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Nota di contenuto	Preliminary Material / George Hewitt -- I. Introduction / George Hewitt -- II. History / George Hewitt -- III. Perestrojka, Glasnost and the Road to War in Georgia / George Hewitt -- IV. Relations with Post-Communist Georgia under Eduard Shevardnadze / George Hewitt -- V. Relations with Georgia under Mikheil Saak'ashvili / George Hewitt -- VI. Foreign Involvement / George Hewitt -- VII. Conclusions and Lessons Learnt—or Not! / George Hewitt -- Bibliography / George Hewitt -- Index / George Hewitt.
Sommario/riassunto	The 2008 Georgian-Russian war focused the world's attention on the Caucasus. South Ossetia and Abkhazia had been de facto independent since the early 1990's. However, Russia's granting of recognition on 26 August 2008 changed regional dynamics. The Caucasus is one of the

most ethnically diverse areas on earth, and the conflicts examined here present their own complexities. This book sets the issues in their historical and political contexts and discusses potential future problems. This volume is distinguished from others devoted to the same themes by the extensive use the author (a Georgian specialist) makes of Georgian sources, inaccessible to most commentators. His translated citations thus cast a unique and revealing light on the interethnic relations that have fuelled these conflicts.
