1. Record Nr. UNINA9910813344203321 Autore Primus Richard A. Titolo The American language of rights / / Richard A. Primus [[electronic resource]] Cambridge:,: Cambridge University Press,, 1999 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-107-11747-X 1-280-42068-5 0-511-17203-6 0-511-14988-3 0-511-32456-1 0-511-49069-0 0-511-04826-2 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (xiv, 262 pages) : digital, PDF file(s) Collana Ideas in context;;54 Disciplina 342.7308501 Civil rights - United States - Philosophy Soggetti Human rights - Language Critical legal studies - United States Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015). Includes bibliographical references (p. 248-259) and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Introduction / Rights theory and rights practice / History and the development of rights / Rights of the Founding / Rights and Reconstruction: syntheses and shell games / Rights after World War II / Rights and reasons. Richard A. Primus examines three crucial periods in American history Sommario/riassunto (the late eighteenth century, the civil war and the 1950s and 1960s) in order to demonstrate how the conceptions of rights prevailing at each of these times grew out of reactions to contemporary social and political crises. His innovative approach sees rights language as grounded more in opposition to concrete social and political practices, than in the universalistic paradigms presented by many political philosophers. This study demonstrates the potency of the language of rights throughout American history, and looks for the first time at the

impact of modern totalitarianism (in Nazi Germany and the Soviet

Union) on American conceptions of rights. The American Language of Rights is a major contribution to contemporary political theory, of interest to scholars and students in politics and government, constitutional law, and American history.