Record Nr. UNINA9910826529703321 Autore Bashford Alison <1963-> Titolo Global population: history, geopolitics, and life on earth / / Alison **Bashford** Pubbl/distr/stampa New York:,: Columbia University Press,, [2014] ©2014 **ISBN** 1-78539-272-7 0-231-51952-4 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (xii, 466 pages): illustrations, maps Collana Columbia Studies in International and Global History Columbia studies in international and global history **QU 300** Classificazione Disciplina 304.6 Soggetti Population - Social aspects Population - Economic aspects Population - History Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Introduction: Life and earth -- Confined in room: a spatial history of malthusianism -- War and peace: population, territory, and living space -- Density: universes with definite limits -- Migration: world population and the global color line -- Waste lands : sovereignty and the anticolonial history of world population -- Life on earth: ecology and the cosmo-politics of population -- Soil and food : agriculture and the fertility of the earth -- Sex: the geopolitics of birth control -- The species: human difference and global eugenics -- Food and freedom: a new world of plenty? -- Life and death: the biopolitical solution to a geopolitical problem -- Universal rights? Population control and the powers of reproductive freedom -- Conclusion: Population in the space age. Sommario/riassunto Concern about the size of the world's population did not begin with the "population bomb" in 1968. It arose in the aftermath of World War I and was understood as an issue with far-reaching ecological, agricultural, economic, and geopolitical consequences. The world population

problem concerned the fertility of soil as much as the fertility of women, always involving both "earth" and "life. "Global Population

traces the idea of a world population problem as it evolved from the 1920's through the 1960's. The growth and distribution of the human population over the planet's surface came deeply to shape the characterization of "civilizations" with different standards of living. It forged the very ideas of development, demographically defined three worlds, and, for some, an aspirational "one world. "Drawing on international conference transcripts and personal and organizational archives, this book reconstructs the twentieth-century population problem in terms of migration, colonial expansion, globalization, and world food plans. Population was a problem in which international relations and intimate relations were one. Global Population ultimately shows how a geopolitical problem about sovereignty over land morphed into a biopolitical solution, entailing sovereignty over one's person.