1. Record Nr. UNINA9910784949003321 Autore Wengrow D. Titolo What makes civilization? : the ancient Near East and the future of the West / / David Wengrow Pubbl/distr/stampa Oxford, [England];; New York, [New York]:,: Oxford University Press, 2010 ©2010 **ISBN** 0-19-161349-5 1-282-65950-2 9786612659508 0-19-158503-3 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (238 p.) Disciplina 932.01 Soggetti Civilization, Western Civilization, Western - Middle Eastern influences Comparative civilization Iraq Civilization To 634 Egypt Civilization To 332 B.C Western countries Relations Middle East Middle East Relations Western countries Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Monografia Livello bibliografico Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Contents; List of Maps and Illustrations; Chronology Chart; Preface and Acknowledgements; Introduction: A Clash of Civilizations?; PART I: THE CAULDRON OF CIVILIZATION: PART II: FORGETTING THE OLD REGIME: Conclusion: What Makes Civilization?; Further Reading; Picture Acknowledgements; Index Sommario/riassunto In What Makes Civilization?, archaeologist David Wengrow provides a vivid new account of the 'birth of civilization' in ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia (today's Iraq). These two regions, where many foundations of modern life were laid, are usually treated in isolation. Now, they are brought together within a unified history of how people

first created cities, kingdoms, and monumental temples to the gods.

But civilization, as Wengrow shows, is not only about such grand monuments. Just as importantly, it is also about the ordinary but fundamental practices of everyday life that we might take for g