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Nota di contenuto	French liberalism, an overlooked tradition? / Raf Geenens, Helena Rosenblatt -- Two liberal traditions / Larry Siedentop -- The unity, diversity and paradoxes of French liberalism / Lucien Jaume -- Was Montesquieu liberal? The Spirit of the Laws in the history of liberalism / Celine Spector -- The importance of republican liberty in French liberalism / Andrew Jainchill -- Rethinking liberalism and terror / Stephen Holmes -- On the need for a Protestant Reformation: Constant, Sismondi, Guizot and Laboulaye / Helena Rosenblatt -- 'Anti-Benthamism': utilitarianism and the French liberal tradition / Cheryl B. Welch -- Tocqueville: liberalism and imperialism / Alan S. Kahan -- War, trade and empire: the dilemmas of French liberal political economy, 1780-1816 / Richard Whatmore -- Competition and knowledge: French political economy as a science of government /

Philippe Steiner -- Is there a French neoliberalism? / Serge Audier -- The 'sociological turn' in French liberal thought / William Logue -- The 'illiberalism' of French liberalism: the individual and the state in the thought of Blanc, Dupont-White and Durkheim / Jean-Fabien Spitz -- Raymond Aron and the tradition of political moderation in France / Aurelian Craiutu -- The politics of individual rights: Marcel Gauchet and Claude Lefort / Samuel Moyn.

Sommario/riassunto

There is an enduring assumption that the French have never been and will never be liberal. As with all cliches, this contains a grain of truth, but it also overlooks an important school of thought that has been a constant presence in French intellectual and political culture for nearly three centuries: French political liberalism. In this collaborative volume, a distinguished group of philosophers, political theorists and intellectual historians uncover this unjustly neglected tradition. The chapters examine the nature and distinctiveness of French liberalism, providing a comprehensive treatment of major themes including French liberalism's relationship with republicanism, Protestantism, utilitarianism and the human rights tradition. Individual chapters are devoted to Montesquieu, Tocqueville, Aron, Lefort and Gauchet, as well as to some lesser known, yet important thinkers, including several political economists and French-style 'neoliberals'. French Liberalism from Montesquieu to the Present Day is essential reading for all those interested in the history of political thought.
