

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910818881603321
Autore	Kennan George F (George Frost), <1904-2005.>
Titolo	Through the history of the Cold War : the correspondence of George F. Kennan and John Lukacs // edited by John Lukacs
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Philadelphia, : University of Pennsylvania Press, c2010
ISBN	0-8122-2271-7 1-283-89701-6 0-8122-0485-9
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (289 p.)
Altri autori (Persone)	LukacsJohn <1924-2019.>
Disciplina	909.82/5
Soggetti	Cold War United States Foreign relations 1945-1989 Sources United States Foreign relations Soviet Union Sources Soviet Union Foreign relations United States Sources
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Includes index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction -- The Cold War begins: containment or liberation letters, 1952-1954 -- The Cold War at its peak : the Soviet Union redux letters, 1954-1964 -- How history should be written letters, 1964-1983 -- The evil empire and the end of the Cold War letters, 1983-1988 -- The end of an age: American hegemony letters, 1988-2004.
Sommario/riassunto	In September 1952, John Lukacs, then a young and unknown historian, wrote George Kennan (1904-2005), the U.S. ambassador to the Soviet Union, asking one of the nation's best-known diplomats what he thought of Lukacs's own views on Kennan's widely debated idea of containing rather than militarily confronting the Soviet Union. A month later, to Lukacs's surprise, he received a personal reply from Kennan. So began an exchange of letters that would continue for more than fifty years. Lukacs would go on to become one of America's most distinguished and prolific diplomatic historians, while Kennan, who would retire from public life to begin a new career as Pulitzer Prize-winning author, would become revered as the man whose strategy of containment led to a peaceful end to the Cold War. Their letters, collected here for the first time, capture the writing and thinking of two

of the country's most important voices on America's role and place in world affairs. From the division of Europe into East and West after World War II to its unification as the Soviet Union disintegrated, and from the war in Vietnam to the threat of nuclear annihilation and the fate of democracy in America and the world, this book provides an insider's tour of the issues and pivotal events that defined the Cold War. The correspondence also charts the growth and development of an intellectual and personal friendship that was intense, devoted, and honest. As Kennan later wrote Lukacs in letter, "perceptive, understanding, and constructive criticism is . . . as I see it, in itself a form of creative philosophical thought." It is a belief to which both men subscribed and that they both practiced. Presented with an introduction by Lukacs, the letters in *Through the History of the Cold War* reveal new dimensions to Kennan's thinking about America and its future, and illuminate the political-and spiritual-philosophies that the two authors shared as they wrote about a world transformed by war and by the clash of ideologies that defined the twentieth century.

---