Record Nr. UNINA9910786285803321 Freedom and the construction of Europe . Volume 1 Religious and **Titolo** constitutional liberties / / edited by Quentin Skinner and Martin van Gelderen [[electronic resource]] Cambridge:,: Cambridge University Press,, 2013 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-107-23815-3 1-107-30187-4 1-107-30592-6 1-107-30696-5 1-139-51928-X 1-107-30916-6 1-107-31471-2 1 online resource (xv, 411 pages) : digital, PDF file(s) Descrizione fisica Disciplina 323.094 Soggetti Liberty Civil rights - Europe Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015). Nota di contenuto Contents of Volume I: Contents of Volume II: Acknowledgements; Notes on contributors; Introduction; Part I Religious freedom and civil liberty; 1 Freedom and apocalyptic thinking in early modern Lutheranism; 2 Arminian trouble: Calvinist debates on freedom; i; ii; iii; iv; v; vi; vii; 3 Libertas ecclesiae in post-tridentine debates on church and state; I; II;

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Sommario/riassunto

Freedom, today perceived simply as a human right, was a continually contested idea in the early modern period. In Freedom and the Construction of Europe an international group of scholars explore the richness, diversity and complexity of thinking about freedom in the shaping of modernity. Volume 1 examines debates about religious and constitutional liberties, as well as exploring the tensions between free will and divine omnipotence across a continent of proliferating religious denominations. Debates about freedom have been fundamental to the construction of modern Europe, but represent a part of our intellectual heritage that is rarely examined in depth. These volumes provide materials for thinking in fresh ways not merely about the concept of freedom, but how it has come to be understood in our own time.