1. Record Nr. UNINA9910815588603321 Autore Wang Hui Titolo The politics of imagining Asia / / Wang Hui; edited by Theodore Huters Cambridge, Mass.,: Harvard University Press, 2011 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-674-06135-7 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (369 p.) Altri autori (Persone) HutersTheodore 950.072 Disciplina Civilization, Modern Soggetti Comparative civilization Historiography - Political aspects - East Asia East Asia Civilization East Asia Relations Western countries Western countries Relations East Asia Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references (p. [309]-345) and index. Nota di contenuto The politics of imagining Asia -- How to explain "China" and its "modernity": rethinking the rise of modern Chinese thought -- Local forms, vernacular dialects, and the war of resistance against Japan: the "national forms" debate -- The "Tibetan question" East and West: Orientalism, regional ethnic autonomy, and the politics of dignity --Okinawa and two dramatic changes to the regional order -- Weber and the question of Chinese modernity. Sommario/riassunto In this bold, provocative collection, Wang Hui confronts some of the major issues concerning modern China and the status quo of contemporary Chinese thought. The book's overarching theme is the possibility of an alternative modernity that does not rely on imported conceptions of Chinese history and its legacy. Wang Hui argues that current models, based largely on Western notions of empire and the nation-state, fail to account for the richness and diversity of premodern Chinese historical practice. At the same time, he refrains from offering an exclusively Chinese perspective and placing China in an intellectual ghetto. Navigating terrain on regional language and politics,

he draws on China's unique past to expose the inadequacies of

European-born standards for assessing modern China's evolution. He

takes issue particularly with the way in which nation-state logic has dominated politically charged concerns like Chinese language standardization and "The Tibetan Question." His stance is critical - and often controversial - but he locates hope in the kinds of complex, multifaceted arrangements that defined China and much of Asia for centuries. The Politics of Imagining Asia challenges us not only to reexamine our theories of "Asia" but to reconsider what "Europe" means as well. As Theodore Huters writes in his introduction, "Wang Hui's concerns extend beyond China and Asia to an ambition to rethink world history as a whole."