

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910813576503321
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Titolo	Straining at the anchor : the Argentine Currency Board and the search for macroeconomic stability, 1880-1935 // Gerardo della Paolera and Alan M. Taylor
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Chicago, : University of Chicago Press, 2001
ISBN	1-281-22390-5 9786611223908 0-226-64558-4
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (296 p.)
Collana	NBER series on long-term factors in economic development
Altri autori (Persone)	TaylorAlan M. <1964->
Disciplina	339.5/3/0982 339.50982
Soggetti	Currency boards - Argentina - History Currency question - Argentina - History Monetary policy - Argentina - History
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 257-265) and indexes.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- National Bureau of Economic Research -- Relation of the Directors to the Work and Publications of the National Bureau of Economic Research -- Contents -- List of Tables -- List of Figures -- List of Cartoons -- A Note on the Cover -- Acknowledgments -- 1. Introduction -- 2. Anchors Aweigh: The Drift toward Crisis in the 1880's -- 3. A Monetary and Financial Wreck: The Baring Crisis, 1890-91 -- 4. Collision Course: Macroeconomic Policies and the Crash -- 5. Relaunching the Gold Standard: From Monetary "Anemia" to "Plethora" and the Political Economy of Resumption, 1891-99 -- 6. Calm Before a Storm: The Gold Standard During the Belle Époque, 1899-1914 -- 7. Distress Signals: Financial Fragility in the Interwar Period -- 8. Bailing Out: Internal versus External Convertibility -- 9. Steering through the Great Depression: Institutions, Expectations, and the Change of Macroeconomic Regime -- 10. Postscript -- Appendix 1. Historical Statistics -- Appendix 2. The Law of National Guaranteed Banks -- Appendix 3. Money Supply Periodization, 1884-1913 -- Appendix 4. Money and Exchange Rates, 1884-1913 -- Appendix 5. Istituto

Sommario/riassunto

The "Argentine disappointment"-why Argentina persistently failed to achieve sustained economic stability during the twentieth century-is an issue that has mystified scholars for decades. In *Straining the Anchor*, Gerardo della Paolera and Alan M. Taylor provide many of the missing links that help explain this important historical episode. Written chronologically, this book follows the various fluctuations of the Argentine economy from its post-revolutionary volatility to a period of unprecedented prosperity to a dramatic decline from which the country has never fully recovered. The authors examine in depth the solutions that Argentina has tried to implement such as the Caja de Conversión, the nation's first currency board which favored a strict gold-standard monetary regime, the forerunner of the convertibility plan the nation has recently adopted. With many countries now using-or seriously contemplating-monetary arrangements similar to Argentina's, this important and persuasive study maps out one of history's most interesting monetary experiments to show what works and what doesn't.
