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Nota di contenuto	Introduction / Andrea Gamberini and Isabella Lazzarini -- The Kingdom of Sicily / Fabrizio Titone -- The Kingdom of Naples / Francesco Senatore -- The Kingdom of Sardinia and Corsica / Olivetta Schena -- The papal state / Sandro Carocci -- Tuscan states: Florence and Siena / Lorenzo Tanzini -- Ferrara and Mantua / Trevor Dean -- Venice and the Terraferma / Michael Knapton -- Lombardy under the Visconti and the Sforza / Federico Del Tredici -- The feudal principalities: the West (Monferrato, Saluzzo, Savoy, Savoy-Acaia) / Alessandro Barbero -- The feudal principalities: the East (Trent, Bressanone, Aquileia, Tyrol and

Gorizia) / Marco Bellabarba -- Genoa / Christine Shaw -- The collapse of city-states and the role of urban centers in the new political geography of Renaissance Italy / Francesco Somaini -- The rural communities / Massimo Della Misericordia -- Lordships, fiefs and the "small state" / Federica Cengarle -- Factions and parties: problems and perspectives / Marco Gentile -- State, orders and social distinction / E. Igor Mineo -- Women and the state / Serena Ferente -- Offices and officials / Guido Castelnuovo -- Public written records / Gian Maria Varanini -- The language of politics and the process of state-building: approaches and interpretations / Andrea Gamberini -- Renaissance diplomacy / Isabella Lazzarini -- Regional states and economic development / Franco Franceschi and Luca Mola -- The papacy and the Italian states / Giorgio Chittolini -- Justice / Andrea Zorzi.

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## Sommario/riassunto

This magisterial study proposes a revised and innovative view of the political history of Renaissance Italy. Drawing on comparative examples from across the peninsula and the kingdoms of Sicily, Sardinia and Corsica, an international team of leading scholars highlights the complexity and variety of the Italian world from the fourteenth to early sixteenth centuries, surveying the mosaic of kingdoms, principalities, signorie and republics against a backdrop of wider political themes common to all types of state in the period. The authors address the contentious problem of the apparent weakness of the Italian Renaissance political system. By repositioning the Renaissance as a political, rather than simply an artistic and cultural phenomenon, they identify the period as a pivotal moment in the history of the state, in which political languages, practices and tools, together with political and governmental institutions, became vital to the evolution of a modern European political identity.

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