1. Record Nr. UNINA9910798958703321 Autore Laruelle Marlene Titolo Kazakhstan in the making: legitimacy, symbols, and social changes // Marlene Laruelle Pubbl/distr/stampa Lanham, Maryland:,: Lexington Books,, 2016 ©2016 **ISBN** 1-4985-2548-2 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (305 pages) Collana Contemporary Central Asia: Societies, Politics, and Cultures Disciplina 327.5845073 Soggetti Kazakhstan Politics and government Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Introduction -- The State: Ruling Mechanisms and Symbols-- The Rule by Law -- The Kazakh Neopatrimonial Regime -- Shrek Meets the President -- Shrines and Neopatrimonialism in Southern Kazakhstan --The Nation: Conflicting Legitimacies and Repertoires -- Nationalizing Elites and Regimes -- Imagining Kazakhstani-stan -- Which Future for National-Patriots? -- The Landscape of Kazakh Nationalism --Cowboys, Gangsters, and Rural Bumpkins -- The Society: Negotiating Cultural Changes -- Building a Muslim Nation" -- The Spirit of Tengri" -- Return Migration from the United States -- Bibliography -- Index --About the Editor and Contributors Kazakhstan is one of the best-known success stories of Central Asia, Sommario/riassunto perhaps even of the entire Eurasian space. It boasts a fast growing economy—at least until the 2014 crisis—a strategic location between Russia, China, and the rest of Central Asia, and a regime with farreaching branding strategies. But the country also faces weak institutionalization, patronage, authoritarianism, and regional gaps in socioeconomic standards that challenge the stability and prosperity narrative advanced by the aging President Nursultan Nazarbayev. This policy-oriented analysis does not tell us a lot about the Kazakhstani society itself and its transformations. This edited volume returns Kazakhstan to the scholarly spotlight, offering new, multidisciplinary

insights into the country's recent evolution, drawing from political science, anthropology, and sociology. It looks at the regime's

sophisticated legitimacy mechanisms and ongoing quest for popular support. It analyzes the country's fast changing national identity and the delicate balance between the Kazakh majority and the Russian-speaking minorities. It explores how the society negotiates deep social transformations and generates new hybrid, local and global, cultural references.