

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910511343703321
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Titolo	America and the making of modern Turkey : science, culture and political alliances // Ali Erken
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London ; ; New York : , : Bloomsbury Publishing, , 2018
ISBN	1-350-98528-7 1-78672-393-X 1-78673-393-5
Edizione	[First edition.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (viii, 226 pages)
Collana	Library of modern Turkey ; ; 34
Disciplina	327.561073
Soggetti	Electronic books. Turkey Foreign relations United States Turkey History United States Foreign relations Turkey
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Sommario/riassunto	"After the fall of the Ottoman Empire, Mustafa Kemal Ataturk's government encouraged substantial American investment in education and aid. It was argued that Turkey needed the technical skills and wealth offered by American education, and so a series of American schools was set up across the country to educate the Turkish youth. Here, Ali Erken, in the first study of its kind, argues that these organizations had a huge impact on political and economic thought in Turkey - acting as a form of 'soft power' for US national interests throughout the 20th Century. Robert College, originally a missionary school founded by US benefactors, has been responsible for educating two Turkish Prime Ministers, writers such as Orhan Pamuk and a huge number of influential economists, politicians and journalists. The end result of these American philanthropic efforts, Erken argues, was a consensus in the 1970s that the country must 'westernize'. This mindset, and the opposition viewpoint it engendered, has come to define political struggle in modern Turkey - torn between a capitalist 'modern' West and an Islamic 'Ottoman' East. The book also reveals how

and why the Rockefeller and Ford foundations funneled large amounts of money into Turkey post-1945, and undertook activities in support of 'Western' candidates in Turkey as a bulwark against the Soviet Union. This is an essential contribution to the history of US-Turkish relations, and the influence of the West in Turkish political thought."--  
Bloomsbury Publishing.

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