

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910743694503321
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Titolo	Nazi Germany and the Role of the US in the Fate of Czechoslovak Monetary Gold / / by Slavomír Michálek
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cham : , : Springer Nature Switzerland : , : Imprint : Palgrave Macmillan, , 2023
ISBN	9783031387586 3031387589
Edizione	[1st ed. 2023.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (334 pages)
Disciplina	909 327.109
Soggetti	International relations - History Europe, Central - History United States - History World politics Russia - History Europe, Eastern - History Soviet Union - History Economic history Diplomatic and International History History of Germany and Central Europe US History Political History Russian, Soviet, and East European History Economic History
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di contenuto	Part I. Divide et Impera -- Chapter 1. The Gold in the Hands of Nazi Germany -- Chapter 2. The Tripartite Commission for the Restitution of Monetary Gold -- Chapter 3. The Gold (Brussels and Washington) -- Part II. US-Czechoslovak Differences -- Chapter 4. Compensation for Nationalized Property, the US Surplus and Rolling Mill -- Chapter 5. The Oatis Case, IBM in Czechoslovakia and the Augsteins' Case -- Part III.

The US Congress as a Hammer -- Chapter 6. Prague Gold vs. the State Department until 1968 -- Chapter 7. The Position of Washington up to 1980 -- Chapter 8. Final Negotiations -- Part IV. The Gold at Home -- Chapter 9. Operation 'Return 82' -- Chapter 10. Conclusion.

Sommario/riassunto

This book provides a detailed account of the Czechoslovak-American dispute that arose over monetary gold which was forcibly seized by Nazi Germany in the 1930s. After the Second World War, the Czechoslovak gold was found by the American armed forces in the salt mines in Merkers, Germany. Over the next 37 years, it became a part of complicated Czechoslovak-American relations, international economic trade, and political-ideological disputes and conflicts. Only in February 1982, after extensive diplomatic discussions, was a sufficient portion of the gold returned to the Czechoslovak State Bank in Prague. This book maps the story of this gold, how it was seized, blocked and finally, returned. Tracing the path of the monetary gold from its seizure by Nazi Germany in the 1930s to the last decade of the Cold War, the author outlines the main diplomatic steps taken to resolve the dispute, which framed the shape of bilateral relations between Communist Czechoslovakia and the USA. Offering a new contribution to the history of the Second World War and shedding light on East-West relations during the Cold War period, this book will provide useful reading for those researching modern European history, the Cold War, and international history. Slavomír Michálek is Executive Director of the Institute of History at the Slovak Academy of Sciences in Bratislava, Slovakia. A graduate of the Faculty of Arts, Comenius University, his research covers US foreign Policy and Czechoslovak-US relations after the Second World War, the history of the United Nations, Slovak figures in Czechoslovak interwar diplomacy, and the second and third Slovak and Czechoslovak democratic exiles in the USA.
