1. Record Nr. UNINA9910838186303321 Autore Sundqvist Olof Titolo The Demise of Norse Religion: Dismantling and Defending the Old Order in Viking Age Scandinavia / / Olof Sundqvist Berlin; ; Boston:,: De Gruyter,, [2023] Pubbl/distr/stampa 2024 **ISBN** 3-11-119875-8 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (XI, 418 p.) Soggetti RELIGION / Antiquities & Archaeology Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Preface -- Contents -- Part I: Prolegomena -- 1 Introduction -- 2 Previous theories and research: A critical assessment -- Part II: The role of rulers as agents in the winding up of the native religion -- 3 Rulers and conversions -- 4 The rulers' strategies for doing away with former religious practice and beliefs -- 5 Replacements and displacements of pagan religion -- 6 King Óláfr Tryggvason's missions a contextual approach -- 7 Why pagan rituals and religious leadership? -- Part III: Pagans fight back -- 8 Blótsveinn and the pagan revolt in Svetjud -- 9 Pagan defenders and rebellions against Christian kings in Trøndelag -- 10 The resistance of pagans in Iceland -- 11 The resilience of pagans: A comparative perspective --Part IV: Epilegomena -- 12 The Demise of Old Norse Religion: A Synthesis -- Sources -- Bibliography -- Abbreviations -- Index Sommario/riassunto When describing the transition from Old Norse religion to Christianity in recent studies, the concept of "Christianization" is often applied. To a large extent this historiography focuses on the outcome of the encounter, namely the description of early Medieval Christianity and the new Christian society. The purpose of the present study is to concentrate more exclusively on the Old Norse religion during this period of change and to analyze the processes behind its disappearance on an official level of the society. More specifically this study concentrates on the role of Viking kings and indigenous agency

in the winding up of the old religion. An actor-oriented perspective will

thus be established, which focuses on the actions, methods and strategies applied by the early Christian Viking kings when dismantling the religious tradition that had previously formed their lives. In addition, the resistance that some pagan chieftains offered against these Christian kings is discussed as well as the question why they defended the old religious tradition.