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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Acknowledgements / Langer, Nils / Davies, Wini -- Contents -- An Introduction to Linguistic Purism / Langer, Nils / Davies, Winifred -- I. Historical Prescriptivism and Purism -- Language norm and language reality. Effectiveness and limits of prescriptivism in New High German / Elspaß, Stephan -- Taming thistles and weeds amidst the wheat: language gardening in nineteenth-century Flanders / Vandebussche, Wim / Willemys, Roland / De Groof, Jetje / Vanhecke, Eline -- Bad language in Germany's past - the birth of linguistic norms in the seventeenth century? / Lange, Maria Barbara -- The revolutionary argumentative pattern in puristic discourse: The Swabian dialect in the debate about the standardization of German in the eighteenth century / Scharloth, Joachim -- A Comparative Study of Linguistic Purism in the History of England and Germany / Geers, Maria -- II. Nationhood and Purism -- Linguistic purism in German-speaking Switzerland and the Deutschschweizerischer Sprachverein 1904-1942 / Rash, Felicity -- Language Nationalism in the Schiller Commemoration Addresses of 1859 / Ziegler, Evelyn -- Standard Afrikaans and the different faces of 'Pure Afrikaans' in the twentieth century / van den Berg, Ria -- Reimagining the Nation: Discourses of Language Purism in Luxembourg

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Sommario/riassunto

Purism is an aspect of linguistic study which appeals not only to the scholar but also to the layperson. Somehow, ordinary speakers with many different mother tongues and with no formal training in linguistics share certain beliefs about what language is, how it develops or should develop, whether it has good or bad qualities, etc. The topic of linguistic purism in its many realisations is the subject of this volume of 19 articles selected from the contributions presented at a conference at the University of Bristol in 2003. In particular, the articles deal with the relationship of purism to historical prescriptivism, e.g. the influence of grammarians in the 17th and 18th centuries, to nationhood, e.g. the instrumentalising of purism in the standardisation of Afrikaans or Luxembourgish, to modern society, e.g. the existence of puristic tendencies in computer chatrooms, to folk linguistics, e.g. lay perceptions of different varieties of English, and to academic linguistics, e.g. the presence of puristic notions in the historiography of German or English.
