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	activism and the practice of law in Venezuela / Manuel A. Gomez The Mapuche people's battle for land : litigation as a strategy to defend indigenous land rights / Anne Skj'vestad Judicialization in Argentina : legal culture, or opportunities and support structures? / Catalina Smulovitz Novel appropriations of the law in the pursuit of political and social change in Latin America / Pilar Domingo.
Sommario/riassunto	Ideas about law are undergoing dramatic change in Latin America. The consolidation of democracy as the predominant form of government and the proliferation of transnational legal instruments have ushered in an era of new legal conceptions and practices. Law has become a core focus of political movements and policy-making. This volume explores the changing legal ideas and practices that accompany, cause, and are a consequence of the judicialization of politics in Latin America. It is the product of a three-year international research effort, sponsored by the Law and Society Association, the Latin American Studies Association, and the Ford Foundation, that gathered leading and emerging scholars of Latin American courts from across disciplines and across continents.