1. Record Nr. UNINA9910824571503321 Autore Bernhard Michael H. **Titolo** Institutions and the fate of democracy: Germany and Poland in the twentieth century / / Michael Bernhard Pubbl/distr/stampa Pittsburgh: ,: University of Pittsburgh Press, , [2005] ©2005 **ISBN** 0-8229-7275-1 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (328 p.) Collana Pitt series in Russian and East European studies Disciplina 320.943 Democracy - Germany - History Soggetti Democracy - Poland - History Constitutional history - Germany Constitutional history - Poland Germany Politics and government 20th century Poland Politics and government 20th century 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 ""Contents""; ""List of Illustrations""; ""Acknowledgments""; ""List of Abbreviations"": ""1. Institutional Choice and Democratic Survival in New Democracies""; ""2. Weimar Germany: Defective Institutional Choice""; ""3. Interwar Poland: Institutional Choice by Imposition""; ""4. The Federal Republic of Germany: Learning from History"; ""5. Postcommunist Poland: Institutional Choice as an Extended Process""; ""6. Conclusion""; ""Notes""; ""References""; ""Index"" Sommario/riassunto As democracy has swept the globe, the guestion of why some democracies succeed while others fail has remained a pressing concern. In this theoretically innovative, richly historical study, Michael Bernhard looks at the process by which new democracies choose their political institutions, showing how these fundamental choices shape democracy's survival. Offering a new analytical framework that maps the process by which basic political institu-tions emerge, Bernhard investigates four paradigmatic episodes of democracy in two countries:

Germany during the Weimar period and after World War II, a