

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910806890303321
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Titolo	Revolution and constitutionalism in the Ottoman Empire and Iran // Nader Sohrabi
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge ; ; New York, : Cambridge University Press, c2011
ISBN	1-107-22373-3 1-139-20913-2 1-280-48481-0 1-139-22185-X 9786613579799 1-139-21703-8 1-139-21396-2 1-139-22356-9 1-139-22013-6 0-511-97719-0
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (viii, 447 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Classificazione	POL000000
Disciplina	955.05/1
Soggetti	Comparative government Constitutional history - Iran Constitutional history - Turkey Revolutions - Iran - History - 20th century Revolutions - Turkey - History - 20th century Iran Politics and government 1905-1911 Turkey Politics and government 1878-1909 Turkey Politics and government 1909-1918
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015).
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	The Ottoman Empire -- Revolution and the Neopatrimonial State -- The Young Turk Revolution and the Global Wave -- Constitutional and Extra-constitutional Struggles -- The Staff Policies and the Purges -- Counterrevolution and Its Aftermath -- Iran -- Reform and Patrimonialism in Comparative Perspective -- The Less Likely

Revolution: The Constitutional Revolution of 1906 in Iran in Light of the Young Turks.

Sommario/riassunto

In his book on constitutional revolutions in the Ottoman Empire and Iran in the early twentieth century, Nader Sohrabi considers the global diffusion of institutions and ideas, their regional and local reworking and the long-term consequences of adaptations. He delves into historic reasons for greater resilience of democratic institutions in Turkey as compared to Iran. Arguing that revolutions are time-bound phenomena whose forms follow global models in vogue at particular historical junctures, he challenges the ahistoric and purely local understanding of them. Furthermore, he argues that macro-structural preconditions alone cannot explain the occurrence of revolutions, but global waves, contingent events and the intervention of agency work together to bring them about in competition with other possible outcomes. To establish these points, the book draws on a wide array of archival and primary sources that afford a minute look at revolutions' unfolding.