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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [243]-257) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front Matter -- Contents -- Preface -- Acknowledgments -- Abbreviations -- Introduction: Israel's Reappearance in the Company of Nations -- The Birth and Early Adventures of the State of Israel -- Christian Attitudes towards the State of Israel, 1948-1960s -- Christians in the Holy Land -- The Palestinians -- The Church and Islam -- Roman Catholic Attitudes in Transition -- Christian Zionism and Christian Anti-Zionism -- Christian Attitudes towards Israel: The Issue in Current American Politics -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Paul Merkley draws on the published literature of the World Council of Churches, the Middle East Council of Churches, the Roman Catholic Church, and other Christian organizations that have an interest in the question of Israel's past, present, and future, and on interviews with numerous key figures within the government of Israel, spokesmen for the Palestine Authority, and leaders of all the major pro and anti-Zionist Christian organizations to demonstrate that Christian attitudes towards Israel remain remarkably polarized. To most evangelical and fundamentalist Christians, loyalty to Israel is a kind of second patriotism, nurtured by the conviction that Israel's restoration is a part

of God's plan for history. However mainstream Protestantism champions "Palestinian nationalism" and, drawing on the rhetoric of the Middle East Council of Churches, does not hesitate to portray Israel as an Oppressor." Merkley concludes that Christian attitudes towards Israel reflect fundamental theological attitudes that must be studied against the long historical background of Christian attitudes towards Judaism and Islam.
