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| Note generali | Papers from a workshop held in September 2003 at the International Institute for the Sociology of Law in Onati, Guipuzcoa, Spain. |
| Nota di bibliografia | Includes bibliographical references and index. |
| Nota di contenuto | Reflecting on reflexive law / John Paterson -- What's the use of Luhmann's theory / Michael King -- From subject to system : some unsystematic systems-theoretical thoughts on race equality and human rights / Tim Murphy -- Luhmann's political theory : politics after metaphysics? / Chris Thornhill -- Systems theory and the paradox of human rights / Gert Verschraegen -- The problem of power in Luhmann's systems theory / Samatha Ashenden -- What is modern power? / Jean Clam -- Some observations on social anthropology and Niklas Luhmann's concept / Anne Friederike Muller -- The theoretical context and foundations of Luhmann's legal and political sociology / Bernd R. Hornung -- Dealing (with) paradoxes : on law, justice and cheating / Andreas Philippopoulos-Mihalopoulos. |
| Sommario/riassunto | "Perhaps more than any other social theorist in recent history, Niklas Luhmann's work has aroused extreme, and often antagonistic, responses. It has generated controversies about its political |

implications, its resolute anti-humanism and its ambitious critique of more established definitions of society, social theory and sociology. Now, however, a steadily growing number of scholars working in many different disciplines have begun to use aspects of Luhmann's sociology as an important methodological stimulus and as a theoretical framework for reorientating their studies. This collection of essays includes critical and reconstructive contributions by a number of distinguished social theorists, political theorists, legal scholars and empirical sociologists. Together, they provide evidence of Luhmann's extensive and diverse relevance to the issues facing contemporary society, and, at the same time, they enhance our understanding of the challenges posed by his theoretical paradigm to more traditional conceptions of social theory."--Bloomsbury Publishing.
