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	Autore	Mai Verena Maria
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	Sommario/riassunto	The financial crisis, which struck the EU countries in 2008, was followed by the severest economic recession since the end of the Second World War. This book illustrates the development of unemployment, poverty and the distribution of income within the social systems of Sweden, Austria and Spain in the aftermath of the financial crisis 2008. Whether one country has been more effective in cushioning the negative impacts of the economic downturn and whether variations in the development of these socio-political indicators are attributable