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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- PREFACE -- INTRODUCTION -- Contents -- Part I: Rules -- Chapter 1: Rules -- Chapter 2: Rule Conflicts, Higher Order Rules, and Rules of Reason -- Chapter 3: Functional Hierarchies -- Chapter 4: Judgment and the Limited Reach of Rules -- Chapter 5: Rules, the Social Order, and Morality -- Part II: Principles -- Chapter 6: Principles: Their Nature and Function -- Chapter 7: Functional Hierarchies Again -- Chapter 8: Principles of Rational Inquiry -- Chapter 9: The Principle of Sufficient Reason -- Chapter 10: Philosophical Principles -- Chapter 11: Principles in Natural Philosophy -- Chapter 12: Leibnizian Physics as a Case Study -- Chapter 13: Moral Principles -- Coda -- References -- Name Index -- Backmatter
Sommario/riassunto	The present book is a natural outgrowth of Rescher's longstanding preoccupation with the rational systematization of our knowledge as manifested in such earlier works as Cognitive Systematization (Oxford: Blackwell, 1979), and Complexity (New Brunswick: Transaction Publishers, 1998). Accordingly, the role of principles in human affairs is crucial and ubiquitous. Principology, the theory of principles-underdeveloped through it may be-is accordingly bound to find a significant place in the sphere of philosophical inquiry regarding matters of thought and action.