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	Sommario/riassunto	The studies in this volume originated from an international conference on 'Community, Identity and the State' held at Tel Aviv University in 2001. The first two chapters examine whether modernisation, Westernisation and democratisation are identical, and whether

democracy is connected to a certain, specific type of social structure. The third examines similarities in the political, economic and social development of 'Second World' and 'Third World' countries, while the fourth discusses the relationship between criminal and 'normal' structures in Russian society. Subsequent chapters focus on na