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| Nota di contenuto | part I. European statescraft and the question of war and peace before 1914 -- part II. The military situation before 1914 : Europe between hot and cold war -- part III. Hopes and fears of war and peace : subjective expectations and unspoken assumptions in European societies before 1914 -- part IV. Culture, gender, religiosity, and the coming of war -- part V. The perspective from afar : the outbreak of war in Europe in the eyes of other continents. |
| Sommario/riassunto | The First World War has been described as the ""primordial catastrophe of the twentieth century."" Arguably, Italian Fascism, German National Socialism and Soviet Leninism and Stalinism would not have emerged without the cultural and political shock of World War I. The question why this catastrophe happened therefore preoccupies historians to this day. The focus of this volume is not on the consequences, but rather on the connection between the Great War and the long 19th century, the short- and long-term causes of World War I. This approach results in the questioning of many received ideas |