Record Nr. UNINA9910585960403321 Autore Marsden Magnus **Titolo** Beyond the silk roads: trade, mobility and geopolitics across Eurasia // Magnus Marsden [[electronic resource]] Pubbl/distr/stampa Cambridge University Press, 2021 Cambridge: ,: Cambridge University Press, , 2021 **ISBN** 1-108-97650-6 1-108-96885-6 1-108-97438-4 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (xvi, 301 pages): digital, PDF file(s) Collana Asian connections Classificazione SOC002010 Disciplina 382.095 Soggetti Merchants, Foreign - Social networks - Eurasia Geopolitics - Eurasia Afghans - Commerce - Eurasia Business networks - Eurasia **Eurasia Commerce** Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 01 Sep 2021). Nota di contenuto Introduction: Beyond the silk roads -- 'Take your help away and leave us in peace!' the anthropology of geopolitics as lived -- Inter-Asian corridor of connectivity (1): the Eurasian world--China, Russia, Ukraine and Western Europe -- Inter-Asian corridor of connectivity (2): West Asia--China, the Arabian Peninsula and Turkey -- 'Welcome to Yiwu, China international trade city' everyday life in a Chinese commercial node -- Minorities, commerce and the legacy of Muslim Asia's urban cosmopolitanism: Afghanistan's Hindus and Sikhs -- An alternative Eurasian economic geography: Afghanistan's role in long-distance distance trade -- Afghan restaurants in inter-Asian worlds : prestige. information pooling and cross-cultural exchange in long-distance trade -- Conclusion: Geopolitics, critical responsiveness and navigational agency in Eurasian connectivity. Small-scale traders play a crucial role in forging Asian connectivity, Sommario/riassunto

forming networks and informal institutions separate from those driven

by nation-states, such as China's Belt and Road Initiative. This

ambitious study provides a unique insight into the lives of the mobile traders from Afghanistan who traverse Eurasia. Reflecting on over a decade of intensive ethnographic fieldwork, Magnus Marsden introduces readers to a dynamic yet historically durable universe of commercial and cultural connections. Through an exploration of the traders' networks, cultural and religious identities, as well as the nodes in which they operate, Marsden emphasises their ability to navigate Eurasia's geopolitical tensions and to forge transregional routes that channel significant flows of people, resources, and ideas. Beyond the Silk Roads will interest those seeking to understand contemporary iterations of the Silk Road within the context of geopolitics in the region. This title is also available as Open Access.