Record Nr. UNINA9910827207303321 Autore Confino Alon **Titolo** Foundational pasts: the Holocaust as historical understanding / / Alon Confino [[electronic resource]] Cambridge: ,: Cambridge University Press, , 2011 Pubbl/distr/stampa 1-107-22423-3 **ISBN** 1-139-15257-2 1-283-34100-X 1-139-16000-1 9786613341006 1-139-03187-2 1-139-16100-8 1-139-15544-X 1-139-15719-1 1-139-15895-3 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (xi, 180 pages) : digital, PDF file(s) HIS010000 Classificazione Disciplina 940.53/18 Soggetti Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945) - Causes Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945) - Historiography National socialism - Moral and ethical aspects Antisemitism - Germany - History - 20th century Germany History 1933-1945 Germany Ethnic relations History 20th century Germany Politics and government 1933-1945 Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015). Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto pt. I. Thinking the Holocaust -- pt. II. Thresholds and Limits of History. Sommario/riassunto Alon Confino seeks to rethink dominant interpretations of the Holocaust by examining it as a problem in cultural history. As the main research interests of Holocaust scholars are frequently covered terrain - the anti-Semitic ideological campaign, the machinery of killing, the brutal massacres during the war - Confino's research goes in a new

direction. He analyzes the culture and sensibilities that made it possible for the Nazis and other Germans to imagine the making of a world without Jews. Confino seeks these insights from the ways historians interpreted another short, violent and foundational event in modern European history - the French Revolution. The comparison of the ways we understand the Holocaust with scholars' interpretations of the French Revolution allows Confino to question some of the basic assumptions of present-day historians concerning historical narration, explanation and understanding.