1. Record Nr. UNINA9910786554703321 Autore Wallace Jeremy L. Titolo Cities and stability: urbanization, redistribution, and regime survival in China / / Jeremy L. Wallace Pubbl/distr/stampa New York: .: Oxford University Press. . 2014 2014 **ISBN** 0-19-938721-4 0-19-937900-9 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (265 p.) Disciplina 307.760951 Soggetti Cities and towns - China Urbanization - China Rural-urban migration - Government policy - China Recording and registration - Government policy - China Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Cover; Cities and Stability; Copyright; CONTENTS; List of Illustrations; Acknowledgments: chapter 1 Introduction: JASMINE REVOLUTIONS. FAILED AND SUCCESSFUL; THREE PUZZLES; UNDERSTANDING CITIES, SPENDING, AND SURVIVAL; RESEARCH DESIGN; STRUCTURE OF THE BOOK; chapter 2 Urban Bias: A Faustian Bargain; LARGE CITIES ARE DANGEROUS FOR NONDEMOCRATIC REGIMES; REGIME RESPONSES AND THE FAUSTIAN BARGAIN: WHY MAKE A DEAL WITH THE DEVIL?; chapter

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## Sommario/riassunto

China's management of urbanization is an under-appreciated factor in the regime's longevity. The Chinese Communist Party fears ""Latin Americanization"" -- the emergence of highly unequal megacities with their attendant slums and social unrest. Such cities threaten the survival of nondemocratic regimes. To combat the threat, many regimes, including China's, favor cities in policymaking. Cities and Stability shows this ""urban bias"" to be a Faustian Bargain: cities may be stabilized for a time, but the massive in-migration from the countryside that results can generate the conditions for polit