Record Nr. UNINA9910811221003321 Autore Johnson Jennifer <1981-> Titolo The battle for Algeria: sovereignty, health care, and humanitarianism / / Jennifer Johnson Pubbl/distr/stampa Philadelphia, Pennsylvania:,: University of Pennsylvania Press,, 2016 ©2016 **ISBN** 0-8122-9200-6 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (285 p.) Collana Pennsylvania Studies in Human Rights Disciplina 965/.0461 Soggetti Decolonization - Algeria Humanitarianism - Political aspects - Algeria Medical care - Algeria - History - 20th century Algeria Politics and government 1830-1962 Algeria History Revolution, 1954-1962 Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Front matter -- Contents -- Abbreviations -- Note on Sources, Names. and Spellings -- Introduction -- 1. The Long Road to War -- 2. Medical Pacification and the Sections Administratives Spécialisées -- 3. "See Our Arms, See Our Physicians": The Algerian Health- Services Division -- 4. Internationalizing Humanitarianism: The Algerian Red Crescent --5. The International Committee of the Red Cross in Algeria -- 6. Global Diplomacy and the Fight for Self-Determination -- Conclusion -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index -- Acknowledgments In The Battle for Algeria Jennifer Johnson reinterprets one of the most Sommario/riassunto violent wars of decolonization: the Algerian War (1954-1962). Johnson argues that the conflict was about who-France or the National Liberation Front (FLN)-would exercise sovereignty of Algeria. The fight between the two sides was not simply a military affair; it also involved diverse and competing claims about who was positioned to better care for the Algerian people's health and welfare. Johnson focuses on French and Algerian efforts to engage one another off the physical battlefield and highlights the social dimensions of the FLN's winning strategy, which targeted the local and international arenas. Relying on Algerian

sources, which make clear the centrality of health and humanitarianism to the nationalists' war effort, Johnson shows how the FLN leadership constructed national health care institutions that provided critical care for the population and functioned as a protostate. Moreover, Johnson demonstrates how the FLN's representatives used postwar rhetoric about rights and national self-determination to legitimize their claims, which led to international recognition of Algerian sovereignty. By examining the local context of the war as well as its international dimensions, Johnson deprovincializes North Africa and proposes a new way to analyze how newly independent countries and nationalist movements engage with the international order. The Algerian case exposed the hypocrisy of selectively applying universal discourse and provided a blueprint for claim-making that nonstate actors and anticolonial leaders throughout the Third World emulated. Consequently, The Battle for Algeria explains the FLN's broad appeal and offers new directions for studying nationalism, decolonization, human rights, public health movements, and concepts of sovereignty.