Record Nr. UNINA9910777829303321 Autore Odom William E Titolo America's inadvertent empire [[electronic resource] /] / William E. Odom and Robert Dujarric New Haven & London, : Yale University Press, c2004 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-281-72214-6 9786611722142 0-300-13036-8 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (304 p.) Altri autori (Persone) DujarricRobert Disciplina 320.973 Power (Social sciences) - United States Soggetti World politics - 21st century United States Politics and government United States Economic conditions **United States Social conditions** United States Foreign relations United States Strategic aspects Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Introduction -- The sources of American power -- An empire of a new type -- The military power gap -- The demography gap -- The economic performance gap -- The university gap -- The science gap -- The media and mass culture gaps -- Conclusion. Sommario/riassunto The United States finds itself at the center of a historically unparalleled empire, one that is wealth-generating and voluntary rather than imperialistic, say the authors of this compelling book. William E. Odom and Robert Dujarric examine America's unprecedented power within the international arenas of politics, economics, demographics, education, science, and culture. They argue persuasively that the major threat to this unique empire is ineffective U.S. leadership, not a rising rival power center. America cannot simply behave as an ordinary sovereign state, Odom and Dujarric contend. They describe the responsibilities that

accompany staggering power advantages and explain that resorting to

unilateralism makes sense only when it becomes necessary to overcome paralysis in multilateral organizations. The authors also offer insights into the importance of liberal international institutions as a source of power, why international cooperation pays, and why spreading democracy often inhibits the spread of constitutional order. If the United States uses its own power constructively, the authors conclude, the American empire will flourish for a long time.