

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910819884703321
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Titolo	France and the construction of Europe, 1944-2007 : the geopolitical imperative // Michael Sutton
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York : , : Berghahn Books, , [2011] ©2011
ISBN	0-85745-292-4
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (380 p.)
Collana	Berghahn monographs in French studies
Disciplina	327.440409/045 327.440409045
Soggetti	HISTORY / Europe / France France Foreign relations 1945- France Politics and government 1945- France Foreign relations European Union countries European Union countries Foreign relations France
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 and index.
Nota di contenuto	FRANCE AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF EUROPE, 1944-2007; CONTENTS; PREFACE; ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS; INTRODUCTION: DE GAULLE'S SHADOW; Part I. THE POST-WAR ASSERTION OF LEADERSHIP IN CONTINENTAL WESTERN EUROPE; Chapter 1. BEFORE THE SCHUMAN PLAN; Chapter 2. POOLING COAL AND STEEL; Chapter 3. GERMAN REARMAMENT AND MILITARY SECURITY; Chapter 4. THE GAULLIST VISION OF THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE AND EUROPEAN UNION; Part II. THE COMMON MARKET AND THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMY; Chapter 5. THE BENELUX INITIATIVE AND THE FORMATION OF THE COMMON MARKET Chapter 6. MOVING FROM DIRIGISME TO QUALIFIED ECONOMIC LIBERALISMPart III. PRESERVING POWER AND SECURITY AFTER DE GAULLE; Chapter 7. EUROPEAN POLITICAL INTEGRATION UP TO THE COLD WAR'S CLOSE; Chapter 8. OPPOSITION TO GERMAN MONETARY HEGEMONY; Chapter 9. GEOPOLITICAL UPHEAVAL AND THE MAASTRICHT TREATY; Chapter 10. POST-YALTA AND POST-MAASTRICHT EUROPE; EPILOGUE; BIBLIOGRAPHY; INDEX

Sommario/riassunto

In the second half of the twentieth century France played the greatest role - even greater than Germany's - in shaping what eventually became the European Union. By the early twenty-first century, however, in a hugely transformed Europe, this era had patently come to an end. This comprehensive history shows how France coupled the pursuit of power and the furtherance of European integration over a sixty-year period, from the close of the Second World War to the hesitation caused by the French electorate's referendum rejection of the European Union's constitutional treaty in 2005.
