

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910783088903321
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Titolo	The gentle civilizer of nations : the rise and fall of international law, 1870-1960 // Martti Koskenniemi
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge : , : Cambridge University Press, , 2002
ISBN	1-107-11498-5 1-280-41888-5 0-511-17527-2 0-511-04000-8 0-511-15553-0 0-511-32530-4 0-511-49422-X 0-511-05056-9
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xiv, 569 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Collana	Hersch Lauterpacht memorial lectures ; ; 14
Disciplina	341/.09
Soggetti	International law - History
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 518-558) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Cover; Half-title; Series-title; Title; Copyright; Dedication; Contents; Preface; Abbreviations; Introduction; 1 The legal conscience of the civilized world Z; 2 Sovereignty: a gift of civilization ... international lawyers and imperialism, 1870...1914; 3 International law as philosophy: Germany 1871...1933; 4 International law as sociology: French solidarismZ 1871...1950; 5 Lauterpacht: the Victorian tradition in international law; 6 Out of Europe: Carl Schmitt, Hans Morgenthau, and the turn to international relationsZ; Epilogue; Bibliography; Index
Sommario/riassunto	International law was born from the impulse to 'civilize' late nineteenth-century attitudes towards race and society, argues Martti Koskenniemi in this extensive study of the rise and fall of modern international law. In a work of wide-ranging intellectual scope, now available for the first time in paperback, Koskenniemi traces the emergence of a liberal sensibility relating to international matters in the late nineteenth century, and its subsequent decline after the Second World War. He combines legal analysis, historical and political critique

and semi-biographical studies of key figures (including Hans Kelsen, Hersch Lauterpacht, Carl Schmitt and Hans Morgenthau); he also considers the role of crucial institutions (the Institut de droit international, the League of Nations). His discussion of legal and political realism at American law schools ends in a critique of post-1960 'instrumentalism'. This book provides a unique reflection on the possibility of critical international law today.
