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Power -- 1Introduction -- 2Iberia's Role in Europe -- 3Borders and Trade -- 4Investing in Peace -- 5A Monarchy without a King -- 6Carthage's Contractors -- The Ends of the Spanish Empire -- 1 Introduction -- 2The Grain Monopoly and the Voice of the People -- 3The Idea of the Nation: Outsourcing Propaganda and Colonisation -- 4Constitutionalism in the Spanish Empire and the International Order -- 7Conclusion -- Bibliography -- Index.

Sommario/riassunto

This book reconfigures the study of the origins of the Enlightenment in the Spanish Empire. Challenging dominant interpretations of the period, this book shows that early eighteenth-century Spanish authors turned to Enlightenment ideas to reinvent Spain's role in the European balance of power. And while international law grew to provide a legal framework that could safeguard peace, Spanish officials, diplomats, and authors, hardened by the failure of Spanish diplomacy, sought instead to regulate international relations by drawing on investment, profit, and self-interest. The book shows, on the basis of new archival research, that the Diplomatic Enlightenment sought to turn the Spanish Empire into a space for closer political cooperation with other European and non-European states and empires.
