

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910816459103321
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Titolo	Beyond the balance of power : France and the politics of national security in the era of the First World War // Peter Jackson
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge : , : Cambridge University Press, , 2013
ISBN	1-139-89469-2 1-107-77961-8 1-107-77880-8 1-107-78497-2 1-107-78451-4 1-107-78131-0 1-107-78007-1 1-139-62684-1
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xxi, 559 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Disciplina	355/.03304409041
Soggetti	National security - France - History - 20th century World War, 1914-1918 - France World War, 1914-1918 - Influence France Military policy France Foreign relations 1914-1940 France Politics and government 1914-1940
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 08 Oct 2015).
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	The sources of French security policy. The social dynamics of security policy making ; Two approaches to security -- War and the politics of national security, 1914-1918. The primacy of the balance of power, 1914-1916 ; The coming of a new world order, 1917 ; National deliverance and post-war planning -- Peace and security, 1918-1919. The political contexts of peacemaking, 1918-1919 ; Towards a post-war security order : the eastern settlement, economic security and the League of Nations ; The Rhineland settlement and the security of France -- Imposing security. Post-war dilemmas : enforcement or engagement? ; Briand and the emergence of a multilateral alternative,

1921 ; The politics of confrontation -- The Cartel des gauches and the 'internationalisation of security'. A new approach : arbitration, security, disarmament ; Locarno.

Sommario/riassunto

This is a major new study of French foreign and security policy before, during and after the First World War. Peter Jackson examines the interplay between two contending conceptions of security: the first based on traditional practices of power politics and the second on internationalist doctrines that emerged in the late nineteenth century. He pays particular attention to the social and political context in which security policy was made and to the cultural dynamics of the policy-making process. The result is a comprehensive reassessment of France's security policy in the era of the Great War. The book reconsiders the evolution of French war aims and reinterprets the peace policy of the Clemenceau government in 1919. It also provides a new perspective on the foreign policy of successive French governments in the early 1920s. It shows that internationalist ideas were far more influential over this entire period than is commonly understood.
