

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910779441303321
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Titolo	Nations : the long history and deep roots of political ethnicity and nationalism / / Azar Gat ; with contributions by Alexander Yakobson [[electronic resource]]
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge : , : Cambridge University Press, , 2013
ISBN	1-107-23443-3 1-139-61010-4 1-107-25425-6 1-139-61196-8 1-139-62498-9 1-139-61568-8 1-139-04765-5 1-283-87109-2 1-139-62126-2
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (vi, 441 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Classificazione	HIS037000
Disciplina	320.54
Soggetti	Nationalism Ethnicity - Political aspects
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015).
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Machine generated contents note: 1. Is nationalism recent and superficial?; 2. The evolution of kin-culture communities; 3. From tribes to statehood; 4. Premodern ethne, peoples, states and nations around the world; 5. Premodern Europe and the national state; 6. Modernity: nationalism released, transformed and enhanced; 7. State, national identity, ethnicity: normative and constitutional aspects; Conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	What are the origins of nationalism and why is it capable of arousing such intense emotions? In this major study, Azar Gat counters the prevailing fashionable theories according to which nations and nationalism are modern and contrived or 'invented'. He sweeps across history and around the globe to reveal that ethnicity has always been

highly political and that nations and national states have existed since the beginning of statehood millennia ago. He traces the deep roots of ethnicity and nationalism in human nature, showing how culture fits into human evolution from as early as our aboriginal condition and, in conjunction with kinship, defines ethnicity and ethnic allegiances. From the rise of states and empires to the present day, this book sheds new light on the explosive nature of ethnicity and nationalism, as well as on their more liberating and altruistic roles in forging identity and solidarity.
