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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Western Europe before 1100 -- Western Europe and British North America, 1100-1800 -- Justifications and discussions -- Communities, individuals, and property.
Sommario/riassunto	In this concise history of expropriation of land for the common good in Europe and North America from medieval times to 1800, Susan Reynolds contextualizes the history of an important legal doctrine regarding the relationship between government and the institution of private property. Before Eminent Domain concentrates on western Europe and the English colonies in America. As Reynolds argues, expropriation was a common legal practice in many societies in which individuals had rights to land. It was generally accepted that land could be taken from them, with compensation, when th