

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910777686703321
Autore	Bell Jonathan <1976->
Titolo	The liberal state on trial [[electronic resource]] : the Cold War and American politics in the Truman years // Jonathan Bell
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York, : Columbia University Press, c2004
ISBN	0-231-50830-1
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (409 p.)
Collana	Columbia studies in contemporary American history
Disciplina	973.918
Soggetti	Liberalism - United States - History - 20th century State, The Cold War United States Politics and government 1945-1953 United States Foreign relations 1945-1953 United States Social policy
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 353-363) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- CONTENTS -- ACKNOWLEDGMENTS -- INTRODUCTION : IDEOLOGIES OF THE STATE IN EARLY COLD WAR AMERICA -- 1. The Dynamics of Postwar Politics Before the Cold War -- 2. The 80th Congress and Conceptions of the State -- 3. Ideological Interpretations of Foreign Policy, 1947-1948 -- 4. Varieties of Liberalism in the 1948 Campaigns -- 5. Transnational Perspectives and Images of the State, 1949-1950 -- 6. The American State on Trial: THE 1950 MIDTERM ELECTIONS -- 7. All Internationalists Now: ESTABLISHING A CONSENSUS ON THE STATE IN THE COLD WAR, 1951-1952 -- CONCLUSION THE COLD WAR, THE STATE, AND POST NEW DEAL AMERICA -- NOTES -- BIBLIOGRAPHY -- INDEX -- Backmatter
Sommario/riassunto	What was left, in both senses of the word, of liberalism after the death of Franklin Roosevelt? This question has aroused considerable historical debate because it raises the question of why the United States, during the Truman years, developed a much less state-centered orthodoxy than other comparable, powerful liberal states. What were the consequences of this fundamental choice that would shape the character and direction of American society during the second half of

the twentieth century? This book explores the role of the Cold War in shifting the center of gravity in American politics sharply to the right in the years immediately following World War II. Jonathan Bell demonstrates that there was far more active and vibrant debate about the potential for liberal ideas before they became submerged in Cold War anti-state rhetoric than has generally been recognized. Using case studies from Senate and House races from 1946 to 1952, Bell shows how the anti-statist imagery that defined the Cold War in political debate became the key weapon among right-wing and business interest groups and their political representatives with which to discredit political figures who wanted to expand political liberalism beyond existing New Deal measures. He depicts how this process implicitly endorsed socioeconomic inequality.

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