1. Record Nr. UNINA9910863184003321 Autore Aaltola Mika Titolo Democratic Vulnerability and Autocratic Meddling: The "Thucydidean Brink" in Regressive Geopolitical Competition / / by Mika Aaltola Pubbl/distr/stampa Cham: .: Springer International Publishing: .: Imprint: Palgrave Macmillan, , 2021 **ISBN** 9783030546021 3030546020 Edizione [1st ed. 2021.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (200 pages) 301 Disciplina 320 Soggetti **Elections** Political science International relations **Electoral Politics** Political Science International Relations Theory **Political Theory** Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia 1. Introduction -- 2. The Thucydidean Brink -- 3. Grim Pull of Nota di contenuto American Democratic Vulnerability -- 4. Russian Cyber-enabled Diversions in the West -- 5. Pattern of Meddling in 2016 US Elections -- 6. Stages of Digitalized regressive Meddling -- 7. Crowdsourced Meddling and Flow-State -- 8. Contrast Point: The Chinese Recruitment Web -- 9. Covid-19 Pandemic Deepening Regressive Trajectories. . Sommario/riassunto This book investigates complex regressive dynamics in contemporary Western democracies. They include not only severe polarization in domestic politics, but also efforts by external autocratic powers to coopt the increasingly digitalized political processes in the West. The discussion on democratic vulnerability and regression has rarely been historically and theoretically reflective. The aim is to fill this relative void by drawing on classical sources to inform about the political

anxieties and agitations of our present time as the Western world

moves towards new critical elections. The key concept of the analysis, a Thucydidean brink, refers to a critical point where the attraction felt towards an outside geopolitical competitor becomes stronger than the political affinity felt towards one's domestic political opponent. As political polarization, societal decomposition and the collusive tendencies grow in strength, political factions and political candidates in western societies can be(come) drawn to autocratic actors. Perhaps most alarmingly, the resulting nexus between democracies and autocracies can further intensify mutual regression and form downwards-sloping spirals that are not ultimately under any strategic control. This book draws from the experiences of recent elections in major Western democracies to illustrate the widening and deepening underlying regressive tendency. Mika Aaltola is Director of the Finnish Institute of International Affairs, Finland, and Professor of International Relations at Tallinn University, Estonia.

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## Nota di contenuto

Chapter 1 Introduction and overview -- Chapter 2 Earthquake and seismicity -- Chapter 3 Seismic hazard analysis -- Chapter 4 Seismic site characterization -- Chapter 5 Local site effects for seismic zonation -- Chapter 6 Liquefaction -- Chapter 7 Principles and practices of seismic zonation.

## Sommario/riassunto

This book reviews and assesses various methodologies for site characterization and site effects estimation to carry out seismic zonation at micro and macro levels. Readers will learn about the suitability of these methodologies for different levels of zoning in order to optimize the resources for carrying out seismic zonation. The Indian sub-continent is highly vulnerable to earthquake hazards, and past studies have focused primarily on the Himalayan region (inter-plate zone) and the northeast region (subduction zone). This book improves understanding of the seismicity in Peninsular India, which also has witnessed earthquakes of sizeable magnitude. Particular attention is given to the various methodologies for assessing seismic hazards, the scales at which site characterizations are carried out, and optimal methods for zonation practices using site data and hazard indexes. This book will be of use to post-graduates and doctoral students researching seismic zonation, hazard assessment and mitigation, and spatial data in earth sciences.