Record Nr. UNINA9910795882203321 Autore Cude Michael Titolo The Slovak question: a transatlantic perspective, 1914-1948 / / Michael Cude Pubbl/distr/stampa Pittsburgh, Pa.:,: University of Pittsburgh Press,, [2022] ©2022 **ISBN** 9780822988663 9780822947028 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (299 pages) Russian and East European Studies Collana Disciplina 943.73 Soggetti Nationalism - Slovakia Slovak Americans - Politics and government Slovaks - Ethnic identity Czechoslovakia Ethnic relations Political aspects Slovakia Foreign relations United States United States Foreign relations Slovakia Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Includes index. Nota di contenuto Intro -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction -- 1. Slovak Americans and the Czech and Slovak Independence Movements in World War I -- 2. The Transatlantic Slovak Question during the Founding of Czechoslovakia -- 3. The Interwar Years and Transatlantic Dialogue -- 4. The United States and the Diplomacy of the First Slovak Republic -- 5. World War II and the Slovaks in America -- 6. Postwar Czechoslovakia and the Transatlantic Slovak Question -- 7. Slovak Americans in Czechoslovakia's Communist Era -- Archival Collections -- Notes -- Index. Sommario/riassunto "The so-called Slovak question asked what place Slovaks held-or should have held-in the former state of Czechoslovakia. Formed in 1918 at the end of World War I from the remains of the Hungarian Empire, and reformed after ceasing to exist during World War II, the country would eventually split into the Czech Republic and Slovakia after the "Velvet Divorce" in 1993. In the meantime, the minority Slovaks often clashed with the majority Czechs over their role in the

nation. The Slovak Question examines this debate from a transatlantic perspective. Explored through the relationship between Slovaks, Americans of Slovak heritage, and United States and Czechoslovakian policymakers, it shows how Slovak national activism in America helped the Slovaks establish a sense of independent identity and national political assertion after World War I. It also shows how Slovak American leaders influenced US policy by conceptualizing the United States and Slovakia as natural allies due to their connections through immigration. This process played a critical role in undermining attempts to establish a united Czechoslovakian identity and instead caused a divide between the two groups, which was exploited by Nazi Germany and then by other actors during the Cold War, and proved ultimately to be insurmountable"--