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Sommario/riassunto	Of the many ideas that inspired and shaped the American Founding Fathers' thought, individualism and a commitment to individual rights were primary among them. The American emphasis on the individual in politics and society and the protection he receives in the US Constitution established the United States as an ideological trailblazer in this regard. However the individualism that inspired the Founders, has transformed over time to reflect the changing economic and social landscape in the United States. Individualism in the United States provides a comprehensive introduction to the idea of individualism in American political development, and a well-grounded argument about the social and political implications of our current understanding of this alleged ideal.