

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910744505903321
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Titolo	The Gas Sector in Latin Europe's Industrial History : Lighting and Heating the World // edited by Ana Cardoso de Matos, Alexandre Fernandez, Antonio Jesús Pinto Tortosa
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cham : , : Springer Nature Switzerland : , : Imprint : Springer, , 2023
ISBN	3-031-36674-3
Edizione	[1st ed. 2023.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (163 pages)
Collana	Frontiers in Economic History, , 2662-978X
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Disciplina	338.2728509409034
Soggetti	Economic history Power resources Europe - Economic conditions Industries Economic History Natural Resource and Energy Economics European Economics Sector and Industry Studies
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di contenuto	Chapter 1. Why Gas? -- Chapter 2. Why Latin Europe? -- Part 1: Dawn and Consolidation of Latin Europe's Industrialisation: the Evolution of Gas in the 19th Century -- Chapter 3. The Internationalization of the English Gas Industry in Latin Europe in the 19th Century -- Chapter 4. First Steps of Industrial Associationism in Latin Europe's Gas Sector: the Société Française De L'industrie Du Gaz -- Chapter 5. Gas Lighting for the Crown: análisis of the Use of Gas Lighting Within the Festivities to Commemorate the Bonaparte and the Bourbon Dynasties in Paris (France) and Madrid (Spain) -- Chapter 6. Entrepreneurial Initiatives, Foreign Investment, and Marketing Implementation of Gas Services in Portuguese Cities of Lisbon and Porto During the Second Half of the 19th Century -- Chapter 7. The Role of the Technical Press in the Diffusion of Gas in Europe: the Case of Le Gaz Journal, 1857-1880 -- Part 2: the Turning Point: Competition Between Gas and Electricity at

the Turn of the 19th Century -- Chapter 8. Gas Versus Electricity in Paris and Rome From the 1880s to the 1910s -- Chapter 9. The Gas Industry of the North of Spain, C. 1845-1945 -- Chapter 10. Gas as a Goal. The Evolution of Gas Technology in Spain Until 1936 -- Chapter 11. The Impact of World War I on Gas Production in Latin Europe -- Chapter 12. The Use of Computers in the Spanish Gas Industry. The First Comer: Catalana De Gas Y Electricidad (1962-1969).

Sommario/riassunto

This volume sheds light on the technical and institutional handicaps that the gas industry had to face since the early 19th century to consolidate its position in the energy market. It traces the history of gas energy use in a European context to understand the reasons for its crucial nature in the region. Going back to the start of gas production in England and France at the turn of the 18th century, the book has a specific focus on Latin Europe: Portugal, Spain, France, and Italy. Topics discussed include, but are not limited to the evolution of gas technology and associations; capital, technical, and human transfer among countries; strategies carried out by gas companies to promote their activity; how gas companies adapted to changing markets, faced with the competition of electricity at the end of the 19th century, until late 20th century; and how war, especially the Second World War, affected gas supply in Latin Europe. Finally, the volume discusses the emerging use of natural gas by France and Italy after 1945, which meant a quantitative advantage compared to their neighbors in Latin Europe, Portugal and Spain, as well as a political advantage, in terms of energetic independence. The book will appeal to scholars, students, and researchers of economic history, business history, as well as technological history, interested in a better understanding of the evolution of gas into a major energy source, a role that it has kept until today.
