

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910779114803321
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Titolo	Atomic assistance [[electronic resource]] : how "atoms for peace" programs cause nuclear insecurity / / Matthew Fuhrmann
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Ithaca, : Cornell University Press, 2012
ISBN	0-8014-6531-1 1-322-50357-5 0-8014-6575-3
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (340 p.)
Collana	Cornell studies in security affairs
Disciplina	327.1/747
Soggetti	Nuclear nonproliferation - International cooperation Nuclear industry - International cooperation Technology transfer - International cooperation Technical assistance - International cooperation Security, International
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- List of Tables and Figures -- Preface and Acknowledgments -- List of Abbreviations -- Introduction: Unintended Consequences in International Politics -- 1. Definitions and Patterns of Peaceful Nuclear Cooperation -- Part I. Atoms for Peace -- 2. Economic Statecraft and Atoms for Peace: A Theory of Peaceful Nuclear Assistance -- 3. The Historical Record: A First Cut -- 4. Nuclear Arms and Influence: Assisting India, Iran, and Libya -- 5. The Thirst for Oil and Other Motives: Nine Puzzling Cases of Assistance -- 6. Oil for Peaceful Nuclear Assistance? -- Part II. Atoms for War -- 7. Spreading Temptation: Why Nuclear Export Strategies Backfire -- 8. Who Builds Bombs? How Peaceful Nuclear Cooperation Facilitates the Spread of Nuclear Weapons -- 9. Have International Institutions Made the World Safer? -- Conclusion: What Peaceful Nuclear Assistance Teaches Us about International Relations -- Notes -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Nuclear technology is dual use in nature, meaning that it can be used to produce nuclear energy or to build nuclear weapons. Despite security concerns about proliferation, the United States and other

nuclear nations have regularly shared with other countries nuclear technology, materials, and knowledge for peaceful purposes. In *Atomic Assistance*, Matthew Fuhrmann argues that governments use peaceful nuclear assistance as a tool of economic statecraft. Nuclear suppliers hope that they can reap the benefits of foreign aid-improving relationships with their allies, limiting the influence of their adversaries, enhancing their energy security by gaining favorable access to oil supplies-without undermining their security. By providing peaceful nuclear assistance, however, countries inadvertently help spread nuclear weapons. Fuhrmann draws on several cases of "Atoms for Peace," including U.S. civilian nuclear assistance to Iran from 1957 to 1979; Soviet aid to Libya from 1975 to 1986; French, Italian, and Brazilian nuclear exports to Iraq from 1975 to 1981; and U.S. nuclear cooperation with India from 2001 to 2008. He also explores decision making in countries such as Japan, North Korea, Pakistan, South Africa, and Syria to determine why states began (or did not begin) nuclear weapons programs and why some programs succeeded while others failed. Fuhrmann concludes that, on average, countries receiving higher levels of peaceful nuclear assistance are more likely to pursue and acquire the bomb-especially if they experience an international crisis after receiving aid.
