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Nota di contenuto	1 Introduction: Italy and the Suez Canal: Historical and historiographical passages from a Euro-Mediterranean perspective -- Part I. Modern infrastructures for a modern state: the Suez Canal and Italian unification -- 2 Italy's path to unification and the techno-scientific diplomacy of the Suez canal, 1855-1857 -- 3 Italian infrastructures at the time of the opening of the Suez canal -- 4 The Suez canal and Italian port cities. Local competition and global ambitions within a nation in the making (1850s-1870s) -- 5 The Suez canal and the Italian sailing fleet. Expectations, problems and alternative routes (1869-1914) -- 6 A Venice of the Desert: The successes and failures of the Suez canal in revitalizing Mediterranean trade -- Part II. Italian cultures and the Canal project.-7 Luigi Negrelli (1799-1858): a Tyrolean engineer at the heart of the Suez canal project

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Sommario/riassunto

Conceived in the 1850s and opened to navigation in 1869, the Suez Canal's construction coincided with Italy's path to unification and its first foray into nineteenth-century globalization. Since then, the history of Italy and the Canal have intertwined in many ways, throughout peace and war. This edited collection explores the fundamental technical, diplomatic and financial contributions that Italy made to the production of the Canal and to its subsequent development, from the mid-nineteenth century to the Cold War. Drawing from unpublished public and private archival sources, this book is the first comprehensive account of this long and multifaceted relationship, providing innovative perspectives on Italy's diplomatic, economic, social, colonial and cultural history. An insightful read for those studying maritime, diplomatic or Italian history, this book contributes to a growing body of research on the Suez Canal, which has largely emerged from international business, labour and social history, and offers new insights into the Euro-Mediterranean region. Barbara Curli is Professor of Contemporary History at the University of Turin, Italy. She is an editorial board member of *Italia Contemporanea* and is on the Scientific Board of the Fondazione Leonardo - Civiltà delle Macchine.