

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910782064003321
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Titolo	Role quests in the post-cold war era : foreign policies in transition // editor, Philippe G. Le Prestre
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Montreal ; ; Buffalo : , : McGill-Queen's University Press , , 1997
ISBN	1-282-85432-1 9786612854323 0-7735-6641-4
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xii, 318 pages) : illustrations
Altri autori (Persone)	Le PrestrePhilippe G
Disciplina	327.109049
Soggetti	International relations Post-communism World politics - 1985-1995
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	"Conducted under the auspices of the Centre d'etudes des politiques etrangeres et de securite (CEPES) of the Universite du Quebec a Montreal"--Acknowledgments.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [271]-304) and index.
Nota di contenuto	""Contents""; ""Figures""; ""Tables""; ""Acknowledgments""; ""1 Author! Author! Defining Foreign Policy Roles after the Cold War""; ""2 The Soviet Union/Russia: Which Past for Which Future?""; ""3 Articulating the New International Role of the United States during Previous Transitions, 1916-1919, 1943-1947""; ""4 The United States: An Elusive Role Quest after the Cold War""; ""5 Japan: A Great Power Despite Itself""; ""6 Germany: To Be or Not to Be Normal?""; ""7 France: The Straitjacket of New Freedom""; ""8 Great Britain: Still Searching for Status?"" ""9 China: Role Conceptions after the Cold War"" ""10 Canada: A Reassertion of Its Role as a Middle Power""; ""11 Change and Continuity in Foreign Policy Role Conceptions after the Cold War""; ""Notes""; ""References""; ""Contributors""; ""Index""; ""Centre d'etudes des politiques etrangeres et de securite, Universite du Quebec Montreal""
Sommario/riassunto	A state's articulation of its national role betrays its preferences and an image of the world, triggers expectations, and influences the definition of the situation and of available options. Extending Kal Holsti's early work on the usefulness of the concept of role, Role Quests in the Post-

Cold War Era examines the nature, evolution, and origins of role conceptions, key aspects largely ignored in a literature obsessed with the quest for immediate relevance. For each country contributors present the major foreign policy debate that took place at the end of the Cold War and examine, through an analysis of major speeches, the relative weight of identity and international status in the definition of the national role. Uncovering the different roles that states claim for themselves allows reflection on the possibility of international cooperation in the maintenance of international order. This study helps assess the importance of identity in national role conceptions, identify potential conflicts arising from the clash of roles masquerading as interests, and clarifies existing contradictions in prevailing roles. Contributors include Caroline Alain, Onnig Beylérian, Christophe Canivet, Jean-René Chotard, André Donneur, Philippe G. Le Prestre, Paul Létourneau, Jacques Lévesque, Alexander Macleod, Marie-Elisabeth Räkel, Jean-François Thibeault, and Charles Thumerelle.

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