

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910819853803321
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Titolo	Bankers, bureaucrats, and central bank politics : the myth of neutrality // Christopher Adolph [[electronic resource]]
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge : , : Cambridge University Press, , 2013
ISBN	1-139-61123-2 1-107-23808-0 1-139-62239-0 1-139-60939-4 1-139-61309-X 1-139-61681-1 1-139-62611-6 1-139-50676-5
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xxiii, 357 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Collana	Cambridge studies in comparative politics
Disciplina	332.1/1
Soggetti	Monetary policy Banks and banking, Central - Political aspects Bureaucracy
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015).
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Agents, institutions, and the political economy of performance -- Career theories of monetary policy -- Central banker careers and inflation in industrial democracies -- Careers and the monetary policy process: three mechanism tests -- Careers and inflation in developing countries -- How central bankers use their independence -- Partisan governments, labor unions and monetary policy -- The politics of central banker appointment -- The politics of central banker tenure -- Conclusion: the dilemma of discretion.
Sommario/riassunto	Most studies of the political economy of money focus on the laws protecting central banks from government interference; this book turns to the overlooked people who actually make monetary policy decisions. Using formal theory and statistical evidence from dozens of central banks across the developed and developing worlds, this book shows

that monetary policy agents are not all the same. Molded by specific professional and sectoral backgrounds and driven by career concerns, central bankers with different career trajectories choose predictably different monetary policies. These differences undermine the widespread belief that central bank independence is a neutral solution for macroeconomic management. Instead, through careful selection and retention of central bankers, partisan governments can and do influence monetary policy - preserving a political trade-off between inflation and real economic performance even in an age of legally independent central banks.
