the EU. Combining ethnographic research with the discourse analysis of the European Commission's reports and documents from 2008 to 2019 concerning the Western Balkan countries, the book also explores the perceptions and agency of the individuals involved in this process. The European Union and the Paradox of Enlargement will be of interest to students and scholars of European integration, the sociology of Europe and the EU, and Eastern European and Western Balkan studies. .