Record Nr. UNINA9910786389103321 National myths: constructed pasts, contested presents / / edited by **Titolo** Gerard Bouchard Pubbl/distr/stampa Abingdon, Oxon:,: Routledge,, 2013 **ISBN** 1-136-22109-3 0-203-09711-4 1-136-22110-7 Edizione [First edition.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (321 p.) Altri autori (Persone) BouchardGerard <1943-> Disciplina 155.89 Soggetti National characteristics Mythology Ethnicity Group identity Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Includes bibliographical references at the end of each chapters and Nota di bibliografia index. Nota di contenuto Cover: TitleInformation: TitlePage: Copyright Page: Table of Contents: List of illustrations; List of contributors; Acknowledgements; Introduction; 1 The small nation with a big dream: Quebec national myths (eighteenth-twentieth centuries); 2 National imaginaries in a globalizing age: The case of English Canada; 3 The myth(s) that will not die: American National Exceptionalism; 4 Ethnic myths as national identity in Brazil: 5 Understanding Mexico's master myth: A case for theory; 6 1066 and all that: Myths of the English; 7 Polish mythology and the traps of messianic martyrology 8 Myths and national identity choices in post-communist Russia9 Myth and the postnational polity: The case of the European Union; 10 Transforming myths, contested narratives: The reshaping of mnemonic traditions in Israeli culture; 11 War room stories and the rainbow nation: Competing narratives in contemporary South African literature; 12 Gender, Nehanda, and the myth of nationhood in the making of

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National myths are now seriously questioned in a number of societies. In the West, for instance, a number of factors have combined to destabilise the symbolic foundation of nations and collective identities. As a result, the diagnosis of a deep cultural crisis has become commonplace. Indeed, who today has not heard about the erosion of common values or the undermining of social cohesion? But to efficiently address this issue, do we know enough about the nature and role of myths in modern and postmodern societies? Against this background, National Myths: Constructed Pasts, Co