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Nota di contenuto	Intro -- Contents -- Russia's role in world politics: power, ideas, and domestic influences -- Abstract -- Introduction -- Russian foreign policy: the ongoing debate -- Power-based explanations -- Ideational explanations -- Domestic political explanations -- The case for combining power, ideas, and domestic influences -- Shortcomings of the existing explanations -- The perils and promises of analytical eclecticism -- Road map of the special issue -- References -- Understanding Russia's return to the Middle East -- Abstract -- Introduction -- The Arab spring and Russian domestic factors -- Ideational factors: state, society and Islam -- Power, interest and flexibility -- Conclusion -- References -- Reckless ambition: Moscow's policy toward the United States, 201617 -- Abstract -- Introduction -- What actually happened in 2016 -- Putin as an individual decision-maker -- All dictators are aggressive and lonely -- Competing interests within Putin's inner patron-client

circle -- Intelligence officers run amok? -- Conclusion --
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Contrasts as questions and counterfactuals -- Realist explanations --
Liberal explanations -- Constructivist explanations -- Psychological
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Chinese case -- Ideational motivations of Russian policy toward China
-- Great power status as a hallmark of national identity -- Sources
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A move to the east?.

Conclusion -- References -- The quest for status: how the interplay
of power, ideas, and regime security shapes Russia's policy in the post-
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national identity and regime security -- The game changer: Ukraine --
Eurasian Economic Union: Russia in, Ukraine out -- Georgia: rewinding
and fast-forwarding the 2008 war implications -- Conclusion --
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Introduction -- Russia's nuclear force modernization -- Maintaining
a secure second-strike capability -- Compensating for Russia's
conventional weakness -- Countering US missile defenses -- Russia's
nuclear exercises and maneuvers -- Russia's status aspirations:
the nuclear dimension -- Russia's nuclear doctrine and rhetoric -- The
insufficiency of strategic and status explanations -- Domestic politics
and the imperative of regime security -- Conclusion -- References.

Sommario/riassunto

This book explores Russia's role in world politics. In recent years, Moscow has played an increasingly active and assertive role in geopolitics. Examples include Russia's takeover of Crimea and meddling in eastern Ukraine; Russia's military intervention in Syria and support for the Assad government; the Kremlin's alleged interference in the 2016 US presidential race; the pursuit of closer economic and diplomatic ties with China; and Russia's ambitious military reforms and nuclear brinkmanship. Not surprisingly, Russia's role in world politics has become the object of a spirited debate among Western policymakers, think-tank analysts, and academics. Much of this debate focuses on one central question: What are the main drivers, or causes, of Moscow's recent assertiveness? The contributions gathered here address this question by focusing on the interplay of power, ideas, and domestic influences.
