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Nota di contenuto	Chapter One. Introduction. The Study of Soviet Leadership -- Chapter Two. Oligarchy with a Predominant Leader, 1917-22 -- Chapter Three. Rule by Pure Oligarchy, 1923-29 -- Chapter Four. From the Predominant to the Dominant Leader, 1930-53 -- Chapter Five. The Limits of the Predominant Leader, 1953-64 -- Chapter Six. Predominant Leader within the Collective, 1964-82 -- Chapter Seven. Collectivism Collapses, 1982-91 -- Conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	This book studies the way in which the top leadership in the Soviet Union changed over time from 1917 until the collapse of the country in 1991. Its principal focus is the tension between individual leadership and collective rule, and it charts how this played out over the life of the regime. The strategies used by the most prominent leader in each period – Lenin, Stalin, Khrushchev, Brezhnev and Gorbachev – to acquire and retain power are counterposed to the strategies used by the other oligarchs to protect themselves and sustain their positions. This is analyzed against the backdrop of the emergence of norms designed to structure oligarch politics. The book will appeal to students and scholars interested in the fields of political leadership, Soviet

