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Nota di contenuto	Chapter 1: Latin American integration: a Brazilian view -- Chapter 2: Brazilian thought and regional integration in the 20th century -- Chapter 3: The role of regional integration for Brazil: autonomy, universalism, and the elite's perception -- Chapter 4: The social Mercosur -- Chapter 5: The Mercosur structural dimension: economic and political/diplomatic features -- Chapter 6: Mercosur, Unasul, and CELAC relations -- Final considerations: What is the future of the Mercosur? Where did it come from, where is it, and where is it headed? Main challenges.
Sommario/riassunto	This book analyzes regional integration in South America with a focus on the Mercosur and Brazilian foreign policy from the 1990s. It reviews the history of the Mercosur and identifies the results achieved by the bloc, as well as the causes of difficulties and the reasons for stalemates over nearly 30 years of its existence. The authors identify the complex interrelation between domestic and foreign factors that have shaped

Brazilian foreign policy. From 1991 onwards, relations between Latin American countries have changed while the Mercosur developed from a free trade area to a customs union. While intrabloc trade grew, there were huge difficulties in the form of regional institutional affirmation and cooperation. This history is of the utmost importance to understanding regionalism and politics in Latin America. The book therefore has two interrelated analytical dimensions: namely, focus on ideas and identity; and behavior, actions, and economic and political interests. This very topical book is of interest for researchers and students of Brazilian foreign policy and those of Latin American and/or Mercosur countries. Particularly, readers interested in regionalism will find important theoretical and empirical elements in this book, as well as discussions necessary for comprehending the role of big, emerging countries, and the potential and limits to their international role. .
