

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910785939203321
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Titolo	The road to social Europe : a contemporary approach to political cultures and diversity in Europe // Jean-Claude Barbier ; translated by Susan Gruenheck Taponier
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Abingdon, Oxon ; ; New York, N.Y. : , : Routledge, , 2013
ISBN	1-136-59603-8 1-283-70847-7 0-203-32784-5 1-136-59604-6
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (249 p.)
Collana	Routledge/European sociological association studies in European societies ; ; 16 Routledge/European Sociological Association studies in European societies ; ; 16
Altri autori (Persone)	Gruenheck TaponierSusan
Disciplina	320.51/3094
Soggetti	Welfare state - Europe Public welfare - Europe Europe Social policy
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [201]-213) and index.
Nota di contenuto	pt. I. Social protection in Europe : national and/or European? -- pt. II. Toward a sociological understanding of cultural diversity in Europe -- pt. III. Political cultures and European integration.
Sommario/riassunto	In the wake of the Greek and Irish crises, and at a moment when solidarity between states is hotly debated on a daily basis at EU level, it is important to understand how 'solidarity' can happen at all. The Road to Social Europe reviews the development of political cultural processes since the nineteenth century, showing how social protection and social justice have gradually become interwoven with systems of social protection, or welfare states. Grounded on extensive empirical research conducted in many EU countries and in the European Commission's administration ove