

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910817145503321
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Titolo	A failed empire [[electronic resource]] : the Soviet Union in the Cold War from Stalin to Gorbachev // Vladislav M. Zubok
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Chapel Hill, : University of North Carolina Press, c2007
ISBN	0-8078-8759-5
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (487 p.)
Collana	The new Cold War history
Classificazione	15.70
Disciplina	947.085
Soggetti	Cold War Soviet Union Politics and government 1953-1985 Soviet Union Politics and government 1985-1991 Soviet Union Foreign relations 1945-1991
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. [417]-453) and index.
Nota di contenuto	; 1. The Soviet people and Stalin between war and peace, 1945 -- ; 2. Stalin's road to the Cold War, 1945-1948 -- ; 3. Stalemate in Germany, 1945-1953 -- ; 4. Kremlin politics and "peaceful coexistence," 1953-1957 -- ; 5. The nuclear education of Khrushchev, 1953-1963 -- ; 6. The Soviet home front : first cracks, 1953-1968 -- ; 7. Brezhnev and the road to detente, 1965-1972 -- ; 8. Detente's decline and Soviet overreach, 1973-1979 -- ; 9. The old Guard's exit, 1980-1987 -- ; 10. Gorbachev and the end of Soviet power, 1988-1991.
Sommario/riassunto	Western interpretations of the Cold War--both realist and neoconservative--have erred by exaggerating either the Kremlin's pragmatism or its aggressiveness, argues Vladislav Zubok. Explaining the interests, aspirations, illusions, fears, and misperceptions of the Kremlin leaders and Soviet elites, Zubok offers a Soviet perspective on the greatest standoff of the twentieth century. Using recently declassified Politburo records, ciphered telegrams, diaries, and taped conversations, among other sources, Zubok explores the origins of the superpowers' confrontation under Stalin, Khrushchev's