

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910554217803321
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Titolo	The autocratic middle class : how state dependency reduces the demand for democracy // Bryn Rosenfeld
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Princeton ; ; Oxford : , : Princeton University Press, , [2021] ©2021
ISBN	0-691-19219-7
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource
Collana	Princeton studies in political behavior
Disciplina	306.20947
Soggetti	Civil service - Political activity - Former communist countries Middle class - Political activity - Former communist countries Authoritarianism - Former communist countries Democracy - Former communist countries Democratization - Former communist countries Former communist countries Economic conditions Former communist countries Politics and government
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Previously issued in print: 2020.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	1. The Autocratic Middle Class -- 2. State Dependency and Middle-Class Demand for Democracy -- 3. The Post-Communist Middle Classes, the State, and Democratization -- 4. Rethinking the Middle-Class Protest Paradigm -- 5. Choosing to Work for the State -- 6. Revolution, Democratic Retrenchment, and the Middle Class -- 7. Aligning the Middle Class with Autocracy: Rhetoric and Practice -- 8. Conclusion -- Appendix I: Regression Results.
Sommario/riassunto	Conventional wisdom holds that the rising middle-classes are a force for democracy. Yet in post-Soviet countries like Russia, where the middle-class has grown rapidly, authoritarianism is deepening. Challenging a basic tenet of democratization theory, this book shows how the middle-classes can actually be a source of support for autocracy and authoritarian resilience, and reveals why development and economic growth do not necessarily lead to greater democracy.