

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910794471303321
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Titolo	Ivan Mazepa and the Russian empire // Tatiana Tairova-Yakovleva ; translated by Jan Surer
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Montreal : , : McGill-Queen's University Press Edmonton : , : Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies Press, , [2020] Â©2020
ISBN	0-2280-0308-3
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xii, 406 pages) : illustrations, map
Collana	Peter Jacyk Centre for Ukrainian Historical Research ; ; Number 11
Disciplina	947.050924
Soggetti	Hetmans - Ukraine Ukraine History 1648-1775 Ukraine (Hetmanate : 1648-1782)
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Includes index.
Nota di contenuto	Front Matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Note on Sources and Transliteration -- Map -- Introduction: The Ukrainian Hetmanate in Mazepa's Time -- Ivan Mazepa and Ivan Samoilovych -- Ivan Mazepa, Vasillii Golitsyn, and the Naryshkins -- Mazepa's Domestic Policy -- Mazepa and the Foreign Policy of Peter the Great -- Mazepa and Right Bank Ukraine -- The Cossack Elite of Mazepa's Time -- Mazepa's Baroque -- Mazepa and "the Birds of Peter's Nest" -- A Sick Old Man -- The Reforms of 1707 -- The Tragedy of Choice -- Notes -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Ivan Mazepa (1639-1709), hetman of the Zaporozhian Host in what is now Ukraine, is a controversial figure, famous for abandoning his allegiance to Tsar Peter I and joining Charles XII's Swedish army during the Battle of Poltava. Although he is discussed in almost every survey and major book on Russian and Ukrainian history, Ivan Mazepa and the Russian Empire is the first English-language biography of the hetman in sixty years. A translation and revision of Tatiana Tairova-Yakovleva's 2007 Russian-language book, Ivan Mazepa and the Russian Empire presents an updated perspective. This account is based on many new sources, including Mazepa's archive - thought lost for centuries before it was rediscovered by the author in 2004 - and post-Soviet Russian

and Ukrainian historiography. Focusing on this fresh material, Tairova-Yakovleva delivers a more nuanced and balanced account of the polarizing figure who has been simultaneously demonized in Russia as a traitor and revered in Ukraine as the defender of independence. Chapters on economic reform, Mazepa's impact on the rise to power of Peter I, his cultural achievements, and the reasons he switched his allegiance from Peter to Charles integrate a larger array of issues and personalities than have previously been explored. Setting a standard for the next generation of historians, Ivan Mazepa and the Russian Empire reveals an original picture of the Hetmanate during a moment of critical importance for the Russian Empire and Ukraine.

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